

PLENTY OF LIFE AT THE MEETING A LIVELY SKIRMISH BETWEEN MEMBERS

Some Mischievous Spirit Responsible for Passage-at-Arms at Board of Trade Friday.

Veteran members of the Victoria Board of Trade will perhaps agree that Friday afternoon's meeting was not the tamest in history. On the contrary it was somewhat breezy, if such a term may be employed with propriety, because it was replete with lively debate and verbal skirmishes which chained the general interest and attention of the members as a capital antidote to drowsiness, which under ordinary circumstances, might have preyed on some overworked member present. It was an interesting meeting because a number of important subjects were up for consideration, matters which will be further dealt with at a special general session to be held next Tuesday evening.

The proceedings started off quite mildly. There were no suppressed mutterings portending the storm, and not a solitary lowering countenance. In the preliminary gathering the vice-president, C. F. Todd, presided, and after the usual formalities referred to the very interesting conference between the board's council and Representative Lawless, of the Pacific Coast Steamship Company, regarding the Sound service. The first regular business on the programme was taken up.

It was the motion by S. J. Pitts, seconded by Lindley Grease, providing for the abolition of the membership entrance fee of \$20. The mover said he advocated this step to increase the board's revenue and popularity. Under the present rule where one had to pay an entrance fee besides the usual subscription it would be difficult to secure more members. It would be unreasonable to expect them to join. He understood that twenty citizens were willing to join if the entrance fee was abolished.

Lindley Grease, in seconding the motion, said that the board should be representative of all classes. The man in moderate circumstances possessed as much ability and could afford as much assistance on behalf of Victoria's welfare as he who could easily afford the entrance fee. The speaker then turned his attention to some of the critics of the board. He denied that it was a body lacking influence, energy and actuated by selfish motives. The present members would be in the interests of the board and city, because it would cause a much desired concentration of efforts. He also alluded to other body recently organized in the city, and remarked that if they became members they would have as much influence as any body on the board.

C. H. Lugin desired to remove the impression that the board did not cordially welcome newcomers. When, as a stranger, he became a member he had been treated with courtesy and respect. The chairman observed that the board was not composed of cliques, neither was it a political institution, as was often charged.

J. L. Beckwith arose to remove a few erroneous ideas concerning the chamber of commerce. Its organization was the result of long agitation, and its sole object was to advance the interests of the city. It would stir the people up, a process the speaker thought the people needed. At the organization meeting he had advised that the promoters confer with the board with an object of strengthening it by co-operation, but his advice was not followed.

The chamber of commerce, he said, was not imbued with feelings of animosity toward the board. "I might say, gentlemen," continued the speaker, "that a good way to avoid increasing your membership is to continue in such tactics as these." The speaker then proceeded to explain what he meant, an explanation which added materially to the gaiety of the proceedings. He said that a circular addressed to the chamber of commerce had been delivered at the office of the secretary of the board of trade. While there somebody had marked with pencil the following: "Not at board of trade; send to Joss house." That was the inscription on it when he received it.

"That gentlemen, I take as an insult to the chamber of commerce," proceeded Mr. Beckwith. "The chamber of commerce is composed of a large number of influential members whose assistance the board of trade would be glad to receive. It may surprise you to know that it has a membership of nearly 200, all inspired with an intense earnestness to advance the interests of the city."

The chairman: "Your accusation, Mr. Beckwith, is entirely unfounded. That inscription was not the work of any member of the board."

Mr. Beckwith: "Well, it wasn't marked at the post office, or by the letter carrier."

Mr. Quade: "You should make inquiries before you come before the board with such a charge."

"I did make inquiries," retorted the other. "I went to the postmaster and I have discovered that the letter was marked in the board of trade office."

Here the chairman intervened. This was no place, he said, for the washing of dirty linen. The secretary had just told him that he saw the letter in the drawing room, and that the matter was dropped for the time being.

Mr. Todd then surrendered the chair to President McQuade, who convened the session proper. The first business was the report of Mr. Shallice on behalf of the committee appointed to look into the West Coast service question. He

said they had interviewed Capt. Troup, and it was admitted that an improved service was desirable, but serious consideration was the question of finances. Capt. Troup was called away, and another conference would be held next week.

Mr. Lugin then submitted the report of the committee appointed to draw up a memorial on the resources of Vancouver Island and its advantages for transcontinental railway purposes. The report was an exhaustive one, and was accompanied by a map which he said the provincial government would back the location of the various mineral deposits. He moved that the report be adopted and a copy sent to Vice-President Morris, of the Grand Trunk.

Mr. Shallice urged that the report be fully discussed, in view of its great importance. The committee had found it difficult to obtain information concerning the resources of the island, and he hoped the board would press for a thorough and continuous investigation by the government officials to obtain information that could be relied upon. It should be undertaken by officials who believed in the resources and future of the country. Such investigation should include the mineral, fishing, agricultural and timber wealth of the island, a suggestion that was voiced in a letter written recently by T. W. Paterson, M. P., who had shown commendable spirit by his offer to contribute \$500 towards the undertaking.

Mr. Lugin's motion was put and carried, but the matter wasn't settled. Not at all. Mr. Ker in glancing over the report discovered something he thought should be eliminated. It was the final clause setting forth the advantages of Barkley and Quatsino Sound localities for termini of Oriental steamship and transcontinental railway routes. The committee should have pressed Victoria's advantages as a terminus instead. The statement in the report that there was no fog on these Sounds was incorrect.

Mr. Lugin reminded Mr. Ker that the committee's duties were not confined to an investigation of this city, but were to embrace the entire island. There were the instructions conveyed in the resolution passed by the board. Mr. Shallice said the committee had obeyed the terms of the resolution. He contended that Victoria would benefit no matter where the terminus was established. He didn't believe this city would ever become the absolute and practical terminus of any transcontinental road, but it would be a terminal point. If a transcontinental road were to be induced to make its terminus on the West Coast, Victoria would get the bulk of the trade, more so than if it merely fringed the East Coast and ended here. The more the interior of the island was opened up the more this city would benefit. He considered that if the committee had made the West Coast advantages sufficient bait to drag a transcontinental road to this island, they had gained a point.

Mr. Lugin then asked permission to alter his motion. He moved that the report be considered at a special general meeting to be held next Tuesday. Copies be printed and furnished to the members in the meantime.

Mr. Ker remarked with emphasis that the board should work for Victoria and not outside points. Vancouver didn't boom some other place. Neither did Seattle and Victoria would never be built up by drawing attention to other world elsewhere. He knew that there were townships on the West Coast, but he would oppose boosting them at the expense of the board.

Mr. Lugin: "Ma I ask if there is any personal reference in Mr. Ker's remark about boosting townships. If he refers to any member of the board he should say so. If not his statement is in very bad taste."

Mr. Ker replied tartly that he knew townships had been laid out on a short time ago. He didn't know whether Mr. Lugin was interested in them or not, but he knew they were being boomed.

This brought Mr. Lugin to his feet again. He heatedly branded Mr. Ker's statement as a gratuitous insult. It was an imputation on his good faith as a member of the board and a member of the committee. He denied that he owned a foot of land at either Quatsino or Barkley Sounds. The only township in which he was interested was Hardy Bay. Even if he did, why should that prohibit him from advocating an enterprise which would benefit the places? Must he refrain from favoring it because he might possibly be benefiting? Mr. Ker had no authority to make such a statement with regard to him, and as to the board, he withdrew it.

British Columbia waters, and then sold them to the Fraser canners, certainly an absurd condition of affairs. A great deal of the agitation on the Mainland against traps was instigated by trap and purse seine men on Puget Sound. Another important aspect of the situation was that the Americans had gone into the breeding industry on a large scale. Last year about fifty-five million fry were turned out from the hatcheries, an output which must pass outwardly and inwardly through the Straits. These were caught by the traps on Vancouver Island. The Mainland opposition was due to sectional feeling.

Fishermen, he continued, who described the traps as a blow at them, didn't know what they were talking about. They would give steady employment to white men. No Chinese or Japanese were employed on the Sound. Why should there be here? He read from the fishery report of the total earnings of the men employed in the industry amounted to \$1,044,790. Surely that was a business worth striving for.

The question was further discussed by Messrs. Shallice and Lugin, and others. Mr. Todd also pointed out that the Alaska Packers' Association had applications for twenty-two foreshore leases for traps, while Mr. Bell-Ing, who first refused to put in an application, was now operating three traps at Boundary Bay.

Mr. Pitts suggested that attached to the granting of a lease there be a condition that no catches should be erected on the fishing locality. Mr. Todd also expressed the opinion that there should be an export duty on sockeye salmon. Ultimately the report and resolution were adopted.

During the discussion Mr. Todd said the fishery commission's attention should be drawn to the fact that two American vessels were engaged in the halibut fishing industry in British Columbia waters. He would like to see an export duty put on fish. While East he learned that they were permitted to do this through the influence of the C. P. R.

Mr. Lugin understood that an arrangement had been made with the government to allow these steamers to engage in the industry in Canadian waters on condition that they outfit at Vancouver. He also referred to Hector Straits, which the United States claimed, and one of the ministers agreed with them, was open sea. The matter should be brought to the attention of the government. It was finally decided to bring it up at the conference between the council and Senator Templeman next week.

The secretary asked for the appointment of a committee to investigate the accusation of Mr. Beckwith. Messrs. Beckwith, Pitts and Simon Leiser were appointed.

Before an adjournment was taken the following resolution introduced by Mr. Pitts was carried: "That this board, being of the opinion that an improved service between Puget Sound ports and Victoria is necessary to meet the present and future needs of the city, and that the Pacific Coast Steamship Company of their hearty support in the line as stated by their representative, Mr. Lawless, at the board of trade on the 9th inst.

The following new members were admitted: R. D. Murray, John G. Gorman, E. R. Radwin, J. H. Taylor, J. Sheasgreen, Henry Ross, D. E. Campbell, A. W. Campbell, G. F. Langley, L. W. Hall, George Riley, John Nelson, John Hector, B. Wilson, D. B. Bogle, J. J. Lemon, A. McQuade, G. B. Wilson, J. H. Magrath and Andrew Gray.

There were present at the meeting President L. G. McQuade, Chas. F. Todd, R. Swinerton, Jos. Kingham, S. Earle, J. J. Shallice, C. H. Lugin, S. Leiser, M. J. Crahan, J. Pitts, John Piercy, J. L. Beckwith, W. T. Oliver, Henry Croft, J. Sehl, W. J. Pendray, Geo. Riley, M. P., C. D. Mason, G. Hunter, G. A. Kirk, Beaumont Boggs, W. H. Bone and Secretary Elworthy.

PAYS TRIBUTE TO LOCAL OFFICIALS ADDRESS AT TRAMWAY COMPANY'S MEETING

The Profit Sharing Scheme in Which the Employees Participate - Business on the Increase.

"I should say, referring again to the services of our people in British Columbia, that we have some very excellent officials here." This remark was made by G. P. Norton, acting chairman of the British Columbia Electric Railway Company, at the recent ordinary general meeting of the company in London. Mr. Norton moved the adoption of the report and accounts, and in doing so said:

"Gentlemen - I am very sorry that our chairman is not able to be here to-day. I have a letter from him in which he tells me that his doctor thinks it would be unwise for him to leave home. In his absence I shall do the best I can. Well, gentlemen, we are just now at the end of a very cumbersome and difficult procedure. We have accomplished, we think, everything we set out to do in reference to the change of the capital. It may be the mind of some of the shareholders that difficulties of this kind may occur again. Well, unfortunately, the English law is not in a satisfactory state. I know which way to go about our business. The English law does not provide for expansion in a company such as this, where expansion is both legitimate and necessary, and in my opinion this weakness in the law of England operates very detrimentally to commercial enterprise in this country and places it at a great disadvantage as compared with other countries whose commercial laws are better framed and more elastic on this particular point. But we have taken the very best possible legal advice, and we think new we have accomplished everything that we wished to do, and in the future we can see our way to get additional capital as it may be required without such difficulty as we have experienced in the past. Now there is another small difficulty which has been raised by the law of the Dominion of Canada, which required that our accounts should be made up to June 30th. Previously they were made up to April 15th, and therefore you have before you to-day a report and account for 15 months instead of for 12 months. This will necessitate also an alteration in the dates when the dividends are paid. The interim dividend on the deferred ordinary stock will in future years be declared and paid at the end of February. The annual meeting will be held as near the end of August as is possible, when the final dividend on the deferred ordinary stock will be paid on July 15th and January 15th.

There is an important matter to which I wish to call your attention at this point. In our report we say that it is our intention to recommend the payment of a dividend on the deferred ordinary stock of 4 1/2 per cent. per annum for the 15 months ended on the 30th. Well, since that report was issued we have received advice from British Columbia that our business is increasing again in a manner which we had not anticipated. Even in view of the fact that the increase is more than we had ever expected, I have a note here in my hand that a large number of important buildings are going up in the city which require lighting, and for the last three months of 1902 the increase in the light supplied by us was nearly 2,000 lights per month, which means that although our lighting business has increased rapidly in the past, it is increasing at the present time practically at twice the rate. Now, in view of this and other expenditure the directors have had some consultation with the largest of the deferred ordinary stockholders, and it has been thought advisable that, instead of paying the whole of this dividend on the deferred ordinary stock in cash, we should pay 15 months' dividend by giving you ordinary shares representing that amount, and further that we should pay in January 1903 in cash the usual 4 per cent. per annum on the deferred ordinary shares. That, of course, will be an interim dividend.

"You have heard some mention in the proceedings which have taken place at previous meetings of the profit-sharing scheme in which the employees of the company in British Columbia participate. Now, this matter has had very serious consideration. It is a step which has not been taken by many companies, but we think you will agree that we have taken a wise step. We have in our employ a great many excellent workpeople, and we felt that we should establish the best possible relations between the company and its employees if we made them participants in the profits of the company. It has not been done because we are obliged to do something, but really as a matter of policy and with a desire that those who work for the company should take an interest in it, which they would not do if not participants in the profits, and at the same time to deal with them in a liberal manner, so that in the event of any difficulty they would be able to help us in the way of their own volition. We have not up to the present moment got all the capital that was asked for - we were asking for some \$75,000 - but we have a very large proportion of it, and we expect to get the remainder. I should say, referring again to the services of our people in British Columbia, that we have some very excellent officials here, but we should particularly mention the splendid services which have been rendered to the company by

our general manager, Mr. Buntzen. I think it would be difficult to find anyone who would give such splendid attention to the company's business, and of course very much has to depend upon what he does."

Hon. M. R. Gifford, C. M. G., seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously. The Chairman: "Are there any questions, gentlemen, that you wish to ask?" C. W. P. Slade: "I should like to ask, Mr. Chairman, in regard to the distribution of these deferred ordinary shares which you are going to make to the existing shareholders, into what multiples do you propose to divide them? I ask because there are a number of very small shareholders - people who hold three, four, or five shares. I do not see how you are going to meet their dividend."

The Chairman: "We are taking the right, which you will see from the resolution which comes on later, to pay small fractions in cash. I think if you leave that matter to the secretary and the directors we shall get it adjusted all right. It is not a matter of any vital importance, I think."

No further questions being asked, the resolutions approving the payment of the 4 per cent. dividend on the preferred ordinary stock for the year to March 31st, 1902, and sanctioning the payment of a dividend on the deferred ordinary stock for the 15 months of June 30th, 1902, at the rate of 4 1/2 per cent. per annum, payable by the allotment of ordinary shares, were put and carried unanimously. G. P. Norton and Hon. M. R. Gifford, the retiring directors, were re-elected, and Messrs. Pratt, Norton & Co. were reappointed auditors.

A vote of thanks to the chairman and directors closed the proceedings.

FATAL FALL DOWN AN ELEVATOR SHAFT Sad Accident in Spencer's Arcade By Which George Brown Lost His Life.

A terrible accident occurred in Spencer's Arcade about a quarter to two o'clock on Saturday, in which George Brown, who was employed in the carpet and furniture department, was instantly killed. He fell a distance of fifty or more feet down the freight elevator shaft, sustaining either a broken neck or a fracture of the base of the skull.

Several workmen saw him strike the basement and rushed to his assistance, while Doctors Frank Hall and Helmecken were summoned. Unfortunately it was a case in which medical skill was of no avail, the victim of the deplorable affair being dead. He was motionless when found.

As far as could be learned this afternoon the particulars of the sad affair are as follows: The freight elevator, which is situated in the eastern section of the building was passing the third floor bound upwards. Mr. Brown apparently wanted to go to the next floor, and attempted to step into it as it passed. His attempt was unnoticed by Mr. Brunell, the operator, who was managing the wheel, until he heard a shout. Turning around he saw the shaft door fall heavily on Mr. Brown's head, plunging him into the shaft. The door is one which raises several feet with the elevator as it passes, and automatically returns to its place as the apparatus proceeds upwards.

Mr. Brown was seen to strike at the bottom of the shaft on his neck and shoulders. Dr. Frank Hall says he either broke his neck or fractured the base of his skull. Mr. Brunell, who operates the elevator, says that Mr. Brown did not ring the bell or notify him to stop. In fact the first intimation he had of the unfortunate man's attempt to get on was his shout as the door struck him. It was then too late to help him, for it was the door which precipitated him below.

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Cyrus H. Bowes, CHEMIST, 96 Government St., Near Yates St. TELEPHONE 425. person of such absences, the government capita grant being based on the actual attendance. (b) The efficiency of the schools suffers from the fact that a considerable part of the teachers' energies must be directed to the giving of individual instruction to such irregular attenders. (c) The shifting or avoiding of any plain duty must have a bad moral effect on the characters of such children as are allowed to play fast and loose with school attendance. Therefore be it resolved by the Institute, that the Institute respectfully brings before the Victoria board of school trustees the fact that many children are absent repeatedly without sufficient reason for such absences, and that for the above-quoted reasons, as an Institute, deprecate such unnecessary absences. And further, that we very respectfully call the attention of the Victoria board of school trustees to the compulsory clause of the School Act, sections 79, 80, 81, and ask that body to put in force those sections of the act which deal with the matter. And further, that we point out to the board of school trustees that no extra machinery is needed to put the present law into force. If the trustees see fit to direct the principal of each school to furnish the city magistrate from week to week with the names of such absentees the thing would be done at once accomplished.

A Kingston, Jamaica, dispatch says the governor has issued an order raising the prohibition against the importation of Canadian cattle. The order against the importation of cattle from the United States is still enforced.

NOTICE. In the Supreme Court of British Columbia. In the Matter of the Title of Victoria Lodge, No. 1, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of the Parish of Louis and St. George, and in the Matter of the Title of the City of Victoria, British Columbia, and in the Matter of the "Quieting Titles Act." Notice is hereby given that any person or persons having an adverse claim or claims not recognized by the petition herein of Victoria Lodge, No. 1, I. O. O. F., to those parts of Victoria City lots numbered 40, 41 and 406, more particularly described as follows: "Commencing at a point on the east side line of Broad street, in the said City of Victoria, thence running in a southerly direction along the said east side line of Broad street to its intersection with Fort street, a distance of fifty-one feet, more or less, thence easterly along the north side line of said Fort street a distance of seventy-six feet, more or less, or less, thence at right angles in a westerly direction a distance of fifty-two feet more or less, thence in a straight line to a westerly direction to the place of commencement," or can show cause why a declaration of this title should not issue, and the petitioners herein under the "Quieting Titles Act" are hereby equitably and lawfully entitled to his or their claim, verified by affidavit, to be filed therewith on or before Friday, the twentieth day of February next, at 10:30 o'clock in the forenoon, at which time the said Declaration will be signed by one of the Justices of the Supreme Court, and issued to the said Victoria Lodge, No. 1, I. O. O. F. Adverse claims and affidavits of verification must be filed at the Registry of the Supreme Court, Victoria, British Columbia, and filed with the said Declaration, and affidavits of verification must be served upon the petitioners personally or upon the undersigned, Messrs. Fell & Gregory, Solicitors for the Petitioners, Board of Trade Building, Bastion Square, Victoria, B. C. FELL & GREGORY, Solicitors for the Petitioners. NOTICE. Thirty days after date I intend to apply to the Honorable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a license to prospect for coal on 640 acres of land situated on the north side of Quatsino Sound, commencing at a point on the beach marked E. Lawson, S. E. corner, and running thereon north 80 chains, thence west 80 chains, thence south 80 chains, thence east 80 chains back to the initial point, comprising 640 acres more or less. Dated at Quatsino this 27th day of December, 1902. PRINTING PRESS FOR SALE - The Colwell Press, on which the Daily Times was printed for several years. The bed is 32x47 inches, and in every respect the best in the city. The press is in excellent condition for small daily or weekly offices. It cost \$1,200; will be sold for \$600 cash. FRUIT TREES, 177c. - New catalogue, post free. Mr. Toimie Nursey, Victoria, B.C. FOR SALE - Millstream line. Apply at Toimie's Wharf; telephone 523. A. Fink & Sons.

VOL. 34. HE PERISHED IN THE SNOWS BODY OF MISSING C.P.R. ENGINEER Montreal Alderman Investigates a R mission to Wants a C Against Police.

Winnipeg, Feb. 16.-The Winnipeg travelling engineer P. R., who perished near Batt P. R., reached Saskatoon on Thursday, and in the afternoon had missed the tent about all night and was only found search party at sunset on the Friday alongside the trail.

Winnipeg's Population. The new Winnipeg city directory issued, estimates Winnipeg's population at 43,500. Of the thousands of odd names that were in the 1870s only 85 appear in the new directory of 1901 gave a population of 336.

Forgery. Within the past two days a case of forgery has developed. Some time recently a number of grain tickets were stolen from E. O'Reilly, at Chatter. The forger, O'Reilly, agent at Chatter, forged on a certain number of tickets and on these L. S. Patterson advanced of \$15,000 from the British North America at Brandon, Western freight association is now working on the case and the interested have been keeping it as possible. Another elevator at Forest is understood to have tickets in this case was six, and the Imperial Bank at Brandon a \$1,300. The authorities are not trail of Patterson, endeavoring his arrest.

Railway Charges. General Superintendent Leach of the C. P. R. has left for Montreal on business in connection with the Western division, changes which will be current at once purporting to affect some of officials of both the Western, Pacific and Great Northern railways. In railway divisions have been changes in the Western division. It is reported K. McNeill, C. P. R. car service here, has been notified that he transferred to Montreal. Mr. Gregor, who has been notified that he transferred to Montreal. Mr. R. baggage master here for Montreal has resigned.

The weather to-day and yesterday being the coldest of the winter, a heavy rain has ranged from 30 to 40 degrees below zero. Badly Frozen. Miss Annie Gillespie, a school teacher of Ochoe River, lost her way street this morning, and when her face and hands were badly frozen she was taken to the hospital.

A Busy Superintendent. Toronto, Feb. 16.-In connection with the proposed union of the Pres and Methodist home mission work, Dr. E. D. McLaren, Presbyterian minister, is setting out immediately for Toronto. He will attend a meeting of the synodical conference of British Columbia. In the meeting he will be at Winnipeg part in deliberations on the proposed union of the Methodist and the West Territories. He will then to Toronto and attend a general mission committee.

Montreal Scandal. Montreal, Feb. 16.-Some time ago a city council named a committee to investigate certain charges of vice by members of the police force. The committee held a session for the purpose, but when it met to discuss the matter it was adjourned. The committee was then reconstituted and a session for the purpose of investigating the charges was held. The committee held a session for the purpose of investigating the charges, but when it met to discuss the matter it was adjourned. The committee was then reconstituted and a session for the purpose of investigating the charges was held. The committee held a session for the purpose of investigating the charges, but when it met to discuss the matter it was adjourned. The committee was then reconstituted and a session for the purpose of investigating the charges was held.