AUTO DASHED OVER BANK ON DALLAS ROAD

Prominent Citizens Have Miraculous Escape From Death

(From Thursday's Daily)

Unaware of the turn in the road by reason of the acetylene headlight failing to work an automobile belonging to Harry Bullen, of the firm of Bullen Bros., and containing besides Mr. Bullen who was driving, Dr. Fagan, provincial health officer and Johann Wulffsohn, former German consul at Vancouver, but now representative of German capital in the Queen Charlotte islands dashed over the seawall on the Dallas road at the foot of Niagara street near the Dallas hotel about 2 o'clock this morning. The three occupants in the car which overturned upon its side as it went over the ten foot bank were hurled to the ground, Dr. Fagan and Mr. Wulffsonn being pinioned beneath the heavy vehicle, while Mr. Bullen managed to land by the side.

The accident happened just about 2 o'clock as the party was returning in the direction of the Dallas Hotel from Beacon Hill park way. Just at the foot of Oswego street the Dallas Road makes a slight turn to the north. It was exactly at this spot that the lights failed and Mr. Bullen, unable to see the turn in the road allowed the car to go straight ahead with the result that it plunged over the bank which at this spot turns in with the line of the road. Immediately on the spot at the bottom of the bank where the car fell and overturned are a large number of heavy timbers and on these the occupants of the car were thrown.

Herbert S. Ashton, of the provincial police department, who resides on Dallas Road within a hundred feet of the spot where the accident happened was in bed but awake, when he heard some shouting. Rising he went to the window and again heard the shouting. Thinking that some one had come to grief at the boathouse on the shore he hurriedly dressed and ran out to the sea shore when he saw the overturned car and on descending the bank he could see the injured gentlemen pinioned beneath with the exception of Mr. Wulffsonn who was half lying by the side. Mr. Ashton soon ascertained that he could alone do nothing to lift the car and on the request of Mr. Bullen rushed across to the residence of M. R. Smith nearby and summoned him. Mr. Smith ran to the Dallas hotel about a quarter of a mile down the road and notified the police station, and the patrol waggon was sent to the scene of the accident.

In the meantime two other men who had been passing along Niagara street heard the shouting and also came to the rescue. With their assistance Dr. Fagan and Mr. Bullen were removed from beneath the car and laid on the ground, the latter though evidently badly shaken appeared to be the least hurt of the three. Mr. Wulffsohn was carried up the bank by several of the bystanders, of whom nearly twenty had collected in a short time, and placed in the patrol wagon which had arrived on the scene and taken to the Dallas hotel. Mr. Bullen was carried up bodily on the back of Constable McLennan and remained seated in an automobile which had arrived, until Dr. Fagan was carried up the bank. The latter was apparently the most seriously injured of the three, and though an attempt was made to carry him to the road the attempt had to be abandoned, he was too seriously shaken and bruised to stand the pain. While these efforts were being made to remove the injured gentlemen, Dr. Robertson was summoned and soon arrived in an auto, when he examined the injured.

Injuries Slight

None of the three received serious injuries but all were very badly shaken up and bruised. Dr. Fagan received a severe blow on the head as the car overturned and his hip was badly wrenched, but no bones were broken and he will be about again in a few days. Mr. Bullen was struck in the stomach by the steering wheel of the car and his leg was bruised. Mr. Wulffsohn was also badly shaken and his head injured by coming in contact with one of the timbers on which the car fell. He complained of his hip being injured, but an examination showed that no bones were broken. That one or all of the three were not seriously injured, or even killed, is considered remarkable. The machine, fortunately, was not travelling at any great speed, otherwise there would almost certainly have been a fatality.

At the point where the auto went over the bank is an electric light but when the accident occurred the light was not shining and consequently when the machine continued straight on its way headed for the bank the occupants were unable to discern how close they had come to the danger point. Straight ahead was the sea which loomed black before them and there was absolutely nothing to indicate to the driver of the car the fact that the road here turned.

The car, a large touring machine, was comparatively little damaged and beyond some breakages which do not amount to much will be little the worse of the accident.

SPERM WHALE TAKEN BY KYUQUOT WHALER

St. Lawrence Brought Southern Mammal to the Flensing Platforms at West Coast Station

The steamer Tees, of the C. P. R., which arrived yesterday from Cape Scott and way ports of the west coast of Vancouver Island, brought news from Kyuquot that the steam whaler St. Lawrence brought in a sperm whale while the Tees was at Kyuquot, the first brought to that station, and the fourth taken on the west coast, three having previously been brought into the Sechart station by the Orion. It is very seldom that sperm whales are taken as far north as Vancouver Island, usually being found in the warmer seas. From the sperm whale, which is considered much more valuable than the sulphurs and humpbacks usually taken, 90 barrels of oil was secured. With good weather both the St. Lawrence and Orion were making good catches. The Tees brought 800 barrels of whale oil from Kyuquot.

There were fifty passengers on the steamer, including J. P. Mann, who has been on a fishing expedition. The Tees will sail again for west coast ports on Saturday.

Local bank clearings for the week ended Tuesday totalled $1,050,550.

AUTO DRIVERS FIGHT TAX OF MUNICIPALITY

Hearing of First Case Laid By Oak Bay Before Magistrate Jay

(From Thursday's Daily)

That the case between the municipality of Oak Bay and the automobile owners, whom the former is endeavoring to force to pay the tax recently imposed, will be fought through to a finish was the statement made by counsel for both parties at the conclusion of the hearing of the charge against one of the drivers, William Glober, which was heard by Magistrate Jay yesterday afternoon in the city police court. Magistrate Jay reserved his decision and whatever it may be an appeal will be taken to the Supreme court. Both parties are desirous of testing the bylaw and ascertaining just what powers the municipality possesses to levy a tax on automobile drivers and owners.

J. A. Aikman, who is acting for the auto owners stated that if the decision went against his client he would appeal the case, and H. Lawson, who acted for the municipality, declared that the municipality was equally determined to ascertain its powers with respect to passing such a bylaw regulating the driving of automobiles and fixing a charge therefore. The cases against Jack Hazzard, J. Ferguson and A. Sheppard will be allowed to stand until a decision in the Glober case has been rendered.

Hired the Auto

At yesterday's hearing, Benjamin Swiler, who was engaged by the municipality to secure evidence against the auto owners was the star witness. He swore to engaging Glober on July 11, the latter taking him from the Wilson Bar, Yates street, out to the Willows and back again to the Klondike hotel, for which he had paid Glober the charged asked, $2.

Robert Fowler, municipal engineer, testified that the Willows hotel is within the bounds of the municipality of Oak Bay, while that part of Cadboro Bay road from Foul Bay road to the Willows is also in the municipality.

J. S. Floyd, clerk of the municipality, testified that under the Tally-Ho and Motor Vehicles bylaw passed by the municipality the defendants have not been registered nor have they paid the fee prescribed, and in fact no tally-ho or motor vehicle has been registered as required by the measure. The above evidence constituted the case against the defendant Glober.

Mr. Aikman pointed out in his argument that section 4 of the bylaw provided that the owner of every tally-ho or motor vehicle plying for hire in the municipality of Oak Bay shall register and pay the required fee but there was nothing in the evidence of the prosecution to show that the defendant Glober plied for hire in the municipality. The bylaw, he maintained, applied only to those who have a garage or place of business within the municipality and plied for hire from that place to some other place and back again. The plying for hire meant the carrying passengers back and forth between two points but Oak Bay could only have made the bylaw to apply to Oak Bay and not to points beyond its jurisdiction and the mere passage of an auto from Victoria through Oak Bay or to some point therein and back to the city did not, Mr. Aikman argued, bring the owner within the provisions of the bylaw. The driver must hold himself out for hire in Oak Bay. Otherwise it meant that a great hardship would be worked as it would practically mean that a toll would be put on all such vehicles which happen to go through the municipality.

Mr. Aikman maintained that while the Municipal Clauses Act gave the municipality power to establish a scale of rates and fix the location of a stand for such vehicles it did not grant power to fix a charge such as the municipality is now endeavoring to enforce. The act meant that the municipality should have power to tax only those vehicles which plied for hire within the municipality and the owners of which made their headquarters there. In this respect the bylaw was ultra vires otherwise anyone may use the roads except those that ply for hire and have occasion to enter the municipality. These apparently would have to pay which would mean class legislation, which, he was sure was not the intention of the Municipal Clauses Act which gives the municipality the right to tax "hacks, cabs and other vehicles." This latter expression he argued did not cover motor vehicles, which, at the time the act was framed, were not in use and he doubted very much if the automobile could be brought within the meaning of the act.

If the contention of the municipality were correct a city driver might go just over the boundary line into the municipality but a few feet and then return and still be liable for the tax as he would be plying for hire. To take this as the meaning of the power given by the Municipal Clauses Act would certainly be straining a point. It would mean a decided hardship and he was sure the legislature never intended that that construction should be taken.

Harry Lawson, arguing on behalf of the municipality, stated that if the contention of the defence were correct the municipality would not have the right to impose a tax in any case, but he argued that the plying for hire was done within the limits of the municipality and that such being the case it made no difference where the hiring had been done, the actual service being sufficient to warrant the municipality imposing the tax. The powers of licensing and imposing a tax as granted by the legislature had been given for some purpose and one purpose was to allow of the municipality protecting its roads, and it was only reasonable that the municipality should have the power to tax such vehicles as used its roads as well as those which had their headquarters within the municipality. As to the argument that automobiles do not come within the meaning of the words "hacks, cabs or other vehicles" used in the act, Mr. Lawson maintained that the fact that automobiles were driven by engines and not hauled by horses did not mean that they were not vehicles.

At the conclusion of the evidence Magistrate Jay stated that he would reserve his decision and after some argument between council the hearing of the other cases was adjourned until Monday next though it was pointed out by Swiler, who is the municipality's main witness, that he wished to go north on that day.

Two dwellings will be erected by Arthur Walter on Catherine street at a cost of $1550 each. W. M. Ross is the builder. Permits for the dwellings were issued yesterday by the building inspector.

THE LACK OF WATER IS HURTING THE TOWN

R. M. Palmer Gives Account of Trip Through the Prairies With B. C. Exhibits

(From Thursday's Daily)

"There is no doubt that wherever you go, you hear that Victoria has a bad water supply, and it is hurting the town. It is advertising it the wrong way. Nothing could be more detrimental to the town's best interests than for the impression to get abroad that the city is supplied with bad or insufficient water."

Thus spoke R. M. Palmer, commissioner of horticulture yesterday, while summing up his impressions, gleaned from his recent trip with the provincial exhibit to Calgary, Brandon, Regina and Winnipeg. Wherever he went he heard people talking of Victoria's insufficient water supply, and the reports were not minimized by the increasing number of people who are averse to seeing British Columbia drain off the cream of the population of the prairies.

In other respects Mr. Palmer had a good report to give. The four fairs were all well attended and financially successful, while the British Columbia exhibit came in for more than its share of favorable attention and comment. The only drawback was that the Brandon and Winnipeg exhibitions were held at the same time, with the result that only exhibits of fresh fruits were sent to the former place in the care of W. J. Brandrith, the museum specimens and preserved fruits being kept for Winnipeg.

The Calgary Fair

Discussing his trip, Mr. Palmer said: "The Calgary exhibition was particularly well managed. There was not a hitch of any kind at any time, and there was a good attendance. More than 100,000 people visited the fair. The British Columbia exhibit was the attractive feature of the agricultural building there, being situated opposite the main entrance. It was in that building that the district exhibits of grains and grasses were displayed so we got the farming community, which is the chief class of people we are seeking to interest. The preserved fruits in glasses created a great deal of attention, especially from the ladies, and were much admired; and we were fortunate in having a splendid exhibit of cherries, which was everything that one could wish, both as to size, quality and packing. I constantly heard people say:

"'What fruit can that be? They must be plums.'

"Then the museum specimens of fish and game were new features which attracted much attention. Kermode's white bear, in particular, aroused the greatest interest.

B. C. Before California

"Formerly the prairie people went to California and other warm climates when they had made their money and wanted a less rigorous climate, but now they are coming to British Columbia. I attribute this change largely to the exhibits which have been sent. It is an object lesson of what we can do here. And when they see that we can raise as well developed and better flavored fruit here than in California they realise that we must have a pleasant climate.

"At Winnipeg the weather was rather unfavorable. It rained so hard one day that the games and races had to be postponed and the exhibition was kept open an extra day. But there were some good days and on the whole the attendance was good. On the Tuesday 35,000 people came to the fair.

"In Regina the weather was splendid and the attendance good. We had the same exhibits here as elsewhere except that we also had a few early peaches and apricots from Kelowna, whose appearance at that season was a surprise to the Regina people. Cherries were the chief feature of our fresh fruit exhibit, and they are most suitable for the purpose. They look well, and as everybody likes cherries they are a good kind of fruit to give away. We distributed quite a little fruit among the visitors.

"The harvest prospects in the prairies are excellent this year, and the crops promise very well except in some of the light soil districts near Brandon. On the new lands and the summer fallows the crop will be very heavy this year, and as cutting should begin early in August, I do not think that there is any danger from frost. In estimating the crop prospects it must be remembered that the acreage under wheat is about a million acres more this year than last.

Prairie is Thriving

"All the towns are thriving, though I think I noticed more change in the way of paving, public buildings and hotels in Regina than anywhere else. It is amazing what energy and enterprise is exhibited by the prairie towns. Speaking generally, the people seem satisfied with the outlook, and there is every indication that business will continue steadily to improve, and that money will be plentiful as soon as the wheat begins to move. Many indeed think that the temporary check of last year was a good thing for the country. It stopped excessive land-booming, but I did not hear of anyone having to sacrifice his interests on account of money stringency. Values appear to have kept up.

"It was quite hot in Regina, about 100 in the shade, and I was very glad to get back to Victoria. There is no place, and no climate like it. In the prairies I longed for the cool breezes one enjoys here."

GRAND FORKS BUILDINGS

Banks Plan to Erect Substantial Structures for Their Own Use—New Fire Limit Bylaw

Grand Forks, July 29.—The Eastern Townships bank is preparing to erect a three-story building on the corner of First and Bridge streets, in this city. The structure will be of stone and brick and will be three stories high. It is the intention to furnish the top story for a lodgeroom, which should prove very beneficial to the lodges of the city, as most of them were burned out at the time of the fire, and no other rooms are at present available for lodge purposes.

The Royal Bank of Canada is at present figuring on the erection of a substantial block for its own use on the ground floor, and will be fitted up for offices above.

A by-law is now before the city council which will place a fire limit in the city, so that future buildings which are erected will be of a more substantial character than those erected heretofore.

NO ARRANGEMENT MADE FOR POSTPONING SALE

The Government Not Asked or Granted Extension of Time

(From Thursday's Daily)

No arrangement whatever has been entered into by the local government and the Grand Trunk Pacific or any of its officials, by virtue of which the sale of the lots at Prince Rupert will be postponed till some time next spring, as suggested by a local paper. Hon. Mr. Fulton, the chief commissioner of lands and works, was yesterday quite emphatic in stating that no arrangement of any kind had been entered into, and that the executive has not yet come to a decision in the pending questions regarding the northern city.

The facts in the case appear to be that the government and the company have not yet succeeded in coming to an agreement respecting the plans which have bee submitted by the company for approval, and, until the plans are approved the railway company cannot begin the work of surveying the townsite. The act provides that the work of surveying the lots must be completed by September 30, and no permission has at yet been asked or granted to extend the time mentioned for the completion of the survey. As, however, the delay in approving the plans cannot altogether be charged to the company, as the government has found it necessary to take ample time to maturely consider a number of important points affecting the public interest which have presented themselves, it is likely that a request for a reasonable extension of time within which to complete the survey would not be refused. The necessity for making such a request, however, has not yet arisen.

The government is the more likely to grant such a request as it is extremely anxious that the survey when made should be both accurate and permanent. The contour of the ground at Prince Rupert is such that quick and accurate survey work is impossible, and it is important to prevent future trouble that stakes which can be kicked out of the ground by the casual passerby should not be used.

Thus there appears to be a possibility that the placing of the townsite on the market may be delayed slightly beyond the date originally anticipated, but otherwise there is no foundation for the story which has been published.

Even if the time for finishing the survey is extended it by no means follows that the lots will not be sold till next May as suggested, or even at any time in the spring. There is no reason why the townsite should not be put on the market as soon as the survey is completed, and from present indications it is quite likely that the sale may take place in the fall or winter. At any rate it is impossible at present to give the data with any certainty. It is sure only that a moment will be chosen for disposing of the lots to the best advantage of all concerned consistent with no undue delay. In this connection it should be remembered that the province, having a quarter interest in the townsite, finds itself in a community of interest with the Grand Trunk Pacific so far as the real estate end of the transaction is concerned.

PREHISTORIC RELIC BROUGHT TO LIGHT

Interesting Find Made in Gravel Pit at Spring Ridge

(From Thursday's Daily)

Buried probably thousands, or perhaps millions of years ago, when this portion of the country was infested by the giant mastodons and other antediluvian monsters and man was as yet an unknown animal, a relic of a prehistoric age was brought to light yesterday in the prosaic locality of a sand pit in Spring Ridge but it was not until this connecting link with the world's beginnings was about to be ignominiously thrown in with other filling to make a base for a twentieth century cement walk on Cormorant street that its presence was discovered. Now the interesting reminder of the time when the world was young is the property of Thomas Etcher, foreman of the city gang.

The find consists of a huge tooth which undoubtedly belonged to some ancient mammal, probably a mastodon or other prehistoric monster. In size the tooth measures about four inches long and about two and a half inches wide at the base and has apparently been broken off from the jaw bone as only a portion of the crown was found, the remainder being missing though from its appearance it had been but recently broken from the jaw probably by a pick axe or other instrument wielded by the workmen at the gravel pit.

The gravel was brought from Haggerty's pit at Spring Ridge and it is believed that further excavation will result in the finding of other portions of the extinct monster. The workmen there did not discover the relic which was loaded in with the gravel and delivered to Cormorant street but when the filling was spread on the ground the tooth was found. In many places in the province remains of monsters long since extinct have been discovered and it is thought that probably further remains may be unearthed at Spring Ridge.

TAKEN BY G. N. R.

Property Held By V. W. & Y. Company Transferred to V. V. & E. for the Big Hill Road

Vancouver, July 29.—The G. N. R. has formally taken over the holdings of the V. W. & Y. company in the city and along the water front. The operations of the latter company on the second narrows bridge and along the north shore of the inlet will be begun ere long. The transfer from John Hendry and his associates to the Great Northern includes all the property held for the latter in Vancouver and New Westminster, and the section of road between the two cities. A considerable frontage at the end of False creek and another on the inlet east of the C. P. R. holdings are involved in the deal. All this property will now be held in the name of the Vancouver, Victoria & Eastern, the Great Northern's subsidiary. The cost is supposed to be about $2,500,000.

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CIVILIAN RIFLEMEN PROPOSE ORGANIZING

Victoria Association Will Be Established Shortly—Movement to Improve Range

(From Wednesday's Daily)

A civilian rifle association will be organized in Victoria. This has been decided after careful consideration, it having been ascertained by means of thorough canvas by a number of enthusiasts that there are a large number of marksmen, unaffiliated with the Fifth regiment, who would like to indulge in the sport. The movement started as a result of inquiry by a coterie of Victorians as to how they would have to proceed to be able to participate in such competitions as those which took place here recently under the auspices of the British Columbia association. They were informed that all that was necessary was that they should organize.

Although the proposal has only been mooted for about a week already it has taken definite form. No date of meeting has been decided but an announcement is expected to be made in the course of a few days it being the desire of those concerned that the club should be formed without loss of time in order that the members thereof may take up practice at the Clover Point range without delay.

It is believed that the consequent addition to the numerical strength of local riflemen will give the island the required representation on the provincial council, in accordance with the change recently made to the constitution, to which objection is taken, to enable them to swing the meet to the Capital at regular intervals.

The outspoken opinion of Vancouver marksmen to the effect that the British Columbia matches should be held yearly on the Richmond range is having the effect of raising an antagonistic sentiment in the city. Those interested in the sport here claim that Victoria is the natural rifle centre of the province, having besides the Fifth Regiment, the permanent Garrison at Work Point. As such they argue that the island is entitled justly to as much consideration as the mainland. And to that contention they intend to adhere determinedly in any further meeting of the council of the British Columbia rifle association.

That the Clover Point range can accommodate all competitors taking part in a provincial competition they point out was proven by the outcome of the recent matches. They acknowledge that some improvements might be made, notably to the capacity of the firing points, but otherwise it answers all the requirements.

In order that the mainland representatives will have no ground whatever for denying, or attempting to deny Victoria the British Columbia competitions in her turn, a deputation will approach Hon. William Templeman, Minister of Inland Revenue, on his return from Ottawa for the purpose of impressing on him the importance of some action being taken to render the range capable of handling a larger number of riflemen without the slightest inconvenience. Those interested are sanguine that Hon. Mr. Templeman will take the action necessary to induce the government to make the comparatively small appropriation necessary for the work.

LAST SAD RITES

Funeral of Mr. George P. Weiler Took Place Yesterday Afternoon

(From Wednesday's Daily)

The funeral service over the remains of the late George P. Weiler, which took place from the residence of his mother at 922 Blanchard street, at 3.30 o'clock yesterday afternoon, were very largely attended by friends of the family, including many business men and employees of the firm. Rev. Dr. Talling conducted the services at the house and afterward at the grave, where T. W. Manson also read the service of the Ancient Order of Foresters, the deceased having been a member of this society. The hearse was profusely covered with handsome wreaths of flowers, mingled in some instances with the elegant asparagus fern, and a massive broken column of blooms, typical of a prematurely ended life, and the tribute of the firm's employees was a conspicuous figure among the floral contributions.

Rev. Dr. Talling bore strong testimony to the magnitude of the loss to the city's social and commercial life, which was occasioned by the death of so prominent and so useful a citizen, who was deeply mourned by all classes in the community.

The honorary pall-bearers were: Frank Partridge, George Wynne, H. Borde, Richard Hall, D. E. Campbell and George Anderson for the most part old schoolmates, while the actual pall-bearers were chosen from among the firm's employees.

Flags were displayed at half-mast over the Pacific club in commemoration of his membership, and over the firm's main premises on Government street, as well as above many other places of business. Many ladies attended the service at the house, and a number proceeded in carriages to the grave in Ross Bay cemetery.

NEW SCHOOL HOUSES

Tenders Are Now Being Called For the Construction of Three Buildings

The lands and works department yesterday sent out plans and specifications for three large one-story schoolhouses for which tenders are being called by the government. One of these is to be built at Courtenay in the Comox electoral district, one at Pitt Meadows in the Dewdney electoral district and one at Quesnel in Cariboo.

In the first instance the plans will be obtainable at the offices of the government agent at Cumberland or at the offices of the secretary of the school board of Courtenay R. Carter; in the second at the offices of the government agent at New Westminster or at the offices of E. W. Beckett, secretary of the school board at Port Haney; in the third, the plans can be seen at the offices of D. H. Anderson, provincial constable, or of J. A. Fraser, secretary of the school board of Quesnel. In all cases the plans can also be seen on applying to the department at the parliament buildings. Tenders for the construction of these schoolhouses will be received up to noon of Thursday, August 20.

SCHWENGERS HOLDS MAINLAND TROPHY

Victorian Won From Freeman In Tennis Final at Vancouver Yesterday

Vancouver, July 27.—Bernard P. Schwengers, of Victoria, holder of the Mainland lawn tennis championship, successfully defended his title in the final game of the annual tournament of the Vancouver club this morning, when he defeated L. R. Freeman, of Pasadena, Cal., the former champion. Four sets were required to decide the honor, and Schwenger's greater staying powers won for him first. The set was very erratic, the score in nearly every game reaching forty all. Freeman took the first four games and Schwengers followed with a similar number. After that it was game and game about, each man's service giving him just enough advantage to win. There were some fine rallies and splendid shots, Freeman making the most brilliant play until they reached ten all. Then Schwengers took two games and the set 12 to 10.

In the second set, Freeman took the first two games and Schwengers the next. Freeman took the fourth and Schwengers the fifth, and then Freeman won again. Schwengers took the seventh and Freeman came back with two more, winning the set, 6 to 3. The third set was interesting for the first four games, the players each taking two. Then Freeman fell off in his play and Schwengers took four games in a row, the Victorian winning the set, 6 to 2. The hard pace told on Freeman in the last set and he was unable to make and defence against his opponent, Schwengers making a clean sweep of the games, winning 6 to 0.

Toronto, July 28.—About half of the 350 plasterers who were locked out by employers on July 1, have come to terms with the latter and will return to work.

HUNGRY THRONG ON A DELAYED TRAIN

Moving of V. & S. Depot Causes Much Disturbance And Inconvenience

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

The Victoria & Sidney train, from the peninsula terminus, did not pull into Victoria on Sunday night until about 10 o'clock. She carried upwards of 200 well-nigh famished passengers. They had been waiting at Sidney, according to their statements, for hours before the somewhat slow-moving locomotive was ready to start on its journey to the capital and even when under way she didn't go half fast enough to satisfy the hungry crowd that filled the coaches to their capacity.

It was explained by the management of the road yesterday that the cause of the delay was the transfer of the Royal Oak depot building from that point to Keatings Crossing. That work had been decided on some time ago because of the fact that comparatively little business was done from the Oaks while there was a rapidly developing business to and from the Crossing referred to. It was not anticipated, however, that the removal of the structure would prove such an awkward task.

After taking the morning passengers to Sidney the engine with a flat car returned to Royal Oak, and, after loading the building, started off on its journey. All went well for a time. At the first telephone post the trouble began. In order to pass the pole had to be cut. This accomplished it was found that some stumps had to be cleared away. At another place a station was partially demolished to make passage practicable. And so the trip continued, the train crew freely using axes and leaving behind them a right-of-way strewn with demolished telephone posts, presumptuous buildings that had dared to stand too close to the line, and stumps of trees which poked their impertinent noses just sufficiently high to catch the travelling depot.

Such work exhausted hours and when it was accomplished, it was found that it was long past the scheduled time of the departure of the Sidney train. The engine was rushed to the terminus, coupled with the passenger coaches which, as stated, were filled with an exasperated throng of impatient passengers, and the run to the city made as quickly as circumstances permit.

While the delay, it is acknowledged by those responsible, was unfortunate, it was, equally unavoidable. It was in carrying out a project for the comfort and convenience of those who use the road most frequently that it had been caused.

CONSIDER FIRE HALL PLANS

Tenders For Construction of New Stations Will Be Called For at Once

The plans of the two new fire halls to be erected, one on Douglas street, near the Burnside road, and the other on the site of the present James Bay station, were inspected and passed upon by the fire-wardens last night. The plans were prepared by M. Muir, architect, an outside architect having to be engaged owing to the great pressure of work on the staff of the city engineer's office. The plans call for buildings which will afford accommodation for all necessary apparatus, men and horses. The cost of the North end hall will be about $4,000, and that in James Bay about $5,000. During the erection of the latter temporary quarters will have to be secured for the apparatus and men already there. This hall, besides one of the new combination chemical and hose wagons just ordered, will later, when the high pressure system is installed, contain a fire engine and other new chemical engine will probably be stationed in the Yates street hall, the chemical now in the latter being moved to the north end hall to be erected on Douglas street. Tenders will be called for at once for the construction of these fire halls, tenderers being given an opportunity of submitting offers both for brick and cement construction.