

Their Weekly Conference

The Board of Aldermen Discuss Street Sprinkling and the Croft Scheme.

An Offer Received From the C. P. N. Co. re Improved Steamer Service.

Fort Street Track-New Fire Hall--Rock Bay Bridge--Other Business.

The principal subject of discussion at last night's meeting of the aldermanic board of the city of Victoria, held in the city hall, was the by-law granting the city power to enter into an agreement with Henry Croft or any other person or persons for the reclamation of the James Bay flats, the details of the scheme having already been made generally known in these columns. Ald. Brydon raised several objections to the wording of the by-law, being desirous of safeguarding the city against what he thought might be pit-falls, but the by-law as originally drafted, with one or two slight exceptions, passed through committee, was reported and given its third reading and passed. It will be submitted to the ratepayers on Wednesday, August 2nd.

It will be advertised in a morning and evening paper published in the city, his worship suggesting that as the civic advertising this month goes in rotation to an evening paper called the Globe, it would be necessary to give this by-law to the Colonist to insure its circulation among the ratepayers. The aldermen shared this view, and it was so ordered.

Street sprinkling was another subject discussed at length, being brought up by the receipt of a petition signed by about 100 business men of the city, asking the council to have the road leading to the outer wharf cleaned and sprinkled. It will be remembered that a few weeks ago, on the initiative of Ald. Macgregor, the street sprinkling area was reduced, there being only two sprinklers and the council recognizing that in the few hours they are at work they could not thoroughly cover so large an area as they are attempting. This has resulted, the petitioners stated, in Belleville street and other thoroughfares leading to the outer wharf becoming almost impassable and a disgrace to the city.

Confronted with a petition signed so largely and expressing the views of the leading business men of the city, the aldermen behought themselves that though they had but two sprinklers they might use them longer hours by employing extra men and extra teams, and it was decided to give the engineer instructions to employ the sprinklers sixteen hours in every twenty-four, and to use his discretion as to what streets shall be favored with a visit from the water cart. Then the aldermen wrangled for a while as to what streets, if any, should be specially mentioned, the mayor insisting that Belleville street and the road to the outer wharf should be specified; one alderman pressing the claim of Douglas, near the fountain; another urging that Fort street was most important and yet another pressing the claims of Yates and Pandora. The city engineer will decide for himself.

The proceedings commenced at 8:15 with all the aldermen present except Ald. Beckwith, who is still absent from the city on business. His worship the mayor, president, and J. M. Bradburn, city solicitor and Wellington J. Dowler, C.M.C., were in their places.

The minutes of the last regular meeting and of the special meeting held on Wednesday last were read and duly adopted without amendment.

The reading of the minutes of the special meeting threw a little light upon the questions which the reporters were unable to detail because they were excluded from the meeting at the suggestion of the mayor. It will still be within the recollection of the public that a letter was received from the Albion Iron Works offering to purchase from the city some 24 inch water main which has been stored for the last nine years and which has been damaged by exposure to the weather, and will have to be recast and redipped before it is fit for use. The mayor said that to accept the offer would entail a loss to the city of \$2,100 on the original cost, and it was decided to reject the offer. From the minutes it appeared that two motions were made and defeated, one to sell the pipe for \$250 a foot, the other to accept \$3 a foot.

Communications was the next order of business, and the first one came from H. Russell Hopkins, who wishes to avail himself of the permission granted him last November to enjoy.

Mr. Hopkins explained that when permission was granted he was not in a position to accept the privilege. He is now, and the letter was referred to the water commissioner.

A letter and a petition, the former from Messrs. M. R. Smith & Co., the latter signed by the business firms on Fort between Government and Douglas on the south side, urged upon the council the great injury that would be inflicted upon their business if the street railway track were laid where it is proposed to lay it. The sidewalk having been widened, the space between the rail and the curb is so reduced that it is almost impossible to stand there in safety, and it was asked that rail be laid as much nearer the centre of the road as the sidewalk had been widened.

The aldermen agreed that the business interests of the firms should not be injured, although it was mentioned that in two cases at least, Messrs. Speed Bros. and Messrs. Fell & Co., there is the side street at their disposal so that they would not be in the least suffer.

The motion to refer the matter to the engineer with instructions to arrange for sufficient space to be left between the rails and the sidewalk for wagons to stand in safety, carried unanimously. It is held important that no time be lost as would be the case if the engineer were

instructed to report back to the council before taking any action.

Improved Victoria-Vancouver Service.
The next letter confirmed the announcement made in the Times on Wednesday to the effect that the Canadian Pacific Navigation Company are contemplating putting on a fast boat between Victoria and the Terminal City. It came from Messrs. Bodwell & Duff, solicitors for the company, and read as follows:

"Having regard to the general demand of the citizens of Victoria for faster communication between this city and Vancouver, we are instructed on behalf of the Canadian Pacific Navigation Co. to make the following proposal:

"Our clients are prepared to procure the construction of, and place upon the line between Victoria and Vancouver, a steamer with all modern appliances and a first-class in every respect, which will be capable of making the trip between Victoria and Vancouver, either way, under ordinary circumstances in four hours or under."

"In order to accomplish this a very expensive steamer will have to be built, costing not less than \$400,000, and the time to procure such a vessel will, under existing circumstances, be eighteen months at least.

"The company cannot undertake this large expense unless they receive financial assistance, and propose that the city pay them for this service a bonus of \$25,000 a year for a period of ten years.

"We have the honor to be your obedient servants.

"(Signed) BODWELL & DUFF."

Ald. Hayward moved that the letter be referred to a special committee for consideration, and report and Ald. Brydon seconded the motion.

Ald. Kinsman struck the first note of dissent by asking whether Vancouver was going to be asked to do anything, which the mayor replied he thought it would be done if the doctor drives over. Ald. Kinsman said if it was going to be a benefit to Vancouver, it would also be a benefit to Vancouver. The mayor thought so too, and then the motion carried. Ald. Hayward, Brydon and Stewart were appointed the special committee.

Routine Matters.
Wellington J. Dowler, C.M.C., informed the council that he had received, since their last meeting, and referred to the city engineer, letters referring to a drain at the foot of Bay street; to the need of a retaining wall on the sidewalk on Quadra street between North Park and Chatham, and to a permanent crossing at the corner of Yates and Broad streets.

Not Much Of a Horse.
Dr. R. L. Fraser, medical health officer, reported having driven a horse which is understood to be the pound-keeper's and has proven unfit for any service the city can put it into. It won't do for the ambulance as it is too frisky, and it is not safe to tie it up to a post, as must be done if the doctor drives it, as it has a bad habit of lying down under such circumstances. Dr. Fraser recommended it be got rid of, and the aldermen, scenting a "hoax trade," suggested that it might be specied as a good horse for some purpose (not specified) and it was left in the hands of the purchasing agent to deal with.

Water Commissioner's Report.
J. L. Raymur, water commissioner, recommended that a 5 inch main be laid on Belleville street, eastward from Montreal, at an estimated cost of \$145, and on Vancouver street from Port to Burdett, at an estimated cost of \$100. Both these districts are supplied with one inch pipes laid down 20 years ago, and during this hot weather the residents have suffered a great deal from the hot water. On motion of Ald. Stewart the recommendation was adopted.

Mr. Raymur also recommended that the claim of Messrs. Warner & Co., for the balance of their account for brass goods supplied be paid. These brass goods were delivered some weeks after the time specified in the contract and the council reduced the account to the amount they would have had to pay Messrs. Boyd & Co. for the same goods at the same time, but Mr. Raymur now said that the "game would not be worth the candle," if the city went to law. Ald. Stewart moved and Ald. Williams seconded, that the amount be paid and the motion carried.

Engineer's Report.
From C. H. Topp, city engineer, came a report to the effect that he had examined the Rock Bay bridge at low tide and that with an expenditure of \$300 and using thirty of the new piles now on hand it can be made safe for ordinary tramway and vehicular traffic for upwards of three years, not including the necessary work of repairing the flooring during that time.

Regarding the macadam now being taken out of Fort street the city engineer said that as it would not all be required for Belleville street, it would be better to use it for repaving and foundations on Wharf, between Bastion and Fort; Humboldt, between Government and Douglas; Kane, between Blanchard and Douglas; Fort, between Vancouver and Quadra; and Store, between Comorant and Johnson.

The engineer also recommended that the permanent sidewalk work be discontinued temporarily, as the weather is unfavorable to that class of cement work. Fort street, however, which must be finished, not being included in the report.

Ald. Cameron wanted the piece of sidewalk in front of Saunders' store on Johnson street attended to and the mayor said it would be.

Ald. Brydon asked if the report meant that the streets on which the macadam was recommended to be put down would have the first chance of being repaired. He thought Government street most in need of repair, work being the principal street in the city, and in some places the worst. That portion north of Comorant street was awful, and something should be done to make it a permanent road of first class quality.

The mayor had had some conversation with the engineer about that and it seemed that the rock is not good enough for Government street work. New rock is wanted for that street.

The report was adopted.

Another report from the same official recommended that a box drain 150 feet long, be constructed on Bay street, the present one being in bad condition; estimated cost, \$24.

Rev. W. W. Bolton's request for a drain on Belcher avenue; street superinten-

tendent has been instructed to attend to it.

Open ditch on Hulton street complained of by Mr. John McDonald. This section has been found almost level, and the engineer considered a covered drain would be most satisfactory, which would require 700 ft. of 12x8 in. box at an estimated cost of \$1125. It would be better, said the engineer, to leave this until later, as the drain is not in any worse condition than are many drains in the central part of the city.

The city carpenter recommended that new sidewalk be laid on Fort street, north side from Vancouver, westerly, 500 lineal feet, at a cost of \$155.

The engineer strongly recommended that the Caledonia and Chambers street sewers now under construction, be extended to the Chamber street foot at a cost of \$79, making connection to school much shorter and passing five houses from which sewerage rental can be obtained.

The question of what width the Fort street sidewalk should be, some thinking that it should be 10 feet, others that it should be only 8 feet, and one or two being only existing circumstances, be eighteen months at least.

It was decided to have it the same width as the sidewalk east of Vancouver on Fort.

Pole Removal.
City Solicitor Bradburn reported having consulted with the city engineer relative to the matter sent by the Electric Railway Company for the cost of removing their poles on Port and Government streets in accordance with the instructions of the council. He recommended that the amount be paid and the aldermen agreed.

A Yates Street Obstruction.
Fred. Carn, Jr., and others drew the attention of the council to the inconvenience and loss they have suffered, and are suffering, by the existence of an unsightly barricade in front of the oil fire hall on Yates street, the building of which is being converted into stores by the new owner. They said that in two weeks only two days work had been done.

The mayor and some of the aldermen agreed that the barricade is a nuisance and should be torn down soon, but Ald. Brydon thought if the city instructed the engineer to have it removed, they would be making themselves responsible for any damage a pedestrian might sustain by falling material.

The mayor combated the idea that by having a steel bridge or a permanent engineer had not been consulted; he didn't think steel cylinders for the supports would be satisfactory; he would have everything done to suit the "chief permanent engineer of the city."

Ald. Williams urged that the price to be charged for admission to the various "recreations" should be stipulated, but in spite of all, the by-law went through with slight amendment, was reported, and a third time passed.

From the Far East
The fire prevention by-law amendment by-law, which reached the committee stage on Wednesday last, was laid over until next meeting.

Before adjournment Ald. Brydon complained that the sewer by-law, which is intended will be framed on the local improvement plan, had not yet been prepared. The mayor explained there was a great deal of work for the engineer in preparing the details, and it took time.

The council then rose.

From the Far East
R. M. S. Empress Arrives--She Has Some Distinguished Passengers.

City of Peking Released From Quarantine--Massacre Near Foochow.

R. M. S. Empress of India reached the quarantine station this morning, completing her 42nd passage from the Orient. She brought 100 saloon passengers and 215 Chinese. Among the saloon passengers were Baron and Baroness Von Heyking. The Baron was united about a month ago the representative of Germany at Peking. He says matters political in the Chinese capital are in a frightful state, but now that an agreement has been made between England and Russia whereby neither country will interfere with each other's railways and interests--if they keep the agreement--and the Baron silly winked. Speaking of the Empress Dowager, who now rules the Chinese empire, the Baron said she is a very energetic woman, but understood absolutely nothing of politics, in fact she could not understand the difference between France and Germany, Germany and Russia. The only two countries she seemed to know the difference between are England and Russia. Baron Von Heyking, who was succeeded by Baron Von Kettler, is on his way to Kassel, Germany.

Another passenger was Captain A. F. Barker, a commander of U.S.S. Oregon, who, after the departure of Admiral Dewey, had command of the American fleet Manila. On the arrival of Rear Admiral Watson Captain Barker proceeded to Hongkong, and is now en route home to Washington. He is accompanied by Lieutenant H. B. Eberle, flag lieutenant of the Oregon, also on his way to Washington, and Lieutenant Commander Singer, of the U.S.S. gunboat Manila, of two guns, which was captured from the Philippines. Lieutenant Commander Singer was on the Raleigh during the memorable engagement of May 1st.

fire chief was to boss the whole shebang?"

Another communication from the finance committee was that \$4140 be paid to Contractor George Sather for city services on the Pointe Hotel, and this also was approved.

Electric Light Recommendations.
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The tax by-law 1899 was reconsidered and finally passed. Ald. Hayward, Kinsman and Humphrey pursuing their policy of objection to the last, and finding a recruit in Ald. Williams, the quartette voting nay.

The Mayor said that everyone he had spoken to was quite satisfied with the report, seeing the permanent work being done.

Resuming the committee stage of the by-law for the purpose of enabling the Mayor to lease the James Bay Flats in exchange for the erection of a bridge across the bay and the other conditions outlined in the Croft scheme, Ald. Brydon fought vigorously against the measure. He couldn't see why it should be a steel bridge; he supposed a competent engineer had not been consulted; he didn't think steel cylinders for the supports would be satisfactory; he would have everything done to suit the "chief permanent engineer of the city."

A long discussion took place as to whether a steel bridge or a permanent engineer had not been consulted; he didn't think steel cylinders for the supports would be satisfactory; he would have everything done to suit the "chief permanent engineer of the city."

Notwithstanding a very fair promise of productivity, earlier in the season, island fruit growers are not marketing as liberally as they at one time hoped to do. The currant and berries blossomed well, and until the stage of ripening was reached the cool and somewhat showery weather found a very large showing of the smaller fruits. But this was followed by the present dry and hot spell during which strawberries and raspberries have suffered severely, much of the fruit drying out on the branches.

The result, so far as prices are concerned, is apparent in the market stalls, where, although fruit is offered in plenty, prices are held high. On most of the stalls two boxes of raspberries only are offered for the shopper's standard "two bits," where four boxes have formerly been offered for the same money. The raspberry season is likely to be a very short one, and next week will probably see the luscious fruit pretty well out of the market. Strawberries during the season in very rare cases fell below the figure just quoted for raspberries. A few blackberries are beginning to come into the market, and the outlook for these is said to be good. The currant crop was not affected so adversely by the warm weather, and the apple and plum harvest will also be affected but slightly by the drought.

In pleasing contrast to the limited disappointment expressed by island farmers with the result of the fruit harvest, is the outlook for grain production this summer. The hay crop promises an immense yield, and grains, especially oats, will yield well. From the Fraser valley come reports of an immense yield in all the cereals. Potatoes will be a late, and rather small, crop, but they are about the only exception to the general rule.

In the fish stalls, dealers report that the heavy run of salmon which was anticipated has failed to materialize, which has caused a shortage and consequent firmness in price. The local fishermen have been unable so far to meet the demand, and some of the dealers are still importing from the Fraser river.

Buttern eggs are very scarce and are still quoted at 25 cents a dozen. Butter has fallen in price, and good dairy butter can be obtained for 15 cents.

A slight advance in oats incident to the shortage between crops is noticeable, but otherwise the grain, feed and flour market remains firm. Meats, too, remain at the old quotations.

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Wholesale Dry Goods
Manufacturers of Every Description of Clothing by WHITE LABOR.
25, 27, 28, 29 Yates Street. VICTORIA, B.C.

FOR THE FRUIT SEASON
Self-Sealing Fruit Jars
THEY WILL NOT BREAK WHEN FILLED WITH HOT FRUIT.
PINTS 60c Dozen
QUARTS 80c Dozen
HALF-GALLON \$1.00 Dozen
Rubbers for all sizes jars, 10 Dozen
Granulated Sugar 10 lbs. For \$1.00

Test the Kidneys

And if they are diseased use the World's Greatest Kidney Cure

Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills

It's a simple matter to test the kidneys. You need not consult a doctor. By asking yourself three questions you can determine whether or not your kidneys are deranged.

First: "Have you backache, or weak, lame back?"

Second: "Do you have difficulty in urinating or a too frequent desire to urinate?"

Third: "Are there deposits like brick dust in the urine after it has stood for twenty-four hours?"

In its early stages kidney disease is readily cured by a few boxes of Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, a preparation which has made Dr. Chase famous throughout the world for his wonderful cures of disease of the kidneys.

If you have kidney disease, you can take Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills with perfect confidence that what has proved an absolute cure in so many thousands of cases will not fail you.

So long as the cells of the kidneys are not completely wasted away, as in the last stages of Bright's disease, Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills will give them new vigor and strength and absolutely cured kidney disease. One pill a dose; 25 cents a box at all dealers, or EDMANSON, BATES & CO., Toronto, Ont.

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Other passengers were Commander Luzzati, an Italian naval man, and T. H. Ripley, of the Pekin syndicate, who are interested in Chinese railways, and a number of missionaries.

The Empress brings news that the City of Peking has been released from quarantine, and left Kobe for San Francisco via ports on the 5th, two days before the Empress sailed.

News is also given of a massacre of native Chinese missionaries near Foochow.

\$1.50 Per Annum
VOL. 18.

Police Arrive

Quelling Disturbances
land, Ohio--Rail
Still O

Dynamite Is Being
Cars--Attempts I
Street T

(Associated
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Colonel Ingersoll

The Famous United States
Admiral

Robert Green Ingersoll

Doctor Judson said positively the use of it was due to one of his patients, who was called by the name of Charles B. B.

Gained 20 Pounds

People who suffer from dyspepsia or indigestion soon lose flesh, become weak and run down. The food they take instead of being converted into blood and flesh, goes into the stomach, and is converted into a system, poisoning the body instead of nourishing it.

Those who desire a permanent cure of dyspepsia--who want their strength made right so that their food will give them strength, should take Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills.

Miss Emily Howard, Port Hope, Ont., writes: "I have used Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills for indigestion and it worked like a charm."

"Before I started taking it I was thin and run down in health, as I could get little strength from my food. The two bottles of B. B. B. have completely cured me, and I have gained 20 pounds in weight. I strongly advise anyone troubled with indigestion to use B. B. B."

FREE! This lovely watch, with gold or silver chain, is the gift of our Free-Liver Pills. It is a beautiful watch, and we will send it to you if you return our bottles and will not give up your watch. Write to us for the name of the watchmaker. LEE'S DRY CO., Capt., 145, Toronto