

F. W. Bergman, manager of the Laurier Hotel in Ottawa, which is to be opened next May, is in the city. He spent Monday with F. M. Rattenbury in connection with the proposed Grand Trunk Pacific Hotel at Prince Rupert, which will be started as soon as possible.

Mr. Bergman, in addition to holding charge of the big hotel in the capital, occupies practically the position of superintendent of the G. T. P. Hotel at Ottawa. He is a fellow of the fact that he came to Victoria, and also to look at the local situation. "However so far as the G. T. P. Hotel in Victoria is concerned he would not go further than President Hays did during the time he was here in September, when he said that the company would not take any steps beyond securing the site, nor had he received any instructions from the present administration with the Victoria hotel. When the time did come, however, he believed they would be prepared to spend at least a million dollars on the hotel, and that it would be a fitting one would represent another half million."

His present mission, he told a Times representative, is exclusively in connection with the Prince Rupert hotel, the urgency of accommodation at this place, which requires the building of the company, proposes to build a first-class hotel of 250 rooms in the French Chateau style, to be opened in time for the completion of the transcontinental line by the end of the year.

This hotel will be so planned that another 200 rooms can be added at a later date, and Mr. Bergman remarked that it was as cheap to design a house of 250 as 200 rooms. The G. T. P. is not at all anxious to consider the future of the northern terminal that the company will spare no expense. It will prove none too large when the transcontinental is through.

Mr. Bergman is anxious to point out that the company intends to use Canadian materials in the construction of the hotels and all the furnishings are to be purchased in the country. He also remarked that the G. T. P. hoped the wholesale houses in Victoria would get busy, and branches in Prince Rupert, as the construction of a big hotel in the northern city would require a large amount of money, and would create a big demand for supplies. The development of Canadian Industries in the past two or three years had made this possible, and he believed that the G. T. P. would be able to enter the G. T. P. service, he doubted the feasibility of such a proposal.

Mr. Bergman then entered into a resume of hotel policy of the company, and said it was the intention to erect eight hotels, of which Chateau Laurier at Ottawa was well advanced. Exaltation in Victoria was being started by the first of the hotels, and the hotels at Edmonton, Prince Rupert and Victoria were three more under consideration. Another would be located near the Sulphur Spring district in the Rockies, from which the line passed, and would rival Banff, while the other two would be at divisional points of the line between Winnipeg and Edmonton, and Edmonton and Prince Rupert, the sites of which had not yet been located. All the hotels would be built in the French Chateau style, and speaking of the Winnipeg site, he said its preliminary survey had been made, and the directors to call it "Fort Garry," the remains of which are in a park almost adjoining, and close to the big Union Depot. The hotel here will not be as large as the others, but on the same scale as Prince Rupert.

Mr. Bergman will stay in the city a week, and then go north to Prince Rupert, after which he will return to Ottawa, where he will be in charge of the company in the Alberta capital.

CHICAGO POISONING MYSTERY.

Chicago, Nov. 14.—With the grand jury in session to-day there was speculation as to whether State's Attorney Wayman would be prepared to present evidence in the case of Mrs. Elsie Berne, who is charged with the murder of Arthur Morrison, etc.

Captain Patrick Harding, it is known, has accumulated a large amount of evidence against the woman, but there was a question as to whether it would be presented to the grand jury before the inquest had been held on next Friday.

Mr. Mullins' condition has improved so much so that an attempt has been made to call her to attend the inquest.

CANADIAN DECORATED.

London, Nov. 14.—Lieutenant Colonel N. F. MacNaghten, who commanded the recent Canadian artillery contingent, has been given the rank of commander of the Victorian order.

PETITION DENIED.

Richmond, Va., Nov. 14.—The Supreme Court of appeals has denied the petition for a writ of error by Henry C. Beattie, Jr., convicted of murdering his young wife last July.

KILLED BY EXPLOSION.

Prince Rupert, B. C., Nov. 14.—At Mile Forty-Four on the G. T. P. yesterday in clearing out a blast hole at the big tunnel, an explosion occurred, and two others injured.