

The Colonist

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A. G. SARGISON, Managing Director.

THE DAILY COLONIST

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THE CITY'S WATER SUPPLY.

The number of communications we have received on the question of the water supply is so large that it is impossible to publish them all. The question is of such importance that it is taken up very properly and in a broad and comprehensive manner. We do not take any hasty action, but we do get all the information and expert knowledge on the subject before reaching any conclusion. The report presented to the City Council by the Water Commissioner on Monday last contains a large amount of very useful information, and should form a convenient basis on which to start an inquiry into the subject. Naturally the matter will fall into three distinct and separate parts. There is the question as to how far the present supply of water meets the requirements, based on the consumption per capita that is allowed in other towns in which the conditions are found to be satisfactory. Then on this will follow an estimate of what increase in the supply may be expected to be required by the growth in population that may reasonably be anticipated in the course of five, ten and twenty years. A reference to these three different periods will be useful in regard to the financial and physical details that will be involved in any extension of the capacity of the water works. The second part of the inquiry should embrace a thorough investigation of the volume of water from the present source of supply; to what extent that can be increased by enlarging the capacity of the water works; and also what other sources of supply are either now available or could be acquired under certain conditions. That would include the possible supply from Goldstream suggested by Alderman Fell, and also an arrangement with the Esquimalt Water Works Company. This branch of the inquiry would be completed by estimates of the cost likely to be incurred in each of these various schemes. The third part of the inquiry would embrace the financial phase of the problem, and would include suggestions as to the manner in which the necessary funds could be provided in the most economical way, and with the least burden on the taxpayers. It should also include estimates of the probable revenue that would be received from water rates and the annual cost of maintenance and operation of the works.

With this information in the possession of the City Council it will be possible to reach an intelligent conclusion on the subject, and we submit that no action should be taken that will involve the city in considerable outlay, or commit it to the construction of a water works, until this investigation has been made. Were a railway company or any other commercial or industrial corporation to enter on a matter of like importance, it would not adopt such a method as a matter of ordinary business procedure, and we feel that a municipal corporation should be deemed to have superior qualifications that similar precautions are not necessary in its case. It is because of this, and the unbusinesslike methods that municipalities so often follow that municipal administration has frequently become a reproach. Even in Victoria we think it would be difficult to point to instances of the kind, and to show how the public interests have suffered thereby. This question of water supply is one of great importance. It concerns not only the comfort and convenience of the citizens. To adopt hastily some particular scheme or to commit the city to a course that further inquiry might show to be unwise, is certainly not a prudent or business-like procedure. It must be evident now to the members of the City Council that the question is somewhat complicated and that it is not to be settled off-hand by a vote as to whether meters shall or shall not be bought.

We propose to go more fully into some of the matters referred to in the Water Commissioner's report on another occasion. But meanwhile it would, we think, be useful to the City Council and the citizens if the Commissioner would furnish some particulars as to the annual cost of pumping under the present arrangement and what the saving in that item of expenditure would be by the abandonment of one pumping station as suggested in his report would be feasible under one of the schemes which he has promulgated. It will also be useful if he can give an estimate of what the approximate consumption of water would be likely to be in the district in which under any circumstances the water must be pumped when that district is fully settled up and occupied. The Council should also obtain information as to the scale of charges for water in other towns on this Coast.

AUSTRALIAN POLITICS.

Unusual interest attaches to the present situation in Australia Federal politics. The result of the recent general election was to leave both the Government and the regular Opposition party in a minority in both the upper and lower houses, as compared with the Labor Party. For a brief period the Government existed by the sufferance of the latter party, which regarded the Opposition with less favor than it did the party in power, or to put it in another way, found more to object to in the policy advocated by Mr. Reid than it did in that which Mr. Deakin was attempting to carry out in office. But the state of suspense, or armed truce, was not of long continuance, and the Government was defeated on its Arbitration Bill—the measure which the Government withdrew in the previous session, because of its inability to carry the Bill except with the amendment demanded by the Labor Party, which it refused to accept.

The amendment in question brought members of all branches of the Civil Service within the scope of the Arbitration Act. The objection to the proposal is so obvious as scarcely to call for reference. The State itself, as represented by Parliament and Government, is not subject to any authority of the former's creation, and which is liable to change, or even annihilation, at its will. It is in fact a proposal to set a small section of the people above the whole body of the nation. Apart from this unworkable theory, such an arrangement would, in practice, be unworkable and unworkable. What is the opinion of all expert knowledge on the subject before reaching any conclusion. The report presented to the City Council by the Water Commissioner on Monday last contains a large amount of very useful information, and should form a convenient basis on which to start an inquiry into the subject. Naturally the matter will fall into three distinct and separate parts. There is the question as to how far the present supply of water meets the requirements, based on the consumption per capita that is allowed in other towns in which the conditions are found to be satisfactory. Then on this will follow an estimate of what increase in the supply may be expected to be required by the growth in population that may reasonably be anticipated in the course of five, ten and twenty years. A reference to these three different periods will be useful in regard to the financial and physical details that will be involved in any extension of the capacity of the water works. The second part of the inquiry should embrace a thorough investigation of the volume of water from the present source of supply; to what extent that can be increased by enlarging the capacity of the water works; and also what other sources of supply are either now available or could be acquired under certain conditions. That would include the possible supply from Goldstream suggested by Alderman Fell, and also an arrangement with the Esquimalt Water Works Company. This branch of the inquiry would be completed by estimates of the cost likely to be incurred in each of these various schemes. The third part of the inquiry would embrace the financial phase of the problem, and would include suggestions as to the manner in which the necessary funds could be provided in the most economical way, and with the least burden on the taxpayers. It should also include estimates of the probable revenue that would be received from water rates and the annual cost of maintenance and operation of the works.

THE G. T. P. AGREEMENT.

The Dominion Government has rejected the amendment offered by the Opposition to the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company's agreement. We think that this course will be justified, and the public interests, since, as we pointed out last week, the amendments made clear and definite what was not plain at all in the agreement, and that the Government, in rejecting the amendments, has shown that it is not prepared to be bound by the terms of the agreement. But it will not be the course of the Government to take steps to protect the public interests should the company repudiate any obligations of the kind.

One thing—and that of the greatest importance and interest to British Columbia—is that the Government has insisted on the agreement that work on the construction of the railway should be commenced on the Western end and simultaneously with that on the Eastern end. On the scheme it was virtually understood that the Government would be bound to take steps to protect the public interests should the company repudiate any obligations of the kind. One thing—and that of the greatest importance and interest to British Columbia—is that the Government has insisted on the agreement that work on the construction of the railway should be commenced on the Western end and simultaneously with that on the Eastern end. On the scheme it was virtually understood that the Government would be bound to take steps to protect the public interests should the company repudiate any obligations of the kind.

THE FISHERY QUESTION.

Now that the Dominion Government has definitely stated that it intends to provide for the use of fish traps in British Columbia, it is not surprising that it has not yet been decided whether or not it will be allowed to fish in the waters of the Dominion, and if so, under what conditions. The satisfaction of having the washing done early in the day, and well done, belongs to every user of Sunlight Soap.

THE BRITISH COLONIST

A. DE COOMBS, Editor.

May 15th, 1880.

The Bishop of British Columbia—Bishop Delaney of the diocese of New York, dated at the consecration of the Bishop of British Columbia in Westminster Abbey. This is the first instance of an American or any foreign divine taking part in the consecration of an Anglican Bishop.

Annexation of the Colonies—Every day furnishes additional reasons for the expediency of the annexation of the colony of British Columbia to that of Vancouver's Island. What is the colony of Vancouver's Island but the town of Victoria and that town the present emporium of British Columbia. That two distinct and separate systems of government should be kept up for both places is worse than an absurdity, especially when a heavy system of taxation will have to be laid on for the erection of public buildings and the support of government officials.

The steamer Beaver arrived on Monday evening from Langley, having on board about 60 passengers, principally returned from the coast. The steamer was in the terms of mining and business prospects, and a general statement from the upper country in the face of this news a number of passengers left by the Eliza Anderson.

Notice—The inmates of this city are respectfully invited to attend the meeting at Mr. Simpson's store, on Yates street, above Broad street, at 8 o'clock p. m., on Sunday, 22nd inst., for the purpose of securing a suitable place for a burial ground in the South End of the city.

The Indian Outrage—Mr. Sheriff Heaton and his posse consisting of 22 men, returned from Spanish on Monday afternoon. The posse was well armed and ready. They had no fight with the Indians, but their risk was considerable, as they were encamped in ambush. They also captured two Indians. They also brought down a large quantity of furs and skins.

North British Bank—We understand that a branch of this bank will shortly be started in this city, and that the manager will be Mr. J. H. Brown.

How to Treat a Sprained Ankle—A sprained ankle is usually treated by discharging a man for three or four days. This is an unnecessary loss of time, for many cases have recovered in less than one week's time when Chamberlain's Liniment was promptly and freely applied. It allays the pain and soreness and quickly restores the parts to a healthy condition. For sale by all druggists.

WHOLESALE PRODUCE.

Hay is again bringing a good figure and is now offering \$18 and \$19. The latter, however, is practically of the quality of the former. Hay, Fraser river, per ton \$18.00
Hay, Island, per ton \$19.00
Oats, per ton \$10.00
Barley, per ton \$7.00

"Farmers Exchange"

Advertisements Under Each Head One Cent Per Word Each Issue. No advertisement taken for less than 25c.

PAULTRY AND LIVESTOCK.

FOR SALE—Good milk cow. Apply 27 Avalon Road, James Bay.
FOR SALE—Heavy young draft horse for sale. 55 Johnson street.
FOR SALE—Two-year-old grade Jersey heifer. Apply J. A. Potts, Macan's Point.
FOR SALE—Cheese, Jersey milk. Apply T. B. McNutt, Wilkesboro, N.C.
FOR SALE—Charles, fine singer. Mrs. Lange, 94th Douglas street, Uptown.

ALL GOOD THINGS

must win upon their merits. The International Dictionary has won a greater distinction upon its merits and is in more general use than any other work of its kind in the English language.

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Those who know the foundation of buying wisdom know we supply the goods that will suit the people at less than broken combination prices. We have the things that are wanted in every home.

DIXIE H. ROSS & CO.,

The Independent Cash Grocers.

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We have a splendid line of the celebrated Bradford Carriage Works, ARLINGTONS, etc. stock. These vehicles are made of the best materials and from the time to time call and examine them and one for the summer's driving.

Our prices are as low as they can consistently be for FIRST-CLASS WORK AND MATERIAL.

G. G. PRIOR & Co., Ltd., L'y.

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FREE!

Twenty pounds of the best B. C. GRANULATED SUGAR FREE.

This week. We are the FIRST GROCERS in Victoria to give regular BARGAINS covering every day of the year. Everything we sell is the BEST. Every item is full weight, a bargain and absolutely guaranteed or your money returned. Note the lists carefully.

LIST No. 1.

10 LBS. B. C. GRANULATED SUGAR—FREE

1 lb. Our Best 40c Coffee. 30
1 Tin Ramsay's Crackers. 25
8 lbs. Rice or 5 lbs. S. W. or Bayou Beans. 50
1 Bottle Extract Vanilla or Lemon, 2 oz. 25
1 lb. Tea, your choice. 50
3 pkts. Jelly Powder (any brand). 25
4 lbs. Prunes, 40c-50c. 25
3 pkts. Fry's Cocoa. 25
1 Bottle Arrowroot or 1 lb. Excelsior Furniture Polish. 25
2 Large tins St. Charles Cream. 30
2 lbs. Sliced Raisins or 2 lbs. Cleaned Currants. 20
2 Tins Pineapple. 30
1 Tin Blueberries. 25
1 Large bar Peppermint Candy Soap. 35
1 Bottle Sassa (Stretton or Mello's). 25
1 Bottle Tomato Catsup. 20
1 Pkt. Parlor Matches. 25
1 Sack Salt or 1 lb. Carb. Soda. 10
1 Tin White or Black Pepper. 10
1 Tin Dev. Ham (Armour's). 10

LIST No. 2.

20 LBS. B. C. GRANULATED SUGAR—FREE

1 lb. Our Best 40c Coffee. 30
1 Tin Ramsay's Crackers. 25
8 lbs. Rice or 5 lbs. S. W. or Bayou Beans. 50
1 Bottle Extract Vanilla or Lemon, 2 oz. 25
1 lb. Tea, your choice. 50
3 pkts. Jelly Powder (any brand). 25
4 lbs. Prunes, 40c-50c. 25
3 pkts. Fry's Cocoa. 25
1 Bottle Arrowroot or 1 lb. Excelsior Furniture Polish. 25
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1 Tin Dev. Ham (Armour's). 10

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CURED HIM.

He tells of his experience in the following words: "For four months I was troubled with a lame back and all that time was unable to turn in bed without help. I tried plasters and liniments of all kinds but to no effect. At last I was induced to try Doan's Kidney Pills, and by the use of two-thirds of a box my back was as well and as strong as ever and has kept so ever since."

Backache, Frequent Thirst, Scanty Urine, Cloudy, Thick or Highly Colored Urine, Puffing under the Eyes, Swelling of the Feet and Ankles, are all symptoms of kidney trouble that Doan's Kidney Pills will cure.

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Cascara Burdock and Celery

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