

POWERS FOR THE GOVERNMENT

RIGHT TO EXEMPT FROM TAXES

Bills Which Are Now Before the Legislature for Consideration.

Subject of the bill to amend the assessment act introduced in the legislature on Tuesday is alleged to be an encouragement of railway construction in the province.

The bill in which it is proposed to exempt from taxation the coal lands owned by the Dominion Government is also being considered.

The bill introduced by Mr. Hawley to amend the Settlers' Rights Act, the general purpose of which is to amend the provisions of that act in relation to the principles of that measure.

The bill introduced by Mr. Logan to amend the provisions of the act of 1884 giving to the land in fee simple to the title in land.

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COUNCIL HELD FIRST SITTING

WATERWORKS BY-LAW WAS FINALLY PASSED

Various Matters Relative to Year's Work Brought Up for Consideration.

The first sitting of the city council for 1908 was held Monday with Mayor Hall presiding and all the aldermen present.

One of these questions is one which vitally affects part of the north end of the city. The question of the sewerage and foreshore between the mills of Lemson & Goussan and the Taylor Mill Company.

Ald. Henderson said the management had been rather severely criticized last year and he thought this was unfair for they had done their best to make the show a success.

Ald. Gleason reported that he was on a committee to look into the matter last year and he had visited the works. The trouble was caused by a defective furnace, and this could not be replaced in this country.

The council then adjourned. WILL MANAGE SAWMILL. John Erickson, C. P. R. Superintendent of Cranbrook Division, to Settle at Rock Bay.

Winnipeg, Jan. 23.—John Erickson, who has been superintendent of the Cranbrook division of the C. P. R. for many years, is to retire.

In answer to an advertisement of the city officials there were three applications for the position of auditor. Two of these, the ones from Joseph Pierson and E. R. Sargison, were being asked to make a special audit, while A. V. Kenah wanted the permanent position.

The appointment of a special auditor was arranged by a resolution of ex-Ald. Fell, seconded by ex-Ald. Verinder, at one of the sittings of the late council.

The necessary annual loan by-law was introduced and passed through its various stages, and the borrowing of \$250,000 at five per cent, to be expended in defraying current expenses, to be paid for out of the current revenue of the year.

The waterworks by-law, which had been submitted to the ratepayers on election day and approved by them, was reconsidered and finally passed.

The incinerator by-law was also finally passed and will once go into the matter of calling for tenders and making definite arrangements for the work.

A number of communications were received and referred to the respective committees. Mr. McDonald wrote complaining of the bad state of the Foul Bay road.

J. F. Bullen asked for repairs to Houghton street. George McQuaker applied for a position as plumber. This was referred to the water commissioner.

The following matters, which had been left over from the last council and had been referred to this one, were reported by Clerk Dowler: H. P. McDowell, assistant chief of fire department, et al., requesting an increase in pay.

Joseph Bull, release of corporation land, Elk lake. Reported upon by water commissioner Nov. 19th. J. Sullivan, Victoria Laborers' Protection Union, requesting increase in pay of corporation laborers.

INFLUX DUE TO LOCAL PARTIES

COMMISSIONER KING'S IMMIGRATION REPORT

Wellington Colliery Company and C.P.R. Contracted to Bring in Japanese.

Ottawa, Jan. 21.—Mackenzie King will have his report on Japanese immigration into British Columbia and on the Vancouver riots ready for presentation to parliament to-night.

It will show that for the ten months ending October last over 8,000 Japanese entered the country.

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CONDITIONS IN DAWSON CITY

RESIDENT DENIES SENSATIONAL REPORTS

Merchant Says Statements of Rev. Mr. Pringle Are Without Foundation.

H. Pinkert, of Dawson, is at the Driad. He is one of the leading merchants of the northern capital and has come south on a business trip.

At a sitting of the night that has long passed away. For purity and conduct in general, Dawson is a credit to Canada and Great Britain.

Major Wood and his force of mounted police exercise the greatest vigilance in maintaining the strictest enforcement of the laws.

The commissioner, Alex. Henderson, is giving splendid satisfaction. His influence is all on the side of law and order and his influence is exerted for the uplifting of the moral tone of the place.

It is contained in the reports of this Rev. Mr. Pringle. The merchant visitor cannot understand the objects which Mr. Pringle has in view in misrepresenting the conditions in Dawson.

He has seen worse conditions in the eastern states, he says. He is inclined to think that a wrong impression should get abroad.

Commissioner Henderson when it was brought to his attention that Mr. Pringle had made representations regarding the moral conditions and the enforcement of the laws in Dawson, at once denied the truth of the statements made.

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EXCISE COURT JUDGE

WILL MANAGE SAWMILL

Subject Was Brought Up at Meeting of Council Last Evening.

After all the other business of the council had been disposed of Monday, and the members were just considering the possibility of adjourning, Alderman Gleason rose to a question of privilege.

He complained of two lines used editorially in the Colonist of Thursday last, which read as follows: "Vice is more conspicuous in Victoria to-day than it has been in ten years."

Alderman Gleason wanted the mayor to state what action he intended to take in the matter. If the accusation were true something should at once be done to make a change, but if it were not true it should be made quite clear that such was the case.

His Worship said that while he was in the chair the laws would be enforced.

Alderman Henderson said that the passage quoted was a reflection on the police commissioner. He thought "Victoria" was the most orderly city he had known.

Alderman Fullerton said that if the statement had been made by some people it would have at once been said that they were trying to knock the city. Crime had been less in Victoria than ever before, in spite of the fact that the city was growing.

Alderman Mable, who was a member of the police commission for last year, said that the population of Victoria was getting larger all the time, but they had the same police force. True they had the patrol wagon, but it was not used every day.

Alderman McKeown said that during the past ten years the city had doubled in population and it would be queer if there was no increase in vice.

His Worship said he would take the matter up and it was accordingly dropped.

MONUMENT TO NED HANLAN. Toronto Rowing Men Will Do Everything to Preserve Memory of Famous Oarsman.

Toronto, Jan. 21.—As a result of a conference held by a number of members of the board of control and representatives of the local rowing and canoe clubs, the following was agreed upon: To continue the work on the island regatta course, to erect a monument to the island containing the inscriptions of Hanlan's famous feat; a Dominion Day regatta to be called the "Hanlan Day regatta" and a substantial monument to be erected in front of the city hall, and the family of the deceased oarsman to be given financial assistance if it was required.

JAPANESE DIET. Premier Salojin's Address Expected on Thursday.

Tokyo, Jan. 21.—The regular session of the Diet opened to-day and the various committees were appointed. Further Mr. Howe said that none of the hydrants had a gate attached, which was not true, for every hydrant had a valve between it and the main, otherwise when repairs were made the

arrived in British Columbia. Of these 50 per cent. went to the United States. Most of those that remained found work on the railways.

Mr. King will go fully into the manner in which Japanese were brought from Honolulu. He will show that contracts were made with the Canadian Nippon Company of Vancouver to bring in Japanese for the Wellington Colliery Company and for the Canadian Pacific railway.

STATE EMPLOYMENT FOR OUT-OF-WORKS

Demand of Mass Meetings Organized by Socialists in Berlin.

CHINESE MINING PROJECT

Berlin, Jan. 21.—Five mass meetings of the unemployed, organized by the Socialists, were held to day in the outlying districts of Berlin. Fully 15,000 persons were in attendance. A strong detachment of police was present.

The meeting passed off in a most orderly manner. Several Socialist members of the Reichstag addressed the assemblies, and called upon the state and municipality to supply employment for those without work.

They declared that among the unemployed in Berlin there were 24,628 skilled artisans belonging to trades unions, in addition to many thousands of unorganized and unskilled laborers.

At the conclusion of the addresses the men left the meetings in groups, marching to various quarters of the city.

CHICAGO PIONEER DEAD. Chicago, Jan. 21.—John H. Wagoner, 72 years of age, a prominent architect, died yesterday at his home. He came to Chicago from Canada in the pioneer days and took an active part in the city's growth.

LORD CURZON'S TRIUMPH. Dublin, Jan. 20.—Lord Curzon, of Kedleston, ex-lieutenant of India, today received a majority of the votes cast in the election to fill the vacancy among the representative peers of Ireland caused by the death in November of Lord Kilmuir.

AMONG THE MINERS. Ely, Nev., Jan. 19.—After spending forty-six days entombed in the Alpha shaft of the Gleaux mine, A. D. Bailey, P. J. Brown and Fred McDonald have been rescued.

At 8:30 o'clock last night Bailey was brought up. Fourteen minutes later McDonald came to the surface, while ten minutes afterwards Brown was brought up. Whistles all over the district blew loudly, while crowds cheered in the streets of Ely and every bell in the town was ringing.

"Ah!" This was the first exclamation of Bailey when he reached the outer air. Without another word he tottered forward into the arms of comrades who stood ready to assist him and was led to the change room of the Alpha shaft, where he soon recuperated.

"Is that you, Arthur?" queried Fred McDonald, as his brother stepped forward and embraced him after nearly seven weeks of separation. "By George, it certainly seems good to be out of that hell hole," he said, as he was led away, telling his brother in a hoarse, tired voice of his terrible experience.

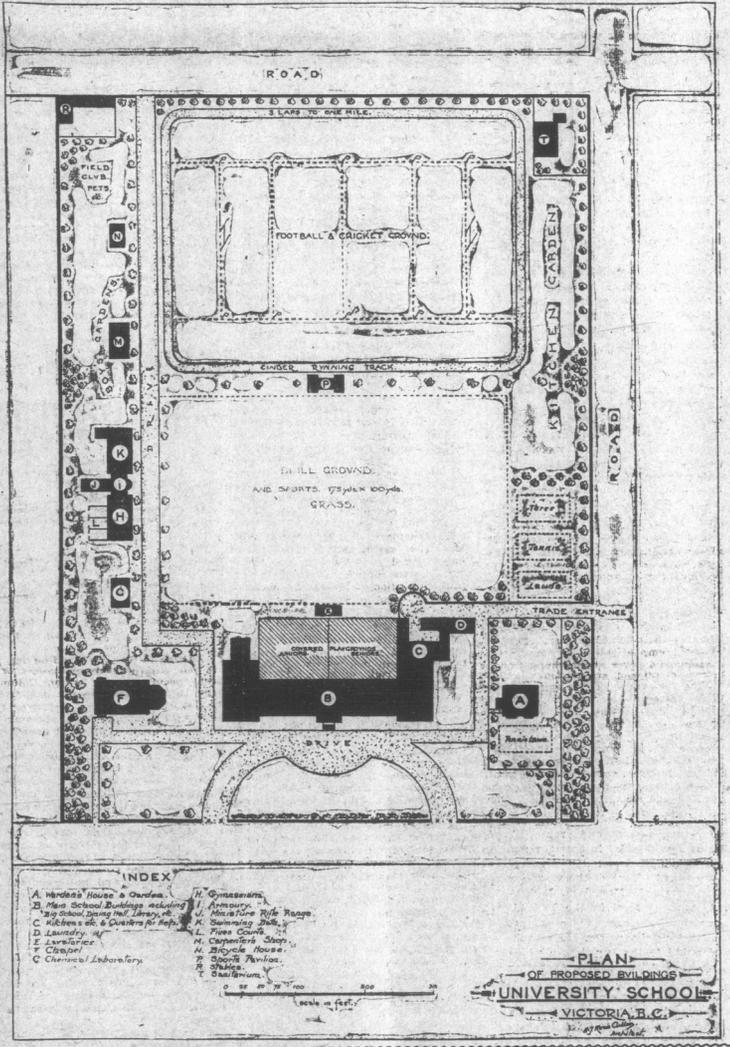
"Say, somebody give me a chew of tobacco quick," said Brown. "I'm on the bum all right." With a happy laugh he was led off by a comrade to the change room.

All Are Happy. These expressions were characteristic of the temperaments of the released men. All were extremely happy.

News that an early escape would be afforded by the men reached Ely shortly after 11 o'clock yesterday morning by telephone. About 8 o'clock last night the fact that an entry to the surface of the debris in the main way had been effected was telephoned to the men anxiously awaiting on top.

The entombed men had been working several hours in digging their way to freedom from the 1,000-foot level. The rescuers at the same time did all in their power to remove the earth that was blocking the mouth of the 1,000-foot tunnel.

To the anxious crowd waiting around the shaft mouth the bell signalled "One, two, three, hoist away!" Then a loud cheer burst forth from the throng. Suddenly the bucket rose to the surface. It was one of the rescue party supporting Bailey. His first coherent question as he was carried to the shaft house was about his wife.



THE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL. In Saturday's issue of the Times appeared an article dealing with the proposed extension of University school, under the charge of W. W. Bolton. The accompanying illustration explains itself, setting forth the plan which Mr. Bolton has in view. The proposal is to locate on a piece of land with a roadway surrounding it. The school proper and all the accessories to it are shown in the illustration. This shows the model character which is expected from the enlarged school. The financial arrangements are now being perfected, and the buildings are soon expected to be commenced. With this work carried out there will be no better school in Canada than this one representative of Victoria.

ENTOMBED FOR FORTY SIX DAYS

IMPRISONED MINERS AT LAST RELEASED

Reception to Nevada Men on Their Reappearance in Daylight.

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Wife Not Present. Mrs. Bailey was not present. One of her children was ill, and she preferred to meet her husband at their home, where no throng of curious people would be watching. Bailey soon dejected himself sufficiently rested to make the trip, where he went soon afterwards, supported on either side by a friend.

Another shout of joy echoed when Fred McDonald was brought out and given to the care of those anxiously waiting, a brother and several friends. Pete Brown received as great an ovation from the crowd as either of the others.

On the morning of December 4th, McDonald, Brown and Bailey and two Greeks were working in the bottom of the three compartment shaft, eighty-five feet below the pump station and 1,486 feet below the surface. The cave-in occurred at 9 o'clock. The cable used to haul the cage from the third compartment of the shaft snapped and thousands of tons of rocks, debris and timbers fell down the shaft. From the bottom of the compartment in which the men were working to the pumping station a distance of eighty-five feet, a series of rickety ladders offered the only means of escape. With the falling rocks and timbers streaming down upon them the five struggled up these ladders.

Greeks Killed. Half way up falling timbers knocked the two Greeks from the ladder, killing them. Bailey, McDonald and Brown managed to reach the pump station. Its well-timbered roof had withstood the rock and debris that came down the shaft and offered them shelter and safety. Here for the first day after the cave-in the men crouched, while at intervals they could hear the rocks and timbers crashing above them.

At first it was thought that all the men had perished, but twenty-four hours after the cave-in the three men who occupied the pumping station managed to make themselves heard by tapping upon the six-inch water pipe that stretched from the pump station to the surface. It was this pipe that was the means of saving the lives of the three men. When communication was once established with the world above the men had made known the fact that they were still alive, food and drink were immediately lowered through the pipe.

A large supply was sent down, as it was thought possible that the pipe communication might be cut off before the rescuing party could reach the imprisoned men, but throughout the pipe has been in daily use. A portable telephone was lowered and the men were able to talk with the people above. The telephone line has been in almost constant use, friends sending them, by its means, the news of the outside world and messages of cheer.

FIRST MEETING OF OAK BAY COUNCIL

Standing Committees Were Struck and General Business Transacted.

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Brevity characterized the first meeting of the council of Oak Bay municipality which was held in the Poul Bay school on Monday. The most important business disposed of was the selection of the various committees for the year.

In a short address Reeve Oliver welcomed the councillors back to their places. His suggestion that the roads and bridges committee and the finance committee meet to-day was agreed upon.

The accounts were referred to the finance committee, and the clerk was instructed to return the assessment roll for 1908 to the council by February 29th.

The general debt by-law was given its final reading, and will shortly be submitted to the voters.

The application of J. A. Virtue, proprietor of the Oak Bay hotel, to move a house across Newport avenue was granted.

Messrs. Wilson & Anderson, builders, complained of the water flooding their construction work near Foul Bay. This was referred to the roads and bridges committee.

A letter from the municipality's solicitor stating that the council had no power to prevent minors carrying firearms, was received and filed.

A reply in answer to the council's inquiry as to the municipality's rights on Todd road was referred to the roads and bridges committee.

The respective rights of the province and the municipality in regard to the drift wood on the foreshore of Shoal Bay was submitted by the Reeve. From inquiries made he stated that the rights of the foreshore were in the hands of the province.

The following committees were appointed: Roads, bridges and sewers—All the council, with Councillor Henderson chairman.

Finance—Councillors Fernie (chairman), Newton, Noble, Fumerton, Councillors Newton (chairman), Noble, McGregor.

Government and city—Councillors Noble (chairman), Henderson, McGregor.

CHINESE MINING PROJECT. Organization With \$2,000,000 Capital to Develop Iron Properties.

Amoy, Jan. 21.—There has been organized a Chinese company to open the iron mines in the vicinity of Awatze, 45 miles northwest. The capital of the company is \$2,000,000. The development of the mines, which includes the construction of fifty miles of narrow gauge railroad, is in charge of English engineers.

CHICAGO PIONEER DEAD. Chicago, Jan. 21.—John H. Wagoner, 72 years of age, a prominent architect, died yesterday at his home. He came to Chicago from Canada in the pioneer days and took an active part in the city's growth.