

The Week At The City Hall

Progress of the Work Being Done at Site of New Point Ellice Bridge.

Work of Filling in James Bay Flats May Be Commenced in July.

Council Will Tomorrow Evening Appoint Architect to Draw Library Plans.

Herewith is a photographic reproduction of a scene showing the bridge and the progress made thus far in the work of putting in the foundations of the sub-structure, which is being done by the city under the supervision of City Engineer Topp. It is estimated that the work will cost more than \$35,000 before it will have been completed and in readiness for the sub-structure which is to be placed in position by the Victoria Machinery Dept., bringing the total cost of the new bridge up to \$100,000. All the piles have been driven into position and it is planned to have the bridge rest on three stone piers. Under the terms of the contract signed in January last, the Victoria Machinery Dept. are required to have it completed and ready for traffic in ten months from the date of signing of the contract. That would bring the date of completion over to the city in October next. It is not believed, however, that the contractors will be able to have it finished in October, as some delay has occurred in getting the steel and iron quantities to which the contract was made from Eastern manufacturers. The steel available to the city for the construction of the bridge is estimated to be: Civic loan, \$75,000; grant from provincial government, \$30,000; contribution of the B. C. Electric Railway Company, \$20,000. It is highly important that the bridge should be completed without delay, as traffic is becoming a serious problem. Some little time ago the tramway company made application to the council for permission to carry a maximum load of 50 passengers in the small cars which are being operated on the Esplanade and in the city. The report of the committee on the request has been ordered. Water Commissioner Hayward is not at all disturbed by the flood of adverse criticism directed at certain quarters respecting the determination to inaugurate the meter system. He simply says such criticism do not know what they are talking about or else are speaking with biased judgment. In controverting the argument that the proposed large installation of meters is bound to raise a storm of discontent among the ratepayers, he points out the fact that those whose premises are metered already are making no complaint, and admits that the operation of the system has not proved at all burdensome.

THE MUD FLATS. During the week attention was once again directed to the mud flats in the condition of the James Bay flats, and what is intended by the city in respect to the action towards getting the mud out of the appearance in the press of a letter from a ratepayer complaining of apathy on the part of the council in respect to the question was asked. What became of the fund which was voted by the ratepayers for the purpose of getting the mud out of the work in its entirety. A. Cameron, chief reporter yesterday afternoon, inquired of Ald. Cameron's attention to the matter, and asked him to explain the status of the fund. Cameron said it was quite true that the amount of money voted for the purpose of filling in the flats now lies in the bank unexpended, the amount being \$35,000. Why the work was not started is a question by the city to a unity is a matter of common knowledge. On the completion of the retaining wall, it is proposed to make an arrangement which will be the federal authorities whereby the cost of filling in the flats might be met by a direct contribution from the civic treasury; and a start was made on that basis, the power of the council in respect to the job of filling in the flats, and continuing at the task for several weeks. At various times the arrangement was determined, but the council, of course, abandoned the idea of doing the work independently, and at a cost to be borne entirely by the city. The work by the federal authorities has been stopped temporarily, it is not believed that any serious obstacle lies in the way of an early completion of the task. A very large quantity of filling material now lies adjacent to the retaining wall, ready for the suction pump of the big dredger, and this will go a long way towards filling in the flats. Cameron does not, however, hope to see the King Edward at work again at a much earlier date than the present. The sense of operating the dredge is borne out of the harbor appropriation for the \$15,000 is included in the estimates, but it is doubtful if the money will be available much before July 1. Asked if he thought it would be necessary to do much work on the old bridge to maintain it in a state of efficiency until such time as the hole shall have been filled in, Ald. Cameron said he thought the bridge was strong enough in all its parts, though a new flooring may have to be laid at an early date. Ald. Cameron mentions one very important point in connection with this subject, upon which not much stress has been laid heretofore. When the flats shall have been finally filled in, it is proposed to lay at once opened up through to Belleville street. This will divert a large portion of the traffic now going over James Bay bridge, and will lessen materially the wear and tear on that structure. At various times the suggestion has been put forward that it would be a good plan to proceed at once with the creation of a new roadway on the flats at a distance from the stone work, just the width of the bridge, and fill in the space between the new and permanent roadway without delay. Ald. Cameron is inclined to favor such a plan being followed.

CARNegie LIBRARY PLANS. A third important matter affecting matters municipal which engaged public attention during the week is the selection of an architect to draw plans for the Carnegie library edifice, which is to be erected on the site selected in the corner of Yates and Blanchard streets.

Yates and Blanchard streets. Tuesday evening's meeting of the council several communications from local architects bearing on the subject were read. Messrs. Thos. C. Morby, Hooper & Watkins, A. Maxwell Miller,

S. MacIure, and J. C. M. Keith presented a petition praying that one of their number be appointed to draw plans on the usual terms. Mr. F. M. Battenbury reported having declined to sign the petition, and expressed a wish that all the local architects be requested to send in plans in competition. W. Ridgway also applied for the same position, drawing the plans through he took the same position as Mr. Battenbury, that a competition restricted to local architects was the most desirable course. The matter was discussed very fully, and it was finally decided that it would be the more satisfactory method if the council were to select an architect by ballot. Such a selection will be made at tomorrow evening's meeting, any alternate being free to vote for any person in the community whom he considers competent to do the work. It was the general opinion of the members of the board that much time will be saved by following the course proposed, and that the necessity of sending the plans to some of the Eastern cities to have their following meetings adjourned. It is the intention of the council to proceed with the erection of the building with all possible speed, and with the choice of an architect at tomorrow evening's meeting, not much time should elapse before a contract will be called for.

PERMANENT SIDEWALKS. At tomorrow evening's meeting of the council, Ald. Stewart will press a resolution which is likely to engender considerable discussion. It is to the effect that the work of laying down permanent sidewalks be undertaken at once on the following streets: Fort street, North side, from lot 1,068, block 18, Easterly to School street; George street, East side, from North and South Pandora streets; North Pandora street, South side, from George street Easterly to School street; Spring Ridge, East side, from lot 1,068, block 18, Easterly to School street; Wharf street, West side, from Victoria street to the water front (with granite curbs); Belleville street, South side, from Menzies to St. John street; Belleville street, North side, from Belleville street to Quebec street; Fort street, South side, from Quadra to Douglas streets. There is by no means unanimity of opinion among the aldermen that such work as contemplated is desirable at this time. Some of them are of the opinion that it would be better to restrict the work of laying permanent sidewalks on the local improvement system to the business sections of the city, and not undertake the work at points so remote as is proposed by Ald. Stewart. He simply says such criticism do not know what they are talking about or else are speaking with biased judgment. In controverting the argument that the proposed large installation of meters is bound to raise a storm of discontent among the ratepayers, he points out the fact that those whose premises are metered already are making no complaint, and admits that the operation of the system has not proved at all burdensome.

CORRIDOR CHAT. As far as the civic authorities are concerned the question of whether Victoria is going to adopt the meter system in connection with the operation of the water works system has not been decided. The report of the committee awarding the contract for 350 meters has been adopted, and the meters have been ordered. Water Commissioner Hayward is not at all disturbed by the flood of adverse criticism directed at certain quarters respecting the determination to inaugurate the meter system. He simply says such criticism do not know what they are talking about or else are speaking with biased judgment. In controverting the argument that the proposed large installation of meters is bound to raise a storm of discontent among the ratepayers, he points out the fact that those whose premises are metered already are making no complaint, and admits that the operation of the system has not proved at all burdensome.

It is not at all likely that the petition of residents in the vicinity of Peninsula road, that the extension of the sewerage system should embrace a commencement of work in their vicinity, will be directed to, such an extension being in the plans prepared by the city engineer. It is furthermore held that the petition mentioned is not suffering to any great extent from lack of facilities of the character sought to be obtained.

The Park committee is wrestling with the problem of what to do with the Chinese bell captured from the Boxers outside of Pekin by Lieut. Macdonald, and presented to the city, through the efforts of ex-Mayor Hayward. The bell is now lying at the C. P. N. wharf, and the council is in a quandary as to what to do with it. It weighs nearly a ton, and some of the aldermen think it would be out of place in the park. It is probably the only Chinese bell resting place in the Provincial Museum.

The council has received a request from the School Board to extend the sidewalk on the South side of Yates street up past the school residence. It is not likely that the request will be acceded to, as the necessity for it being done is not at all pressing.

An order-in-council has been signed permitting the city to alter the terms of its contract with the Victoria Terminal Railway Company as to permit the extension of its tracks from the Market building down Comorant street to connect with the B. C. Electric Railway system. The bylaw affecting the matter, which has been before the council for several weeks, will be passed at tomorrow evening's meeting.

The little fruit stand opposite the new post office and near the James Bay bridge must be at once moved from its present position. Ald. Vincent has moved to that effect at tomorrow evening's meeting. The idea is to tear down the stand, including the building, which is considered unsightly, and level up the ground which is owned by the city, so that the property may have a more presentable appearance.

Gang of Operators Arrested in San Francisco With Complete Outfit.

San Francisco, April 18.—United States Secret Agent Hazen and his deputies have just effected the capture of two alleged counterfeiters, seizing their tools, including dies, cranks, metal and a quantity of spurious five dollar pieces and silver dollars, in a house in San Francisco. The counterfeiters were secured from the two men who were caught, and the secret workmen are on the track of the third, who is known to be in hiding in the city. All three of the counterfeiters are Greeks.

The men captured are George Bess, one of the proprietors of a barber shop, aged 23, and James Soucas, a Southern Pacific railway employee, aged 28. The man whom the government officials are still in pursuit of is Chris Patris, the alleged leader of the gang. He is known by half a dozen aliases, and has a record as a counterfeiter. The capture of the men was made possible primarily through their having disclosed at a machine shop, the owner of which became suspicious and communicated with the government officials.

Ottawa City In A Day

Special Meeting of Customs as to Surtax on Goods on Order.

Concession to Newsdealers on British Publications Mailed in Canada.

Outline of Geological Work For Coming Season-Domville For Senate.

From Our Own Correspondent. Ottawa, April 18.—The following telegram sent by the Commissioner of Customs in answer to an enquiry, referring to the change in the regulations submitted to parliament under which surtax is to be imposed on German goods, and which provides that such surtax shall not apply to any goods which are imported on or before April 16 by any person in Canada for immediate transportation to Canada, the question of interpretation to be placed upon this exemption clause will be the matter of regulation. If an authorized person in Canada is permitted to provide for application of this exemption to goods which have arrived in Canada and are entered for duty on or before 30th June next, provided satisfactory evidence is furnished that the goods were in the hands of the foreign exporter on or before 10th April. This notification of interpretation will enable business men to determine what they should do in regard to orders they may have placed up to April 16 for German goods. The rate of postage from today on British and Canadian periodicals recognized as second-class matter posted by mail, whether addressed to subscribers or not as specimen copies, is one cent per pound or fraction thereof. Each article so posted must be stamped "paid in bulk by news dealers." All matter so sent is subject to orders they may have placed up to April 16 for German goods. The rate of postage from today on British and Canadian periodicals recognized as second-class matter posted by mail, whether addressed to subscribers or not as specimen copies, is one cent per pound or fraction thereof. Each article so posted must be stamped "paid in bulk by news dealers." All matter so sent is subject to orders they may have placed up to April 16 for German goods.

The programme of work for the geological survey during the coming season has been mapped out, and sources of fuel have lately left for the scene of operations. H. G. McConnell and J. Keele will continue to work in the area of the Klondike, with special reference to gold-bearing gravels and reefs. Mr. Boyd will investigate the geology of the district, D. B. Dowling will make detailed surveys of the Klondike, and Mr. Leach will continue his work on the coal deposits of British Columbia.

It seems to be pretty well settled that Col. Domville, ex-M.P., has been appointed to the Senate to take the place of the late Senator Gilmore.

HOWARD TAKES STAND. Prisoner Denies All Knowledge of Accusers in Goble Murder. Frankfurt, Ky., April 18.—James Howard took the stand today in the murder trial of Governor Goble. He denied that he knew either Taylor, Goble, or Goebel, and declared he never saw Henry Yontsey until he met him in jail.

SMALLPOX WARNING. United States Postal Authorities Point Out Danger of Infection. Washington, April 18.—The Post Office Department has issued a circular order calling attention to the prevalence of smallpox in certain sections of the country, and directing that the mails be strictly enforced section 626 of the postal laws and regulations governing the treatment of mail matter, and supplies infected by disease germs.

SECURE UNION SCALE. Longshoremen Return to Work But Organization Not Recognized. Ogdensburg, N. Y., April 18.—The striking longshoremen at Ogdensburg, Geo. Hall Coal Company after being out two weeks, accepted the terms of the company to return to work. They will receive the union scale, but the union is not recognized. A satisfactory settlement has also been reached with the Canadian longshoremen at Prescott and Brockville, who struck on the first arrival of the Hall boats at these ports.

PORTO RICO FRAUDS. Mayor Allowed Out on Bail Seeks to Escape. Mayaguez, Porto Rico, April 18.—Miguel Fajardo, the mayor of Mayaguez, who was arrested yesterday, charged with municipal frauds, was released today on bail. He started immediately for San Juan and should reach that place tomorrow. The police telegraphed to all coast towns through which Fajardo will pass, that means be taken to prevent his escape by water. Other arrests are expected.

MILITARY DIVISIONS. U. S. Government to Revert to Former System. Washington, D. C., April 18.—A movement has been inaugurated to re-establish military divisions in the United States with several departments, included in each. It has received the endorsement of high army officials, and the scheme has progressed there are to be three divisions, the Atlantic, the Mississippi and the Pacific. Each will be in command of a Major-General. The Pacific division will be composed of the departments of California, Columbia and Colorado.

GERMAN CENSORSHIP. Proprietors of Theatres Protest and Organize Indignation Meeting. Berlin, April 18.—The censorship was unusually severe in the case of the various theatres during Easter week and prevented entire performances. As a result the association of variety theatre owners, in conjunction with various other theatrical organizations, is agitating against the alleged "discrimination censorship" during the holy days, and is arranging for holding an indignation meeting.

PATROL ACCIDENT. Port Huron, Mich., April 18.—By the breaking of a chain at the Jenks ship yard today, the head of a boiler weighing more than a ton fell and crushed the life of Edward Weth. Charles Strong was fatally hurt.

CANAL CAVES IN. Ogdensburg, N. Y., April 18.—When the water was let out of the Cardinal section of the St. Lawrence canal today to make repairs, before opening of navigation, 250 feet of heavy riprap on the bank slid into the canal. The water was shut down to prevent a further threatened cave-in.

MACEDONIAN BRIGANDAGE. London, April 16.—The Times London correspondent at Sofia, Bulgaria, telegraphs that the Macedonian insurgent leaders have resolved to abandon the guerilla warfare of the Balkans for the present year, but they will continue guerilla operations, intercepting communications, and attacking the railways. This resolution taken by the Macedonian leaders, explains the correspondent's opinion that the overwhelming strength of the Turkish army, the improbability of receiving aid from the Albanians, and the fact that the less wholesale massacres were perpetrated, and also the uncertain attitude of the Albanians might become reconciled to the Turks and join in the extermination of the unbelievers.

Birth Of A New Ireland. T. P. O'Connor's View of the National Convention Held at Dublin. For the Discussion of the Wyndham Bill for Abolition of Landlordism. Irishmen are Overwhelmingly in Favor of the New Land Bill.

Dublin, April 16.—The National convention which convened in the Round Room on Monday, was attended by 2,000 delegates, coming from many parts of Ireland. The platform held among all the National members, priests and others. The delegates included all classes, farmers, laborers, priests and others—a convention of the soil. Lord Mayor Harrington and Michael Davitt conducted John Redmond to the chair, and the delegates to their feet, cheered and waved their hats. The notable absentees were John Dillon and Edward Blake, who are both ill. John Redmond opened the proceedings with an impassioned speech, in which he said: "I am not here to discuss the bill, but I am inclined to minimize them, its object is the complete final abolition of landlordism in all its essentials. Ireland is united as she never was before."

Mr. O'Brien, who was greeted with a hurricane of cheers, followed with an impassioned speech on the line of Mr. Redmond's, in which he urged that the bill be accepted in principle. A motion to reject Secretary Wyndham's Irish land bill as not meriting support, was defeated by an overwhelming majority. This ensures the conference approving the bill in principle. T. P. O'Connor, summing up the results of the debate, said that the delegates showed that they all practically agreed that the Wyndham bill is the greatest measure ever proposed in the history of the country, and that landlordism is condemned to die; that no more compensation will be shown to tenants than to landlords, and that the financial terms have been improved, and that not one evicted tenant is left without a new home. He concluded by "celebrating one of the proudest victories ever achieved by the nation, and ringing in the death of landlordism, and ringing in the birth of a new Ireland." The convention adjourned until Friday.

Over \$7,500 has been raised for the summer station work of the coast guard. Thirty cars of apples shipped from Owen Sound to England.

REVELSTOKE---Where the Teachers' Institute Has Been in Session The Past Three Days.

FOR MANSLAUGHTER. Aged Man Sent to Prison For Killing 82-Year-Old Son-in-Law.

Sir Oliver Sinking. Toronto, April 16.—At 10 o'clock Sir Oliver Mowat was very weak and not expected to live till morning.

HOWARD SHOT GOEBEL. Yontsey Tells of the Murder of Kentucky's Governor.

MUSICAL CYCLE AT TORONTO. Opening of Four Grand Festivals Last Night—Governor General Present.

Two Thousand in Cash Secured Bar Colonists Create Good Impression.

THE WINNIPEG MAIL ROBBERY. Two Hundred in Cash Secured Bar Colonists Create Good Impression.

KING EDWARD AT MALTA. Malta, April 17.—King Edward this morning held a review of 10,000 soldiers and afterwards visited the citadel. In the afternoon he was present at a match between the army and the navy members. Tonight the town and the ships in the harbor were illuminated, affording a most brilliant spectacle.

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GRAND TRUNK EXTENSION. President Points Out Importance of Project at Annual Meeting.

London, April 16.—Sir Charles Rivers Wilson, president of the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada, presiding at a crowded meeting of shareholders today, said the financial results of the past half year had been entirely satisfactory, except for the abnormal increase of the working expenses due to the increasing business of the road. The president also referred to the importance of the projected extension of the Grand Trunk to the Pacific, which will give the Grand Trunk an adequate share of the business arising from the development of the Northwest. The new line ultimately will extend Eastward from Quebec, he said. The president's report was adopted.

VISITING MALTA. Valetta, Malta, April 16.—The Royal yacht Victoria and Albert, with King and Queen, arrived here today from Gibraltar, and was saluted by the warships and shore batteries. Immense crowds assembled on the sea front to witness His Majesty's arrival. The city was gay with flags. The King landed at noon.

MIGRANTS FOR THE DOMINION. Numbers of General Booth's Darkest England Scheme--New Offices.

Toronto, April 16.—Cables from London say: Twenty-one emigrants sail for Canada this week. They are members of General Booth's Darkest England colony in Essex. Although skilled workmen, and strong and healthy, they were unable to find work in England, and were obliged to join General Booth's colony. The Congress of Warwick is cordially endorsing the Booth's scheme of helping the unemployed, and has employed many of them about her estates. She is satisfied that many of these men only need a chance to show that they are willing and able to work. The new Canadian emigration offices were opened today. A great many people attended the reception. Lord Strathcona, Hon. Clifford Sifton, and members of the Canadian staff were present. The new offices are handsomely fitted out. A handsome reception room will be used by Mr. Sifton during his stay in London, which overlooks Trafalgar Square.

THE COAL FAMINE. Vancouver is being supplied with coal largely from Washington State at great cost. A rumor was spread today that a coal famine in the city was imminent, and the first enquiry made seemed to confirm this rumor. Mr. Marpole and McDonald reported that owing to the Dunsuir mines being closed down, they were unable to secure coal. The hard coal merchant, also reported that he had no coal on hand. Information was received at the coal office of Evans, Coleman & Evans, that they had all the coal on hand they needed, but for the moment they were out of coal, but they would have any amount of coal immediately. Their shortage was caused by the fact that they were out of coal, but they would have any amount of coal immediately. Their shortage was caused by the fact that they were out of coal, but they would have any amount of coal immediately.

HAY DEARER. Hay took another \$2 jump today, and is now selling at \$18. It is expected that before the week is out it will reach \$20.

THE TEAMSTERS. The teamsters have taken off their oaths and are now engaged in a strike. It was learned at the office of the B. C. Transport Commission that the places of the striking teamsters in the city had been filled by non-union men; that the union teamsters, except in a few instances, had not returned to work; but there were now more than enough men to secure the business as non-union men broke the ice, and commenced to apply for jobs, there was a rush of non-union men to fill the vacancies, and for the past two days there has been a great many applicants, but there are now no more vacancies.

REWARD FOR FUGITIVES. The government has offered \$200 reward for the apprehension of Jones and Clarke. One hundred for each escape. McCrea's machine shop was broken into Tuesday night, and it is believed that Jones and Clarke have made another raid on this shop, which they visited before a secure proper burglarizing tools.

TERRITORIAL HOUSE MEETS AT REGINA. Fifth Assembly Opened With Due Form Yesterday--Speech From Throne.

Regina, April 16.—The fifth legislative assembly was opened this afternoon by Lieutenant-Governor Forget precisely at 3 o'clock. His Honor drove to the Assembly Chamber, and escorted by the detachment of the N. W. M. P., under the command of Inspector Walker, Premier Hanson, and Mr. A. B. Gillis, M. P. P., for Whitewood, as speaker, and there was no opposition to the selection. Lieutenant-Governor Forget then read the speech, which referred to the prosperity of the country, having immeasurably increased the duties and responsibilities of the North-western government and legislature. The speech urged as in past years, the claims of the Territories to provincial status, which was now all the more necessary in consequence of the transportation conditions that prevailed. The most important announcement in the speech was that the Federal government had acceded to the request of the Territorial government to extend the jurisdiction of the legislature to the important subject of land titles. This will necessitate legislative provision for the maintenance and control of the land title system. It was decided to take the speech into consideration on Monday next.

THE MERGER SUIT. Washington, April 17.—In the matter of the application at St. Paul today in behalf of the Northern Securities Company, the Department of Justice has made public the following telegraphic communication from the Attorney-General to the United States attorney at St. Paul on the 14th inst.: "It is likely defendant's Northern Securities case will forthwith and possibly without notice appeal to Circuit Court or judge thereof for modification of decree pending appeal, or for ordering making appeal to watch the matter closely and earnestly to issue any such application on ground that this is not ordinary case."

PROTEST NORTH ONTARIO. Toronto, April 16.—The Conservatives today filed a protest against the return of Geo. D. Grant, M. P., in North Ontario.

For Shooting Frank Rogers

James McGregor Substitute Car Checker Arrested By Vancouver Police.

They Do Not Believe the Shooting Was Done Deliberately.

Coal Supply at Terminal City--Teamsters are at Work.

Vancouver, B. C., April 16.—James McGregor, a substitute car checker, was arrested today for the shooting of Frank Rogers. The police believe that the shooting was not done deliberately; that immediately after a row between the two men, McGregor repaired to the scene, and hearing a stray shot fired in the direction of Rogers, he was seized by Rogers, who was holding a revolver. The shot mortally wounded Rogers. The post mortem examination showed that Rogers was killed with a 38 calibre bullet which was fired from the first suspect, was a 32. This has no doubt clear Allan of the charge.

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