VICTORIA TO BE IMPORTANT CENTRE

C. P. R. Evidences Great Interest in City as First Port of Call for Pacific Shipping.

The development of Vancouver Island by the C. P. R. is undoubtedly giving the directors and officials charged with the duty the greatest concern at present. The selection of R. M. Marpole to take the most prominent part in this work is regarded as a fortunate one, not only from the company's standpoint, but also with respect to Vancouver Island. Mr. Marpole is an extremely practical man, and has given evidence that he regards the Island as a source of great riches.

While there has been a lot of talk about the plans of the C. P. R. with respect to railway development on the Island, very little has been definitely decided upon by the company. A Dominion subsidy stands ready on the continuation of the road from Wellington to Comox. This the company will undoubtedly build at once in order to save the subsidy.

On the authority of officials of the company it is safe to say that nothing definite has yet been decided about continuing the road to the north end of the Island. In fact, according to the officials of the company, the proposition has not been seriously considered yet. It is evident therefore that it will be several years at least before the company takes into consideration the landing of passengers at the north end of the Island in an effort to expedite the transfer of mails. It can readily be understood that when the G. T. P. comes into use with the shorter trans-Pacific route the C. P. R. may find it necessary to provide a competitive route by cutting off all the time possible, including a call for their trans-Pacific lines near Cape Scott, and a quick dispatch to the Mainland by fast steamer or otherwise to connect with the line which it is fully expected the C. P. R. will build across the northern part of the province by way of the Yellowhead Pass.

But this is a scheme which yet exists only in a vague and general way. When this company gets down to actual surveys and working out the details, many changes may be wrought in what is only a very indefinite proposition at present.

An official in the company, in close touch with headquarters, stated a short time ago that some time it may be considered wise to call at Cape Scott—and in this designation they undoubtedly meant somewhere at the northern end of Vancouver Island, and not the particular point named.

In making this statement the official conveyed no idea that the company was seriously considering this proposition however.

He likewise put aside the proposition that the Empresses would enter Barkley Sound, and call at a point on Alberni canal, there to land fast mails which would be carried across by rail to the east side of Vancouver Island at Nanaimo and by fast steamer to Vancouver. This was impracticable, he said, as the time consumed in getting into Alberni canal would almost bring the Empress to Victoria. The distance by rail across to Nanaimo would be about equal to that from Victoria to Nanaimo, so that no saving would really be effected.

The construction of a line to Alberni would be in the interests of general trade, and could not be for the purpose of seeking a port of call for the Empresses.

It seems evident therefore that the C. P. R. Company has no intention for a considerable time to come at least to make any port of call on this side of the Pacific before Victoria is reached. This city is to be the first port of call, and there can be no question that the company intends to make very radical innovations at this port. The C. P. R. has been steadily pursuing a policy with respect to Victoria, which gives assurance to everyone that they have come to stay. The works carried out by that company have all been of the most substantial character. Provision has been made for the coasting trade, but with all this work nothing has so far been done to provide for distinctive accommodation for their deep sea liners. This is not according to the usual plans of the C. P. R., and prompts the belief that the company is but awaiting some turn in events before making provision for their trans-Pacific shipping. At various times there have been rumors that the company was about to enter Esquimalt in this connection, but nothing definite has taken place. There is reason to suppose, however, that within a short time a conclusion will be reached by the company on this question of deep water docking, and Victoria will then see the most complete accommodation provided.

Victoria can be made a great distributing centre for the Oriental trade.

The Empresses are every year carrying more general traffic, and an increased number of passengers bound not alone for British territory, but also for Seattle and points in the United States. From Victoria the distribution can readily be made, now that the C. P. R. operates its own steamers out of Victoria for Seattle.

While the C. P. R. may be expected to run a spur line from the Wellington-Comox extension, so as to connect with the Alberni canal, it is quite as probable that the Cowichan Lake branch of the road will be built. This is acknowledged to be easily constructed. It opens up moreover a splendid area of country and a rich tourist resort. Just as the Wellington-Alberni-Comox branch would invade the Cameron Lake district, so the Duncans-Sarita route would open up the Cowichan Lake country.

Vast timber resources lie in the Cowichan Lake area, and upon the completion of that line the C. P. R. will endeavor to come to an understanding for the carriage of timber over the route and the discarding of the practice of floating the logs down the Cowichan river, with the destruction to fishing, which follows the tearing up of the gravel beds. A subsidy exists for the Wellington-Comox branch, so that it is fair to expect that work may be undertaken a little earlier than the Cowichan branch. Officials of the line, however, see in the latter a necessary road both for commercial purposes and as a tourist route with which the company is so interested at present.

QUESTION OF NEW MAP FOR VICTORIA

Diverse Views as to Advisability---Necessity and Powers Held By Council.

Will there or will there not be an official map for Victoria? What is an official map anyway? How is it to be applied in actual practice to properties which have for long encroached on city or private rights? These are some of the questions which agitated the aldermanic mind Monday night.

This is one of the matters mooted by Ald. Hall, both for the city at large and especially for Victoria West.

These things are in a sad state. Two surveys are in use. One is a very old survey. The other is that made by Wm. Ralph, accepted by the government and for this the monuments are placed. If this was followed the residents would require to "push over" some sixteen feet. To do this they must encroach on the Indian reserve. When this was sold the purchasers would want their land, and those next the reserve would come short.

In this connection Ald. Fullerton made a plea for Spring Ridge. The lines were five feet out there. And they needed a map as much as the people of Victoria West.

Ald. Fell thought this question of readjustment was more difficult than it seemed. To say that the readjustment of the street lines would mean no loss to anyone, said he, was hardly true. On paper it looked all right to cut so many feet off the front of a man's lot and to compensate him by adding another ten feet at the rear. Should the city come to do it, however, it would find that many of the residents had occupied their land for over twenty years and thus had a legal right to it. These it would be impossible to evict, and the consequence would be that if the pushing back process were indulged in, the old residents would remain in possession of more land than they were really entitled to, while their neighbors would be deprived of a portion of their lots.

As an example he pointed to certain lots on Quadra street, where it had been found that the street lines were not in the proper place, and where an attempt had been made to readjust them. One of the residents had been in possession more than twenty years, and to this day his fence stood five feet beyond where it really should.

He thought the only way to remedy the matter was by special legislation. This would give them power to evict or to levy a suitable penalty.

His Worship agreed with this, and instanced a case where the cement sidewalk had actually been built around buildings encroaching on the street.

Ald. Hanna thought that the section of the Municipal Clauses Act (sec. 11) allowing the council to decide such questions would cover the case. The consensus of opinion was, however, against this.

Ald. Henderson in speaking in support of his views, stated that he did not exactly know what these gentlemen meant by an "official map." So far as he was aware an official map was one accepted and plotted, and acknowledged by the government. In such a survey the lines should be marked by monuments. These conditions were fulfilled by the Ralph survey. The Nagel survey, which some of the residents sought to use could not be so termed. Personally he did not think the residents of Victoria West were so blind to their interests as to make unnecessary trouble. The exact amount of land required was there. The city was going by monuments. The people by fences. If a man got his proper amount of land, no hardship was entailed. He did not think "squatters' rights" would hold in this case. However, he sought the city barrister's opinion on the subject. As an official map of the city, he thought it would be a good thing, but the question immediately confronting them was how to settle the question in Victoria West, so that they could improve the streets. To this end he sought the city barrister's advice.

Various others intervened in the discussion, but to little purpose. It was decided to allow Ald. Henderson to get the counsel sought.

THE CHICAGO ROBBERY.

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 26.—Though a score of detectives are at work on the case, the theft of $173,000 from the subtreasury last week, it seems as far from solution as the day the robbery was committed. The general impression prevails that the thief must have been a government employee, but no evidence of a tangible nature has been discovered against any of them.

KOOTENAY FRUIT GROWERS.

Favor Establishment of Experimental Farm or Station.

The adjourned annual meeting of the Kootenay Fruit Growers' Association was held in Nelson last week. C. W. Busk, the president, secretary and E. Applewhaite were appointed a committee to consider changes and amendments to the constitution and to report at the next general meeting.

Messrs Ford and Fraser got this motion passed after a good deal of discussion: "That the Kootenay Fruit Growers' Association feel it necessary, in the interests of the fruit industry of the Kootenays, that an experimental farm or station be established at a point in the Kootenays, and with that end in view the president and the secretary be and are hereby requested to communicate with the proper authorities in the matter impressing upon them the necessity of establishing such an institution."

COUNCIL CONSIDERS PROPOSED BY-LAWS

Repayment of Loan for Building of Incinerator Extends Over Twenty-five Years.

As indicated in Monday's Times, a number of important by-laws along with the question of the increase of salary asked for by the civic employees who were overlooked in the late raise came up before the council on Monday evening.

For a moment it looked as though star chamber sessions were to be abandoned. Ald. Fullerton proposed that the council resolve itself into a committee of the whole and deal with the applications seriatim. The Mayor was willing, and for a moment things went merry as a marriage bell.

The first application, that of the park caretaker, asking for a raise was under discussion, when Ald. Hall gravely arose in his place and asked that this be laid over. All questions regarding salary should be dealt with in private. The aldermen awoke as from a trance, and quickly decided to leave the matter till the end of the regular session. Some one synically suggested "that there might be some things of interest to the press yet to be dealt with."

The by-laws above mentioned now came under consideration. The incinerator by-law was first dealt with. Here Ald. Vincent objected. Fifty years was too long. And while his views on the durability and use of such plants would not bear too close inspection, his financial judgment was sound. When he had explained that the additional levy would be trifling and the saving in interest, the council decided to make the period twenty-five years. This by-law was, therefore, referred back to the auditor for a statement as to the levy required. As originally figured it stood at 1-7 of a mill on the dollar.

The surface drainage by-law asking for $50,000 on the city's credit received its first and second readings.

It begins to look as though Ald. Meston's by-law might not get beyond its second reading. At the outset last night, it was found to be defective, and after various listless attempts at amendment it was laid over for future consideration.

There came up also, Monday, a request for information as to what the city was willing to do for the assistance of new industries. The Puget Sound Wood Products Co. are looking for a location in one of the Sound cities, and of course seek the best possible terms. They employ 80 men. They require at least two acres of land for a site and wharfage facilities. This is one of the industries which is naturally subsidiary to timber, lumber, pulp wood and kindred manufactures, yet it was tabled without a dissenting voice. Ald. Fullerton suggested that the company be informed that this council is not in favor of granting any bonus to "such" an industry.

DREDGE IS WORKING AT HIGH PRESSURE

Operation of Filling in the James Bay Flats Will Be Completed Soon.

(From Monday's Daily.)

The dredge King Edward is now working twelve hours a day throwing mud into the James Bay flats. It is expected that the operation will be completed sooner than expected, and within three weeks' time.

Already one entire side of the flats is filled to a depth of about twelve feet. During the past few days the piping has been shifted on several occasions, as immediately beneath the outpour the mud accumulates very rapidly. There have been but few testing operations to determine the amount of solid matter coming through, but it is estimated that at no time during the present work has more than forty per cent. of mud and other solid matter come through the piping.

The dredge is being moved from place to place in the bay as the quantity of filling matter becomes exhausted. Next week she will be shifted to the C. P. R. wharf end, and the piping will be thrown open on the south side of the flats, which are at present only covered with water which has been drawn from the place where the filling in is now in progress.

Each day the dredge throws into the flats approximately 2,500 cubic yards of solid matter. This is an increase of 500 cubic yards since she was only working nine hours a day. As a consequence the completion of the work has been greatly hastened, and the task of the King Edward will be complete about the middle of March.

It has not yet been decided whether the city will bear a part of the cost of the 25,000 cubic yards of dry filling which will be needed when the present operation is complete.

WILL IMPROVE ROCKLAND AVE.

ONE RESIDENT LODGES OBJECTION TO PLAN

Provincial Government Willing to Assist--Routine Business Transacted.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

A considerable amount of business, chiefly of a routine nature, was transacted at Monday's council meeting. Communications galore were showered on the worthy aldermen, till at one time it looked as though a large amount of it would necessarily be laid over. But by curtailing discussion on minor matters, it was eventually all gotten rid of.

In answer to the letter of J. Gourdeau, Deputy Minister of Marine and Fisheries, it was stated that the city had no objection to a wharf being constructed on the west side of the bay. In answer to Mr. Cherry, it was announced that the old Esquimalt road would be improved. Other requests for street improvement were likewise granted.

A. P. Luxton placed himself on record as being against the widening of Rockland Avenue. If the present street were properly macadamized, the sidewalks, etc., placed in proper condition, there was no need for widening it. As, moreover, with one exception, he alone of the residents of Rockland Avenue, opposed the proposed improvement, it will be gone on with. In this connection a letter from the provincial government was read announcing that the latter was willing to assist in the beautifying of the said avenue. They asked, however, for further particulars.

At this the hearts of the aldermen were very glad, and they decided to make all haste in complying with the request. This serenity of mind enabled them, doubtless to listen with exemplary patience to the Rockland residents' request for their sewer and gas pipes to be laid in the same trench. They decided against such a course on the objection of Ald. Vincent. At this juncture Ald. Fullerton read the press a nice little lecture. The city was governed by the press this year. Someone somewhere was giving things away. Ald. Fell took up the subject. The worthy alderman had given a very lengthy interview to one of the local papers, but that did not prevent him from airing his views. He was amazed at the way the press got at the inner heart of the council, and laid it bare to the public. Many things which should have come before the council first, were to be learned of through the medium of the press. He took occasion at the same time to read Ald. Henderson a lecture on the proper procedure of the streets, bridges and sewers committee. According to his view they had no right to do anything, save by first asking leave of the council. Even an innocent request for the views of residents as to whether or not they favored the local improvement plan was out of order.

Ald. Henderson endeavored to soothe the troubled mind of his worthy friend by pointing out that it was done in good faith, and to save the council unnecessary trouble. But Ald. Fell still objected.

Mayor Morley now interposed. It was not the desire of the council to in any way hamper the committee so long as they did not bind the council to anything, they had a perfect right to go ahead. The letter in question had gone from the Mayor's office, and if there was blame he was willing to take the responsibility.

This gave Ald. Fell the opportunity he had been waiting for. This was what he objected to. If the Mayor was to do the whole work of the council, they might as well go home.

The matter was then laid at rest to await a further report, when it will be resurrected by the streets, bridges and sewers committee.

The Rockland residents were not alone in their request for improvements. The residents of Richmond avenue, between Cadboro Bay road and Oak Bay avenue, asked, through G. T. Boulding, for sewer connection with Bodwell. They also requested that attention be paid to the road bed. They expressed their pleasure at the news that the houses were to be numbered. They asked that some one be appointed to look after the boulevarding of the streets.

The question of sending a delegate to the meeting of the Canadian Asociation for the Prevention of Tuberculosis proved a stumbling block for a moment. Ald. Hall suggested that Ralph Smith would be a good man. This did not meet with Mayor Morley's approval. It should be left to Dr. Fagan. To this the aldermen assented on condition that no extra expense be incurred by the Victoria council. Finally it was agreed to allow the doctor to use his discretion in the matter.

A letter was received from J. A. Heritage, asking that the sewer on Grant street be extended to Bodwell street. The letter was referred to the streets, bridges and sewers committee.

To the same committee was referred the letter of Robert Sellick. Mr. Sellick stated that he was about to build on lot 12, section 11, Madonna street, and he asked that the sewer be extended to his house.

Emma Marston wrote, calling the attention of the council to the fact that owing to its having been improperly laid, the water pipe connecting her house with the street main had been frozen. She asked the city to pay her plumbers' bill. The matter was referred to the water commissioner for a report.

The "team owners of Victoria" notified the council that hereafter, owing to the increased cost of labor, the price of a man and team for an eight hour day would be $6, and for a team alone $4.50. As the letter was unsigned, it was impossible for the council to receive it, and it was sent whence it came for signatures.

A petition was received from Robert Moore and a number of other residents on Edmonton avenue, asking that the surface drain on that street be deepened. The matter was referred to the streets, bridges and sewers committee.

A number of the residents on Railroad avenue wrote, asking that the council change the somewhat uncouth name of their street. They suggested McBride avenue as being a more euphonious and dignified name.

Arthur Lee, the clerk of the Metropolitan Methodist church, wrote, stating that it was the wish of the church to boulevard the street adjoining the premises, and asking that the council install the drain before they did so. The matter was referred to the city engineer.

Accounts to the amount of $7,044 were passed. Fifty dollars was granted the Victoria Poultry and Pet Stock Association; $300 was granted the parks and boulevards committee for necessary work to be done. It was decided to trade a pair of swans for a pair of Angora goats with the manager of the Spokane park if the latter so desired. It was decided to petition the legislature at the coming session to turn over the old Quadra street cemetery for park or other uses.

This concluded the general business.

AMENDMENTS TO THE GAME ACT

MEETING OF LOCAL SPORTSMEN CALLED

Recommendations Which Will Be Made at the Coming Session of the Legislature.

A meeting of those interested in the preservation of game will be held in the Driard hotel on Thursday next. J. Musgrave, hon. secretary of the Vancouver Island Fish and Game Club, sets forth some of the business which will come up for discussion.

He says: "A meeting will be held at the Driard hotel on Thursday next to discuss the Game Act in connection with the various amendments which have been suggested to the provincial game warden and the different game associations during the last two years. It is hoped that everyone who is at all interested in the matter will make a point of attending. The question of a gun license will come up for discussion, and also the advisability of changing the opening date for grouse shooting from September 1st to October 1st. The object of the meeting is to get as many men as possible together to give their views on the subject of the better protection of fish and game. The meeting will appoint delegates to attend another meeting to be held at Vancouver on Saturday, March 2nd, at which meeting delegates will be present from all parts of the province. Fernie, Lillooet, Revelstoke and other places are expected to send delegates, and Vancouver Island will be represented from Victoria, Cowichan, Saanich and Nanaimo.

"I trust you will give publicity to this matter in your columns as the meeting at Vancouver will have a great deal to do with whatever changes may be made in the Game Act this session, and it is only right that every one who is at all interested should be given a chance to give his opinion at the initial meeting in Victoria."

It will be remembered that two years ago petitions were circulated throughout the province asking that a gun license be imposed. That petition was signed by about 1,700 persons who took an interest in shooting. The license was not imposed by the government, however, the amendment being defeated in the House.

The attempt will be made this year again to have the gun license introduced. Sportsmen in favor of it want the proceeds from the license set aside to be devoted to the purposes of preserving game.

Among other recommendations which are being made by various game clubs at the coming session of the legislature by way of amendments to the Game Act are the following:

Gun license of $2.50 or $3. For sheep, moose and wapiti, $10.

Guides' license of $15.

Trappers' license, non-resident, $50; resident, $10.

Non-resident fishing license of $15.

Game reserves to be established in E. Kootenay, Lillooet, Vancouver Island.

Bag limit of birds per day to be ten pheasants, ten grouse (both blue and willow), ten prairie chicken, ten quail and fifteen or twenty ducks. Bag limit of big game shortened.

Sale of trout to be limited.

Bear to be protected between July 1st and August 31st. Bag limit to be two grizzly and five black bear per season.

Open season for all species of grouse to be September 15th.

Free miners to be restricted to killing for food only deer, grouse and ducks anywhere south of the 53rd parallel; and anywhere no privileges to any free miner who is not an actual resident and who has not had a license for three months.

Definition of a resident to be six months' actual residence, concurrent.

Exportation law to be changed. Non-residents to have all trophies tagged. Provincial game warden to have power to grant permits to export for museum, scientific, zoological and stocking purposes; also power to issue permits to residents to export trophies for being mounted or in case of leaving the country. All such permits to cost a fee of $2.50 to go towards the game protection fund.

Permits for trapping game birds and having same in possession for breeding and stocking purposes to be issued by provincial game warden.

Game and sporting trophies seized, to be sold and go towards game protection fund.

Period for laying an information to be extended to one year.

Penalties for infringements of game laws to be made higher.

THE NEEDS OF VICTORIA WEST

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT CITIZENS' MEETING

Committee Will Wait on City Council and Submit By-law Regarding School Question.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

The needs of Victoria West, and notably the urgent necessity for a new school, were the subjects of discussion at a meeting of the Municipal Voters' Association held at Victoria West Athletic hall Monday. Frank Hinde presided. Trustee Jay was present in his private capacity, and the result of an interesting discussion was that a committee will wait upon the city council and submit to that body a by-law with reference to the question of a school, which, in the unanimous opinion of all those present, is every day becoming a more vital necessity.

After Phil. R. Smith had read the minutes of the last meeting, Trustee Jay arose to speak. He briefly recapitulated the various by-law with reference to a new Victoria West school which had come before the city, and had proved abortive. The question before the meeting to-night, he said, was the question of an appropriation for the new school. To get this it was necessary to submit a by-law to the city for its consideration.

Such a by-law gave rise to two questions. In the first place should this by-law be submitted by itself, or should it be coupled with the request for an appropriation to meet additional accommodation in the central part of the city. The second was the question of the site. With regard to the latter question, in his opinion, the part of the Indian reserve, north of the Esquimalt road, was the best available site in the district. If it were possible, he thought this site should be purchased.

On all hands it is admitted that a new building is an urgent necessity. The present one is a disgrace. It has been condemned by architects; it is void of sanitary arrangements, and without ventilation. So far as the school board is concerned its members are unanimous with regard to Victoria West. All that remains is to get the appropriation passed. The school board estimate was $85,000, but it is not limited to any such sum, for Victoria West, and also for additional accommodation in the city.

"For Victoria West," he stated, "the school board has advised a sum of $35,000, but has given no opinion as to how the money should be spent. Neither has it outlined any plan as to what the school should be like. Personally I should advocate a separate by-law for this district."

Phil. R. Smith here interjected and proposed that a piece of property on the Indian reserve should be leased from the Dominion government at a nominal rent.

Trustee Jay, in reply, said that the question of the Indian reserve now lay between three parties, viz.: The Indians, the provincial government and the city council.

"The Indians," he said, "cannot object to giving up the land wanted as they do not use it themselves. As far as I can understand the matter this piece of property to the north of the Esquimalt road is held in trust from the Dominion government for school purposes. The question which remains is, as to whether the by-law should be taken by itself, or be coupled with provision for the rest of the city."

Beaumont Boggs, the next speaker, pointed out that the question of a site was a serious one. It is doubtful, he said, if the city could build upon land only held by lease. He went on to speak of the character of the building to be erected, and laid before the meeting a plan which had been in contemplation some years agvo. This plan, however, he said, would cost 20 per cent. more than it would have at the time it was drawn up. If the school board asked for $35,000 it would not be one cent too much. The people would not put up with a wooden school. He then moved that a by-law should be drafted to the following effect: That an amount should be set aside for purchasing a site and building a school in Victoria West, and further for purchasing two lots in James Bay. These two coupled, he said, should be placed as one by-law.

Trustee Jay here remarked that, with the exception of the High school, the city had not spent one dollar in increasing school accommodation since 1893.

After Mr. Boggs had pointed out that there was no site available at the present moment except the one on the Indian reserve, his motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Painter then moved that the Dominion government should be requested to grant a lease of three acres on the Indian reserve for a period of 99 years. This motion was seconded by Mr. Shakespeare, and carried unanimously.

The questions of street lines and an official map, a light on Rock Cut, a crossing on Esquimalt street, overcharge for water during the cold spell, and the matter of sewage, then occupied the meeting, and it was decided that these matters should be also placed in the hands of a committee to be laid before the council of the city.

The following committee was appointed to have charge of all the matters dealt with: Messrs. Redding, O'Keil, Smith, Raymond and Willard. The meeting then adjourned.

BASEBALL SEASON.

Opening Games in American League Will Be Played on April 11th.

New York, Feb. 26.—The American League baseball season will open April 11th with Chicago in St. Louis, Cleveland in Detroit, New York in Washington and Boston, Philadelphia. The season will end on October 6th.

WOULD CLEANSE THE WATER-MAIN

PROPOSED PLAN TO INCREASE EFFICIENCY

Cost to the City Will Be Small and Benefit Derived Will Be Great.

The efficiency of the local waterworks service will be increased by ten per cent. at a conservative estimate by a plan which Water Commissioner Raymur has at present in hand. This is nothing less than the cleansing of the water main which conveys the water from Elk Lake to the city. This has been in place for the past thirty-one years, and in all that time has never been cleaned. Experience has shown that in less than ten years, a 12-inch main has been reduced in capacity to less than that of an eight-inch main through the intrusion on the waterway of tubercles, sediment and vegetable growth. It will be seen how modest is the estimate of the water commissioner when he states that the efficiency of the present service will be increased ten per cent. by the process when the pipe has been in place for over three decades without a cleaning.

To clean five and a half miles of pipe is a matter of some difficulty, but it is thought that the plan can be carried out without much trouble by the use of a device which has been employed with much success in other Canadian cities. Mr. Raymur is at present in correspondence with the Halifax civic engineer to obtain minute reports of the process recently employed in that city. The plan pursued in that city was as follows:

A section of pipe is cut out to distances about a mile apart and an opening is left at either end of about sufficient extent to admit a scraper. The latter is made of a size to fit the main, and weigh anything from 100 lbs. to 1,000 lbs. The principal parts of it are made of steel. The forward end is provided with eight cutters or scrapers, so arranged that the whole inside surface is cleaned by its passage through the pipe. Two pistons of sole leather serve to steady and guide the scraper, which is propelled through the pipe by the pressure of the water behind. The water is turned on and the scraper starts off. The greatest length of pipe cleaned at one time in Halifax was 29,500 feet. The pipe was 15 inches in diameter. The run of the 29,500 feet was made in about 100 minutes, and at a cost of $8.30, or about .03 of a cent a foot.

In the case of the local pipe the sections cleaned will be about a mile at a time. The benefit derived from the process, both to the pressure and the quality, is incalculable probably much higher than Commissioner Raymur places it at. The total cost of installing the various stations along the route will amount to but three or four hundred dollars. It is doubtful if sufficent pressure for the process can be obtained until after the new pump is installed.

THE LABOR PROBLEM.

Time Extended For Receiving Notices From Those Who Will Give Evidence.

There was a meeting Monday afternoon of the committee appointed by the board of trade to investigate into the labor problem in this province. In view of the fact that there had been a number of letters sent out to Boards of Trade, Farmers' Institutes, Trades and Labor Councils, etc., it was thought best to delay the time for the taking of evidence in this city. The time for receiving notices that evidence would be given was, therefore, extended to March 12th. Already there are many who have manifested a readiness to appear before the committee. The evidence will all be taken down by a stenographer, and every side of the question will be touched upon.

ASSAULT CASE BEFORE MAGISTRATE

Case of Mr. R. T. Williams Against Sheriff Richards Adjourned for a Week.

Magistrate Hall on Tuesday stayed proceedings in the matter of the assault case of Williams vs. Sheriff Richards. In allowing the adjournment for a week, he pointed out to Geo. Morphy, counsel for Sheriff Richards, that in order to secure two justices of the peace to try the case that he must show cause before the Supreme court why he, Magistrate Hall, should not try the case. On behalf of Mr. Williams R. Lowe asked that the case be gone on with at once. He was within his rights in asking that the magistrate try the case. Mr. Morphy fought hard for a week's adjournment. Mr. Lowe as earnestly pressed for an immediate hearing.

In this connection, R. T. Williams asked why, when a policeman was within three feet of them at the time, the assault was committed, the sheriff was not run in as any common assaulter would have been.

The magistrate declined to answer this question at this juncture.

Magistrate Hall made it very clear that he did not care to try the case, but he was in duty bound to do so unless the Supreme court decided otherwise.

MISSIONARY DEAD.

London, Feb. 26.—Rev. Geo. Thompkins, for many years missionary in Lake Athabasca district, is dead here, aged 81.