Around the City

BUILDERS AND CARPENTERS SIGN AGREEMENT FOR 1907.

There will be no labor trouble in the building trades in Edmonton during 1907.

An agreement has been reached between the Master Builders' Association and the Edmonton union, No. 1325, of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, which will cover the year 1907 and provides for every possible point of contention.

The agreement, which reflects credit on the "diplomats," was negotiated by J. H. Millar, Chas. May and C. Anderson as representatives of the Builders' exchange, and W. A. Deyl, J. A. Kinney and P. C. Foley as representatives of the Building Trades council.

The Building Trades Council.

The unions interested in the building trades in Edmonton are the carpenters, masons, bricklayers, plumbers, plasterers, builders' laborers, lathers, painters, electricians and sheet metal workers. Of these unions all are members of the building trades council or will be in the near future except the masons and bricklayers, who do not affiliate as a fundamental principle of their charter.

Carpenters Strongest Union.

There are two carpenters' unions in Edmonton, the United Brotherhood and the Amalgamated. Both work in harmony and the same wage scale invariably rules for both unions.

The United Brotherhood is not only the stronger carpenters' union but is the strongest union in the building trades council. It has a membership of 460, all of whom are active mechanics with their names on some pay roll in the city. Their agreement also rules for the Amalgamated, which have a membership of about 50.

Carpenters' Agreement is Criterion.

The agreement between the carpenters and the master builders is the important event of the labor year. It is the wind-vane, so to speak, which indicates the direction of the sentiment of both employer and employed.

Therefore, when the builders and carpenters reach an amicable agreement without hitch or friction, the public can rest assured that all is quiet on the Potomac. There will be no labor war.

Agreement is Advanced One.

The agreement which was reached by the committee representing both sides, and which has been notified by the union and by the builders' exchange, is a very advanced one and one which perhaps could not have been reached in this city five years ago or even two years ago, under any persuasion.

Eight Hour Day.

It re-affirms the agreement for a universal eight hour day among the carpenters, for a raise of wages from $3 to $3.36 per day, for a distinct understanding that carpenters are not to "job" after hours, and that carpenters who become contractors must join the builders' exchange and become subject to all the regulations of that body, or pay a premium for their labor. The agreement is for a closed shop. It provides for the working out of the card system and while it gives the builders protection against the irresponsible wood-butcher style of contractor, it also gives the carpenter protection through a possible harmonious working with other branches of the building trades.

Guarantees Labor Supply.

This agreement, reached at this early date in the building year, not only guarantees peace for Edmonton in this its big year, but it guarantees a supply of labor at least nearly commensurate with the demand. Labor, like capital, is timid. It does not flow freely to centres of disturbance. The towns in which good wages and peace are assured are the towns that get the good mechanics and plenty of them. With the heaviest building year in the city's history in sight, it is now practically assured that there will be men enough to do the work and whether the building of the year be four million or five million will be a matter of no great difference as the labor will flow automatically to Edmonton from this time forth in the same way that it flows to the big cities of the east and the American side.

Other Unions Will Follow.

Other unions will undoubtedly follow the carpenters in the near future. The builders' laborers already have an agreement. The plasterers, electricians and sheet metal workers have not yet received their charters from their respective headquarters, but will undoubtedly be fully organized within the next thirty days and will come in under the agreement. The bricklayers and stone masons have an agreement of their own outside of the building trades.

Spirit of Agreement Guarantees Peace.

The spirit demonstrated in the agreement between the carpenters and builders is a guarantee that all the other unions will be able to reach agreements with the master builders without friction, and by the time the building season is in full swing everything will be signed up, Edmonton will be a "fair" town and the year's work will be guaranteed.

ALLEGED BLAIRMORE TOWNSITE SCANDAL

"An absolute misstatement of facts," were the words of Mr. MacKenzie, the member for Macleod, last night when shown the statement in the Calgary Herald coupling his name with an alleged scandal with regard to the townsite of Blairmore.

"If the Herald," said Mr. MacKenzie, "wished to make a statement they should have published the whole evidence and not merely the statement of such a man as Lyon. I am willing to let the public decide when the facts are before them.

Mr. MacKenzie left this morning for Macleod and will be back on Monday and will in all probability make a statement of the facts relating to the case.

NO CALAMITY SENTIMENT HERE

The calamity sentiment of our alleged contemporary got a rude jolt this morning when the announcement was made of the latest large transfer of West the P. Burns Co., lots 217 and 218, block end property with the name of the purchaser.

By a deal closed last night through the office of Carruthers, Round & Co., Messrs. A. Driscoll and A. York sold to th eP. Burns Co., lots 217 and 218, block 3, H. B. R., which is the first 100 feet north of the Jasper lane on Third street.

The property is acquired for the purpose of a warehouse site and it is the company's intention to put up a large cold storage plant similar to the one operated by the P. Burns people in Nelson, B.C.

The property in question is an ideal warehouse site. It is situated close to the centre of the city, has three sides of street and lane, with track facilities and is only 170 feet from Jasper ave. For a cold storage site nothing better could be found.

Messrs. York and Driscoll, the vendors, are the beneficiaries of a pretty lucky deal in the present turn. Scarcely a year ago they purchased lots 216, 217 and 218 for $20,000. Nearly six months ago they sold 218 for $10,000 and the present deal gives them back $20,000 more, or a total of $40,000 within one year on a $20,000 investment.

The vendors seem well satisfied with the deal. They state that they believe the property is worth every cent they realized on it, but they are satisfied to take their profit at the present time. The amount named in the transfer, however, and the fact that it was such a hard headed man as Lal Burns who made the purchase is a pretty safe evidence that Edmonton realty values are not so unwarrantably high, the pessimistic sentiments of the late president of the board of trade to the contrary, notwithstanding.

PARKDALE AND BRENTON MINES

Yesterday the Brenton and Parkdale mines, recently purchased by the newly organized Edmonton Standard Coal Co., of which the manager is Wm. Munns, were taken over by the company. Mr. Munns, who formerly lived in Toronto and came to Edmonton last summer with the Manufacturers' Association, was then impressed with the properties and floated the new company. The president is A. A. Laurie, Toronto; the engineer in charge, D. Evans, formerly inspector of mines for the North-West, and the mines manager, Robert Livingstone, formerly of the Galt mines in Lethbridge.

The new company propose to operate the mines on a large scale and put in an equipment to turn out from 500 to 1,000 tons a day. The present offices and staff will be continued and an up town office opened later.

Mr. Munns is also identified with the Eastern Coal Co., with mines in Sydney, B.C., and the Cassiar Coal Development Co. of British Columbia. Speaking with the Bulletin this afternoon he stated that he expected fully as serious a coal famine next winter as has taken place this winter in parts of the West. Reasons for this he gives as the fact that the mines of Alberta are now taxed to their fullest output and the great influx of population this summer which will make the demand next year much greater. In order to facilitate the supplying of the demand Mr. Munns heartily approves of the proposed scheme of the board of trade to secure lower freight rates during the autumn months for transportation of coal to further eastern sections.

THE MINISTER REPLIES TO ATTACK

The bluff and insinuation of the leader of the opposition against the public works department of the province that has gained notorious circulation during the last few days was vigorously and fully disposed of by Hon. W. H. Cushing in his speech yesterday afternoon in the legislature. The leader of the opposition repeated his insinuation and was promptly asked to formulate his suspicion as a regular charge, whereupon he veered off on another track.

Misleading and Untrue.

Before the orders of the day were called the minister of public works called attention to what he termed misleading and untrue statements in regard to reports in the opposition press with regard to certain questions that had been asked by the member for High River a short time ago in the House.

Continuing the minister said that if the press were not disposed to report the proceedings of the House in a fair manner and according to the facts as they transpired they had not better report at all.

Report Untrue.

The report as published in the Journal and in its editorial comment was untrue as regards the action of the minister, the speaker of the House and the department of public works.

Unworthy Journalism.

The function of a newspaper was to publish facts as far as possible, but when it distorted the truth to advance its own political ends it was not worthy of a place in the community. The minister here read from the Journal's article of Feb. 27th.

"Now how had Mr. Cushing answered his questions. He first of all referred the member for High River to the public accounts, which do not begin to furnish the details required. * * * But that was not the real answer at all, because Mr. Cushing further added that the department did not furnish such details of its expenditure to the public."

"It is true," said the minister, "that I did refer him to the public accounts. It is not true that the department does not furnish details."

The department furnished every detail showing the amount expended and the locality.

"The paper," said the minister emphatically, "is stating what is untrue, and they know it."

The public works report gives the locality and the work upon which the money was expended and the public accounts give the amounts. Complete information can be obtained from these two sources.

Re Speaker's Ruling.

With reference to the ruling of the Speaker in the matter, Mr. Cushing said that the Speaker called the attention of the House to the irregularity of the request for an order of the House as set forth by the member for High River. The Speaker put the question into parliamentary form for the leader of the opposition. When the question arose in the regular course the minister referred him to the public works' report. The leader of the opposition accepted the answer without complaint or dissent. He had the right to dissent at the time. But when he brought the matter up again and asked the same question it was contrary to all parliamentary tradition and procedure.

The leader of the opposition no doubt accomplished the purpose of his question which was more for cheap notoriety than information.

Expenditures Not by Constituencies.

The policy of the government and the department was not to make expenditures by constituencies, but on provincial lines. The money is spent where it is most needed. Some constituencies require more than others owing to the physical and engineering difficulties. The business of the department was to supply as far as possible the immediate needs of the province without regard to the limits of any particular constituency. Every item was specified and the locality. If the leader of the opposition knew anything of the geography of his constituency he would know these things.

Extra Staff for Lazy Members.

The only way it would be practicable to furnish this information to the members who lacked sufficient energy to do this for themselves would be to maintain an extra staff of clerks.

Following Precedent.

The minister stated the department were following precedent. In all the history of the North-West Territories no such information had been furnished by the administration. Mr. Haultain always took this position and spent the money for provincial purposes and not for any particular constituency.

Speaker Explains.

The Speaker explained his ruling in the matter. The motion was not in order. He put the question in parliamentary form and let it pass with a warning to members. The question was answered and if not satisfactory the hon. member should have stated so at the time. The same question could not be asked again.

Leader of the Opposition.

The leader of the opposition said he felt he had an unsympathetic audience to face who would not cheer if he told the truth. As to the statement that he asked the question for cheap notoriety he would eny it with all the Anglo Saxon energy he possessed.

Opposition Not Consulted.

The member for High River said the situation was that the Liberal members knew what was going on in their constituencies. He was not consulted. The government commenced and completed expenditures in his constituency before he was aware of it and he could not tell how much it cost.

Hon. Mr. Cushing—Have you ever asked for anything?

Mr. Robertson I asked in the House.

Hon. Mr. Cushing—You get it in the reports.

The member for High River said the details were not in the report of the public works department. He denied the interview in The High River Times was authorized by him. It was in a measure true. He denied he had not consulted the government, and said he had absolute proof of petitions he had sent in, and requests for bridges and surveys. He had asked for a bridge on the road from Miller to Okotoks, and for another over a coulee southwest of Nanton, and declared the statement that he had not consulted the department as marvellous.

Department Consults Leader of Opposition.

He further stated that last year the department sent him a form to be filled out, setting forth the requirements of the district, but mailed it to the wrong post office, and he did not get it.

Member is Suspicious.

The leader of the opposition upheld the newspaper report, saying that it was correct in every detail. He had desired the information for his constituents, and submitted a series of questions, which the Speaker had declared was out of order, and gave him a form in which to put the requisition.

The Speaker interrupted Mr. Robertson here to correct, saying he put the requisition in order at the time, and allowed it to go on the order paper and be answered, and therefore could not be answered again.

The Leader of the Opposition said he was suspicious and the ratepayers of his district would be suspicious too.

Mr. Cross: "Make a charge."

Without taking up the challenge the member for High River went on, stating that the newspaper in question had done the right thing in standing for what he called fair play. He could not understand when he asked for expenditures he should meet such snages, and it was a shame that an honest newspaper should be attacked and its staff represented as flat liars.

Member for High River Asks Nothing.

Continuing, Mr. Cushing said that if the department had not done anything in the High River district but what the member for that district had asked him it would not be difficult to make up the statements. He never at any time asked or advised the department of improvements to any road or bridge in his constituency. Any information the department received it was obtained from other sources. The member for the district had not burdened himself with looking after its needs, but he could assure the House it received the same fair treatment that was accorded any other constituency in the province, which showed entire absence of narrow partisanship on the part of the department of public works.

Equal Chance for All Members.

With reference to the statement that 23 out of the 25 members in the House knew exactly how evey dollar was expended in their constituencies, the minister said that the member for High River was in the same position as all the others to receive information. No other member had made such a request. Many do know what has been spent in their districts and have been kept informed. They looked after the business they were elected to perform.

Satisfied With Expenditures.

According to an interview in the High River Times last fall the minister said he learned that the member for High River had made a tour of his distict, had learned its needs, and was well satisfied with what had been done. This interview was given about the time of the Gleichen bye-election, and it was blared abroad by the Calgary Herald that more grants had been spent in High River than in Gleichen. These statements had apparently been made to prejudice the administration in that election.

Thrifty, Judicious and Clean.

In closing, Mr. Cushing said the Government had administered the affairs of the province for over a year now, and had always endeavored to give clean and efficient government. It was gratifying to know that no fault or adverse criticism as to the way the department he had charge of conducted the business of the province. The administration was thrifty, judicious and clean, and "had laid on the table a report of ever dollar from Peace River to the international boundary line."

Mr. Boyle Replies.

The Member for Sturgeon said the newspaper in question had seen fit to pile some uncomplimentary epithets on him. He said he was not responsible for the member of High River not getting his return. The facts were that through gross ignorance of parliamentary form and procedure the honorable member did not get his order through. It was the duty of every member to call a fellow member to order to maintain the decorum of parliament. The member for Sturgeon said he was exercising his undoubted right in this respect. The Speaker's decision was not attacked nor proved incorrect on the premises. The government should not be held responsible for the want of knowledge of the common rules of parliament by honorable members opposite.

EXCELLENT FIRE DRILL IN SCHOOLS

Edmonton—bright, well equipped, up to date Edmonton—need fear no such tragedy in its school annals as that which shocked Montreal and all Canada last Tuesday.

Edmonton schools have excellent fire drills, as the Bulletin proceeded to see for itself yesterday.

Shortly after two o'clock the Bulletin's representative stood under the fire gong at Queen's Avenue school and saw over 500 children march, or trot rather, out of that school in 43 seconds.

At the same hour—allowings for the difference of time—the East end of Montreal was looking on with inexpressible feeling at a funeral procession of seventeen little bodies, charred almost beyond recognition—the victims of Tuesday's fire in the public school of Hochelaga ward.

These little ones were all from the kindergarten classes, and in congested Montreal perhaps they had some excuse for putting the smallest children in rooms on the third floor of the school; a matter which the investigation will doubtles take up.

But the main point is that these children were not properly trained in the fire drill that modern intelligence demands in every school.

The fire drill had been neglected in that school of 200 children and not even the splendid heroism of Miss Maxwell, the principal, could avert a tragedy that meant the sacrifice of her own life with her pupils.

Watching the children of Queen's Avenue school coming downstairs one could easily imagine these sturdy young westerners trotting down smoke-filled stairways altogether fearlessly when their teachers had assured them that was the one sure way of ultimate safety.

And why shouldn't they face it fearlessly—when (by the watch) it took those 500 and more scholars just 43 seconds to drop their work in the classes, hurry downstairs and reach the sunny big play yards, forty-three seconds—little over half a minute!

The test was decided upon in this way. The Bulletin telephoned Mr. Alex. Taylor, chairman of the public school board, concerning protection against fire in Edmonton schools; all this apropos of those sad despatches from Montreal.

"Our schools are well protected," came confidently back from Mr. Taylor over the phone. "We have class rooms only on two floors of our schools; the primary classes are all on the ground floor; there are three large doors of exit in each, and with our fire drill we can empty the school entirely in less than a minute."

"Are the fire drills continually exercised?"

There must have been doubt in the voice at this end of the phone, for Mr. Taylor made instant response in his cheery western voice—

"Well, would you like to see it? Just go down to any of the schools at any time the classes are in and I give you authority to sound the gong of the fire alarm."

It was a capital idea, for seeing is always believing, and as there is no time like the present on newspapers the Bulletin's representative at once set out for Queen's Avenue school, being asked to come along also to the school.

A brisk walk in the crisp afternoon air, a momentary passing down the big empty corridor to the fire alarm—and then the big gong's strokes fell on the silence.

In a moment doors flashed open on every side and orderly ranks of children hurried out—trotted out—two by two, with the teacher of each class in close escort behind her young charges. Out through the main entrance the primary classes passed in what can only be described as an orderly, speedy scamper.

Down the two stairways trotted still others of an older growth, their teachers with them, and "before one had time to say Jack Robinson," so it seemed, the corridors were silent again.

It was just 43 seconds since the gong sounded unawares, interrupting the afternoon classes in twelve rooms, and now there remained in the building only the inspector and the journalist, and three boys manning the hose attachment on the two floors and in the basement.

These boys are especially selected and in case of grave danger would of course be called on to leave the building also. They are James Cornwall, Tom Maloney, Alfred Koch, Andrew West, Edward Sketch, Charles McLaughlin, Norman McLeod, Arthur Banford, Tom McQuarry.

The classes had been interrupted at their afternoon work; in one some pupils were preparing for a photograph to be put in the coming annual. So it was natural that some of the teachers should return to the school with their charges with a just perceptible shade of disturbance at this unexpected call-out for the interloping newspaper person. Of course, this disturbance might have existed in the interloper's imagination.

However, a consciousness of how much the West has owed to the teaching profession, and gratefully acknowledges, makes this little effort of yesterday only another item to put to the long account. For it was all for the good of Edmonton and the satisfaction of Edmonton parents.

Looking back on that test, one is aware of a dim regret that the test was not applied at Mackay Avenue school after three o'clock.

The genial body of legislators up in the improvised legislative hall on the third floor of that school might have found the drill interesting.

But what would they have done when the ominous stroke of the fire gong broke on their parliamentary debate and up the stairway came the echo of some hundred pairs of scampering feet?

Would they have made a bolt in marching order to gain the stairway, and would the speaker, at arms—from force of habit—straighten his cocked hat, shoulder the mace and sedately make the usual detour of the little glass lobby before joining in the stampede for the stairway?

Would the—but, hush, perhaps these speculations too nearly approach lese majeste!

It is enought that Edmonton schools have fire drills equal to any, and that school board and teaching staff alike are to be congratulated upon it.

Have You Accepted Our Invitation?

If not do it now. Come in and see us.

It is our ambition to give you the best goods for the least price. Not in one line but in every department of our store. We are proving our right to your trade by offering you new seasonable goods at money saving prices.

New Wash Collars and Ties, New Silk Collars and Ties, The greatest selection in all the latest novelties ever shown in Edmonton, New Ginghams, New Prints, New Muslins..

All the nobbiest styles in Spring Footwear just opened up.

COME IN AND GET FIRST CHOICE.

Duncan Bros. & Butters

(Successors to McDougall & Secord.)

'PHONE 36. DEPARTMENT STORE. 'PHONE 36.

ACME CO.

Workmen commenced this morning at extensive alterations in the front and side of the Acme Company's store, corner Jasper and Second street. The brick veneer is being removed today. The ladies' dress goods, silks and domestics will be removed from the present quarters tto the second storey; also the gent's furnishings. The alterations are expected to take about ten days.

CONCERT AT NAMAO.

Namao Methodists had the assistance of several city artists at their concert last night, which was an unqualified success and largely attended. Among the Edmonton people who took part were Miss Wright and Mr. Hook, who contributed a couple of piano duets; Mr. and Mrs. Luck with banjo and guitar; Miss Hicks, elocutionist; Mr. Birk, soloist. Prof. Riddell, of Alberta College, was also present and delivered an address.

LEGISLATORS AT RUSSIAN CONCERT.

The premier and a number of the legislators have accepted the invitation of the organizers of the Russian Concert, and will be present at this concert in the Opera House tonight. The opening hour is 8 o'clock sharp. Grace Church Quartette and a Russian choir will furnish the vocal music numbers of the evening. Rev. Dr. McQueen and Mr. Michael Gowda will address the audience briefly. There are no reserved seats.

WELSHMEN CELEBRATE.

A social gathering of about twenty Welshmen partook of a nice supper at the Prince Arthur cafe last night to celebrate St. David's Day. After supper a concert was held. Speeches were delivered by the chairman, E. E. Davies, W. D. Jones and others. A new society was formed to be known as the Cymry Fydd Society, with the following officers. President W. E. Jones; secretary, E. E. Davis.

Songs were given by Reynolds, Bryan, Doxey. The Welsh Male Voice Party, Joe Edwards, did his duty well at the piano.

The secretary would be pleased to hear from any more Welsh people in the city who would like to join.

DEATH OF EARLY STAGE DRIVER.

The death of Jack McDougall, a noted stage-driver of the early days, and well known to many Albertans, is being commented on in Montana and Nevada papers. The deceased was a brother of Mr. Archie McDougall, Stewart street, an old-timer of this district.

The Goldfield, Nev., Tribune says:

"Jack McDougall, better known as Jack the Stage-Driver, died last week, and was buried today, Rev. Father Dermody officiating. The deceased was one of the most prominent characters identified with the growth of this part of the west.

"He was known as one of the best whips and most daring drivers in the West, where he spent thirty years handling 6-horse teams most of the time. He was well loved for his staunch friendship and lovable character. He was a son of Dughall MacDunnachaidh, of Cape Mabon, C. B., Canada. During his long life in the West he was for some years on the route between Helena and Fort Benton.

This mention of Fort Benton stage recalls the fact the old Fort Benton-Cardston Stage-Coach pictured by Russell, the noted Western artist, is now in possession of Mr. J. W. Woolf, M. P. P., for Cardston.

NOXIOUS WEEDS ACT

The legislature sat up to six o'clock yesterday afternoon and transacted a good afternoon's work.

The Noxious Weeds Act was brought down for its second reading and aroused a considerable amount of discussion, and promises to be as contentious as the Fish and Game Protection Act. The bill especially interested the farmers of the House and some valuable suggestions and excellent remarks were made by Messrs. McPherson, Stony Plain), Puffer (Lacombe), Telford (Leduc), Simpson (Innisfail), Marcellus (Poucher), Moore (Red Deer). Mr. Boyle took a warm interest in the discussion and it is quite evident that the member for Sturgeon has not confined all his studies to law and parliamentary etiquette, but that in his rambles through the luxuriant crops and pastures of his riding he has been as observant as the most trained botanist.

A Vexatious Pest.

In his remarks Mr. Boyle said the question of weeds was more important than the public generally felt. What was a weed in one place gave no fear in another region. One got an idea of the loss through weeds by a visit to the elevators at the ports on the Great Lakes. Grain is docked from ½ to 5 per cent. for weed seeds. Eastern millers say that the grain going forward each year is becoming more and more degraded by weed seeds.

Three Million Bushels Weed Seeds.

The speaker estimated the loss through weed seeds in this year's crop of wheat at about three million bushels.

Education and Legislation Necessary.

Continuing, Mr. Boyle highly commended the work that was being done by the Dominion and Provincial departments of agriculture in this respect. Legislation was required to see that the farmer who does not make any attempt to keep his fields clean should not be a nuisance to his neighbors.

Screenings.

When grain is screened at the elevators the farmer should be permitted to take home his screenings.

This position was strongly supported by Mr. Rosenroll.

Mr. Findlay explained that he wanted the fullest discussion possible in order to obtain a reasonable and workable measure for the country.

Committee of the Whole.

The bill was taken up in committee of the whole. It was decided to add cockle to the list of noxious weeds. The fine for obstructing an inspector in his work was fixed at $25. Persons having noxious weeds are requested to destroy the same within ten days from the notice of the inspector.

The bills respecting villages, railways and the town of Cardston, were considered and reported.

The committee reported progress and will sit again.

OTHER SECOND READINGS

Mr. Puffer (Lacombe)—Bill Respecting Melicine Hat General Hospital.

Hon. Mr. Cross.—Bill to Amend Chapter 32 of Consolidated Ordinances.

LACOMBE HOSPITAL

Mr. Puffer's bill to incorporate Lacombe General Hospital, passed its final reading.

THE SEMERAD CASE.

The Semerad case came up again this forenoon before Magistrate Wade in the police court.

Mr. Robertson, for the defence, asked that judgment be deferred till the other charges were proceeded with. Mr. Newell quoted procedure in favor of an immediate judgment before the other charges were heard.

Magistrate Wade took the ground that at the present time, in view of the fact that Mrs. Towner had been at first summoned as a witness by the prosecution who later refused to put her on the stand, and that the entire evidence given was that of Mrs. Mikota, one of the principals, he would like to hear the testimoney of Mrs. Towner and thought matters could best be settled by putting her on the stand.

Mr. Newell said that in consultation with the crown prosecutor he had been advised to withhold her and this he intended to do. He would amend the conspiracy indictment to make it refer to Semerad as well as to Mrs. Towner and Mareish.

This materially altered the case from the magistrate's point of view as new evidence bearing on the first charge might be introduced in the later hearing and this might have an effect, involuntarily, upon the first decision.

On the request of Mr. Short, counsel for Mrs. Towner, an adjournment was made till 2.30 in order that he might look over the evidence already taken by the magistrate.

BIG TURNOVER OF VERMILION LANDS.

(Monday's Daily)

The largest Alberta land sale made this winter was completed in Winnipeg a few days ago by Mr. Sherwin, of Thomas Wright & Co. It consisted of a block of land of 32,000 acres nearly all open prairie in the famous Vermilion valley district, situated between the C. N. R. and G. T. P. main lines, between Battleford and Edmonton, and the price paid was in the neighborhood of a quarter of a million dollars. The firm sold it to one Toronto and two Winnipeg buyers in one block who it is understood will have the handling and control over it. Never before in Western Canada's history has the demand for such blocks been so keen especially from the States.

SYNOD OF B. C. AND ALBERTA.

(Monday's Daily)

Rev. Dr. McQueen left this morning for Vancouver to preside over the sittings of the Synod of British Columbia and Alberta, of which R. McQueen is convener. This is the last meeting of the Synod of the joint provinces. Separation has been effected and henceforth there shall be a Synod of British Columbia and one of Alberta.

ENGLISH HOMESTEADER DEAD.

(Monday's Daily)

The remains of Kenneth Keene, aged twenty, of Brighton, England, who settled on a homestead at Athabasca Landing a year ago, were brought to the city yesterday and will be shipped to England tomorrow. Keene succumbed recently to appendicitis. The body is accompanied by D. H. McRae, who came out last year with the deceased.

PRISONERS SENTENCED.

(Monday's Daily)

At the supreme court this morning an Indian named Boulean was arraigned for stealing a bag of flour from Hislop & Nagle. He pleaded guilty claiming he was drunk at the time. Mr. Justice Harvey sentenced him to two months with hard labor.

Everett Neill, who escaped several weeks ago from the Edmonton penitentiary was a second time arraigned on Saturday and pleaded guilty. He was given an additional six months.

A SUGGESTION FOR THE C. N. R.

The Canadian Pacific Railway company has begun tree planting on quite an extensive scale along its western lines. A contract has been let for a small acreage of breaking near Wolseley, on which it is the intention to experiment with tamarac for ties. A piece of ground is also to be planted at Medicine Hat with jack pine and tamarac for the same purpose. Over 100 miles of trees are to be planted between Winnipeg and Calgary for snow breaks, and at several stations trees are to be planted around the station grounds and prizes are to be offered the section foremen who make the best show.

DEATH OF MRS. McKEIL.

The death of Julia A. McKeil, wife of Robert J. C. McKeil, occurred yesterday at the General hospital, where she had been lying quite ill for the past month. The deceased was about forty years of age; she leaves no family. The remains are in the chapel of the Alberta Undertaking company, to be viewed by friends this evening. Tomorrow the body will be sent by the C. P. R. to Wodstock, N.B., Mr. McKeil accompanying the body.

LADIES' MUSICAL CLUB.

The monthly meeting of the Ladies' Musical Club was held Saturday afternoon at the residence of Miss McDougall. Tea was served after which the ladies adjourned to the spacious drawing room and spent an hour with the great composer, Mendelssohn. An excellent paper on the life of the old master was read by Mrs. Farquharson. Miss Tait's vocal number, "Oh, for the Wings of a Dove", was highly appreciated, as was also Miss Gardner's solo "The First Violet". Mr. Stutchbury's rendering of "Lord, God of Abraham," from "Elijah" was excellent, and received very hearty applause.

The piano solos were delightful selections, played with artistic merit, Miss Anderson contributing the "Rando Capriciosa" and Mr. Barford the "Frautasia."

Miss Alice McDougall, who has been for some time the accompanist of the club has resigned and the resignation was accepted with regret. A successor will be appointed at the club's meeting this week.