

Three Hour Session

Aldermen Waxed Eloquent About Railways as Father Time Gathered Up Minutes.

Real Estate Agents Want Their License Taxes Lowered—Other Business.

The city council sat last evening until nearly 11:30 o'clock. Some of the aldermen were in magnificent oratorical trim, and delivered several addresses. The great theme was the railway, the discussion being precipitated by a motion of Ald. Yates asking that a public meeting be called to deal with this momentous question.

There was an audience of one during the symphony—the janitor.

Communications were the first taken up. A. T. Goward, local manager of the B. C. Electric Railway Company, notified the council that their three large cars had arrived, and that all obstacles to the institution of the cars on this run receive the attention of the council. Referred to streets, bridges and sewers committee.

Messrs. Lee & Fraser, acting for Mrs. Johnson, asked for the removal of a pile of rock near her house on Quadra street, which was a great inconvenience and a source of danger to children. Referred to city engineer, with power to act. The rock will be broken and utilized on the streets.

The city solicitor reported adversely on the claim made by the Pioneer Coffee & Spice Mills, for compensation for damages to their premises, owing to the overflow of a surface drain. Received and adopted.

A communication from the city engineer regarding a number of improvements was referred to the streets, bridges and sewers committee.

Frank A. McKenzie, representing a Seattle publishing firm, informed the council of his intention to publish a directory of the Yukon, together with half tons and a descriptive article dealing with the potentialities and features of the great northern country in general. They will be on every steamer for distribution, in all the hotels and at the Pan-American exhibition at Buffalo. He asked for the advertising patronage of the city of Victoria. Referred to the advertising committee.

Peter Hansen offered to supply good street gravel to the city at \$1.10 per yard in some portions of the city, and \$1.20 at others. Referred to city engineer for report.

The city clerk reported on a number of matters that had been referred to the city engineer during the week. Received and filed.

Jas. Wilson, sanitary inspector, informed the council that under the present by-laws he could not inspect the Chinese wash house on the south corner of Fort and Quadra should be allowed under existing laws. He advised that all Chinese wash house proprietors be served with notices in order that they may become apprised of the by-law affecting them. Referred to the sanitary inspector and city engineer.

H. M. Graham et al, real estate agents, protested against paying the annual license of \$25 imposed on them, and petitioned the council to take the necessary steps to secure in the legislature an amendment to the present act to reduce the rate to \$10. The present tax they claimed was excessive.

Ald. Williams thus referred to the legislative committee, to comply with the wishes of the petitioners if possible, while the mayor was of the opinion that the council had power to make the required reduction.

Ald. Yates moved that the matter be referred to the finance committee, and Ald. Brydon was of a similar opinion. This course was decided upon.

A. McKewen and 140 others petitioned for a thorough investigation into the proposition of a full paid fire department, maintaining that it would be inadvisable to reduce the number of men to attain the full paid system, and deemed it as an experiment entailing too much risk.

This caused considerable discussion, in which Ald. Stuart, Brydon, Beckwith and Kinsman participated. The petition was laid on the table, to be considered with the estimates.

W. S. Chambers and others petitioned along similar lines, stating that when they signed a petition asking for a full paid fire department, they did so under a misapprehension. They disapproved of a reduction of the force from 37 to 25 men, as contemplated in the new system, and virtually asked that their names be withdrawn from the former petition.

Laid on the table pending consideration of estimates.

Allan Leves and others petitioned for an increase in wages to men employed in the construction of a rock work on the present rate, \$2.25 per day, to \$2.50, the former standard. Referred to the city engineer for report.

Jas. L. Raymer recommended that tenders calling for water metres. Received and adopted.

A tender for cordwood for the pumping station was then read.

Josiah Bull offered 100 cords for \$3.10 per cord.

Referred to the water commissioners and purchasing agent for report.

The city engineers and city assessor reported regarding the improvement of Government street. They estimated the cost at \$27,100, and submitted a schedule of the assessment on the various properties benefited. The city's share of the cost would be \$9,050, and the property owners \$18,150,40, the work to be done on the local improvement plan.

Received and laid on the table, and some alderman will give notice of a by-law at the next meeting.

The finance committee reported adversely on the offer of B. H. Hurst & Co. of a map of British Columbia for \$10. The offer was filed and the report adopted.

The special committee on finance reported on the communication of C. Holland regarding the extension of Ontario street from Oswego to Montreal. They recommended that the council

contribute one-quarter the cost of the work.

Ald. Brydon wanted an explanation, and Ald. Kinsman gave it.

Considerable discussion ensued, in which almost the entire council participated. It was finally referred to the streets, bridges and sewers committee.

The finance committee recommended the appropriation of \$4,883.45 out of current revenue for ordinary expenditures. Adopted.

The legislative committee reported as follows: Victoria, B. C., March 25th.

To His Worship the Mayor and Board of Aldermen:—Your legislative committee, having considered the amendments required to the Municipal Clauses Act, beg to report as follows:

The resolution of your committee, it is desirable that the said act should be amended in the following particulars:

1. That section 110 be so amended that preference may be given to the city for a special rate on lots and other assessments mentioned in the said section on any claim, lien, privilege or encumbrance of any person except the crown, and without requiring registration to preserve it.

2. That amendment be made enabling the municipality to have the assessment roll prepared and submitted to the council in January of each year, and to provide for a special rate being enabled to adopt it if so desired; the assessment roll of the previous year with such amendments and alterations to it as may be necessary to bring the same up to date correctly.

3. That the city's power to borrow its one-third share of the cost of any local improvement be more explicitly expressed, especially as enabling the city to repay the money over a period not exceeding 10 years.

And your committee would suggest that power be asked to enable the city to contribute two-thirds of the cost entailed by the extension of Broad street in lieu of the one-third already authorized. And also for power to impose a frontage tax on all sewers.

Your committee would also most strongly recommend the necessity and desirability of having such changes made to the Municipal Clauses Act as will place all departments (whether police, fire or any other) which require the expenditure of municipal funds for their maintenance under the immediate supervision and control of the municipal council.

Your committee think it desirable that power should be obtained to limit the amount now placed on the maintenance of a free public library.

Your committee is also of opinion that if all scavenging in the city were done by city employees, great benefit would be obtained, and the health of the city improved, and with that view your committee would recommend that powers be obtained for the city to do such work and charge and collect for same.

With reference to the amendments to the Municipal Clauses Act, sought by the corporation of Nanaimo, your committee would recommend that the approval of the council be given to the amendment, defining "transient traders," and also to the amendment of the Municipalities Act, extending the hours of polling to 5 p. m. With reference to the other changes sought by the corporation of Nanaimo, your committee do not concur with the special facts presented by the Nanaimo corporation, and therefore do not propose to recommend any amendment to the act in relation to the same.

Your committee would also suggest that the act be amended so as to enable the council to refer any question of the public interest to a vote of the people, to be taken at the same time as the civic elections are held in any year.

Ald. Yates, as chairman of the legislative committee, succinctly elucidated the various features of the report. He referred to specifically to the clause dealing with the Broad street extension, as well as that providing that the fire wardens and board of police commissioners be placed under the control of the city council. Several other points were touched upon by Ald. Yates, while Ald. Beckwith referred to that dealing with library, which he characterized as very important.

The mayor suggested that the report be allowed to stand over for a week. While there were several valuable suggestions in it, there were others of a radical character.

The report was dealt with seriatim, and adopted.

Ald. Williams wanted a clause inserted, providing that the council take steps to secure power to reduce the license of the real estate agents to \$10.

Upon Ald. Beckwith's suggestion, the mover offered to substitute words not exceeding \$25. This was lost, after much discussion.

Ald. Yates's motion to reconsider the motion passed at a previous meeting, that the petition of E. M. Johnson for a full paid fire department be reconsidered, was then brought up. The father of the motion pointed out that in the latter part of the petition was a covert threat, and he had learned that the gentleman who forwarded it, had said it was his express intention to convey the impression that those aldermen who did not support it would be dealt with by the signers. He characterized the wording of the petition as decidedly disrespectful. He moved resolution providing:

Resolved, That the petition of E. M. Johnson for a full paid fire department be reconsidered, and that the council do not take any action thereon.

The house committee report upon changes in connection with the sanitary arrangements of the hospital was adopted.

Alex. Wilson drew attention to a plan for enlarging the accommodation in the hospital. Six of the eight rooms of the first floor used now by the nurses could be, with little expense, turned into wards. A separate building for a nurses' home should be built so that when not on duty they might not be kept within the hospital.

Joshua Davis said that the government when waited upon by H. Dallas Holman and himself, had increased help towards hospitals, had assured them that the matter would soon be disposed of. He gave as his opinion that any departure from the plan adopted by the board of making the building other than a pavilion hospital would be a retrograde act. The block hospital was out of date.

The question was reported to be in the hands of the house committee, who were awaiting the action of the government before reporting upon any extension. R. S. Day, as a member of that committee, said that any extension that would receive his endorsement would have to provide for free patients as well as for pay ones.

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ing that the petition be returned to the petitioners.

Ald. Cameron said that Mr. Johnson had told him that no threat was intended, and there was no intention of disrespect on the ground. As to the admission that such was implied, Mr. Johnson explained that his remark was merely a matter of fact. Finally, after further discussion, Ald. Yates, with the permission of his second, withdrew his motion.

The same alderman's motion providing that another meeting be called to deal with railway matters was then taken up. The father of it expressed his disappointment with the public meeting last week, and he believed that Victoria should be alive to her own interests in the matter. He ventured to think from the guarded language used that the government will give the bonus to building the Coast-Kootenay road to the C. P. R. If this company obtained this and built a ferry to Nanaimo, and then run a line to the northwest of the Island, it would virtually place the C. P. R. terminus two hundred miles to the west of Victoria, and the degree of longitude and northern trade in this case would be landed at the north end of the Island and switched over to Vancouver. The speaker sounded a warning note, referring to the danger of any such action in force, though the rainfall there was heavy. By Monday, the 25th, this storm had crossed the Rockies to the Territories. From this time to the close of the week the weather remained comparatively low over the Pacific slope; while the weather was generally unsettled, with only moderate rain, and with the exception of a few zero temperatures the weather has been comparatively mild in the other portions of the Territories and Alaska.

At Victoria 33 hours and 30 minutes bright sunshine was recorded, 29 inch of rain, the highest temperature was 54 on the 20th, and the lowest 32 on the 24th. At New Westminster the rainfall was 1.90 inch, the highest temperature was 58 on the 20th, and the lowest 32 on the 24th. At Kamloops the rainfall was 1.90 inch, the highest temperature 62 on the 20th, and the lowest 28 on the 24th. At Barkerville seven inches of snow fell, the highest being 10 on the 20th, and the lowest 10 on the 24th.

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The first business that the board of directors of the Royal Jubilee hospital had to consider last night was the report presented to them by Dr. Hasell of the losses which had been sustained by the nurses when part of the institution was looted by the thief who represented himself as an electrician. The report shows six of the nurses having lost sums aggregated \$75, while Miss Brownrigg lost a ring valued at \$75 in Brownrigg street, and a watch valued at \$100 in the office upon entering the hospital. The nurses should not leave such things lying around in their rooms. Dr. Hasell was partially responsible. R. S. Day agreed with him inasmuch as the nurses who were victimized were those who were on duty at the time in the wards of the hospital, and he thought they should be reprimanded.

An amendment, moved by E. A. Lewis and seconded by H. M. Graham, that the report be referred to the finance committee, was carried after some discussion.

A communication from Miss J. M. Grady, matron of the hospital, was received, in which she tendered her resignation in order to accept a position at White Horse.

R. S. Day, reporting for the house committee, recommended that the resignation be accepted, and that the board be authorized to order to a successor.

Discussion followed as to the advisability of advertising for a matron, many being of the opinion that a successor could be found among the nurses already connected with the institution, and that the promotion of some one of them should be made.

It was pointed out by E. A. Lewis that these nurses could apply for the position, and that the advertisement, if issued, and if it was thought advisable could be given the preference in making a choice.

Joshua Davis, in connection with the subject introduced the idea that something might be done towards dividing the duties which are now performed by the matron. The housekeeping duties, which take much of her time, and if the number of wards are increased, as contemplated, the duties of the matron would become still more onerous.

It was finally decided to adopt the recommendation to advertise for a matron, applications to be received up to April 15th.

The house committee report upon changes in connection with the sanitary arrangements of the hospital was adopted.

Alex. Wilson drew attention to a plan for enlarging the accommodation in the hospital. Six of the eight rooms of the first floor used now by the nurses could be, with little expense, turned into wards. A separate building for a nurses' home should be built so that when not on duty they might not be kept within the hospital.

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The question was reported to be in the hands of the house committee, who were awaiting the action of the government before reporting upon any extension. R. S. Day, as a member of that committee, said that any extension that would receive his endorsement would have to provide for free patients as well as for pay ones.

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WEEKLY WEATHER SYNOPSIS.

Victoria Meteorological Office, 20th to 29th March 1901.

The first two days of the week were generally fair and decidedly mild over Vancouver Island, the Lower Mainland and the Kootenay, caused by a high barometer area spreading inland from the Pacific.

This movement was accompanied by a clear sky and considerable heat, particularly about Kamloops, where the temperature rose to 62. At the same time in Cariboo the temperature remained about freezing, and a fall of several inches of snow occurred.

On Friday, the 22nd, this high barometer area moved southward to California, in advance of an ocean storm area of moderate intensity, which, during the day crossed British Columbia to Alberta, and caused a moderate southwest gale over the Straits of Fuca and Georgia, and a general rainfall along the Coast; while in Cariboo four inches of snow fell, and considerable rain or sleet about Kamloops.

The storm area was followed on Saturday by another high barometer area from the Pacific, accompanied by a brief interval of fine weather. On Sunday morning the barometer fell rapidly in the interior due to a quickly approaching ocean storm which by the afternoon caused a southeasterly gale over the Straits of Fuca, while at the entrance of the Straits and along the Coast the winds were only moderate in force, though the rainfall there was heavy.

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DOAN'S KIDNEY PILLS. 50 CENTS PER BOX. Watch for this Trade Mark.

LOWER IRELAND, Oct. 29th, 1900. DEAR SIRS,—I was so troubled with my kidneys that I could not get a good night's rest, having to get up five or six times during the night to urinate. Whenever I did urinate it was always accompanied by a scalding sensation, and I always felt weak and tired and could hardly move around. If I was exposed in any way I would be laid up for some days. I used four boxes of Doan's Kidney Pills and they have done me so much good in removing all my troubles, that I can now sleep with comfort and consider I am completely cured.

ROBERT BAILEY. ST. JACOB'S, ONT., March 27th, 1900. DEAR SIRS,—Before using Doan's Pills I had a continual pain in the region of the kidneys, but after using one box the pain had disappeared and I ascribe it to your pills. Yours truly, C. THIEL.

ST. THOMAS, Nov. 28th, 1900. DEAR SIRS,—I am now 73 years of age and for some time past have been troubled with blood in my water. Whenever I would urinate it would be full of blood, but I am glad to say that I took Doan's Pills and my urine is now as clear as it ever was, thanks to your pills. Yours truly, WM. HUNTER. FORD'S MILLS, N.B., Jan. 3rd, 1900. DEAR SIRS,—I have great pleasure in telling you of the good Doan's Pills have done for me. I was laid up completely with sore back so that I could not straighten up without terrible pains. Three boxes of your pills cured me and I cannot recommend them too highly. MRS. PHINEAS BEERS.

DEAR SIRS,—I have been troubled with lame back for about one year. I procured a box of Doan's Pills and after taking them I am completely cured and can highly recommend them to any person suffering from the same. Yours truly, JAMES PATTERSON. FORESTVILLE, ONT., Oct. 8th, 1900. THE DOAN KIDNEY PILLS CO., Toronto, Ont. DEAR SIRS,—For several years I was troubled with scanty and very highly colored urine, accompanied with pain in the back. I have taken one box of Doan's Pills and they have had an astonishing effect, remedying all of these disorders. Yours truly, W. C. MCCOLL.

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