MASSACRE BY MANCHU TROOPS

MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE SLAIN

Large Section of Native City of Nanking Destroyed by Fire

Nanking, Nov. 10.—Historic Nanking this evening is in the shade of Manchu butchery. The sun set upon a scene of fire, rapine, desolation and butchery, unrivalled in modern history. To-night 12,000 Manchu and Imperial old style soldiers hold Purple Hill, where they are entrenched, while from beneath their stronghold they are driving before them hordes of Chinese out of the city.

Innocent Chinese leaving everything behind them are fleeing terror-stricken and destitute to the fields at the rear of the former forces. The latter numbering between 20,000 and 30,000 are impotent to check the slaughter or avenge the slain because of their lack of ammunition.

Last night the rebels made a demonstration, but did no shooting and there were few casualties. The main body of the reformers remained in camp, three miles distant from the city, awaiting the arrival of ammunition which is coming in boats up the river and brought across the country on packhorses. Reinforcements also are coming from every direction. They are raw and ragged recruits but are determined and the final battle promises to be desperate.

Foreigners are being treated with the utmost consideration. When the gates were opened to-day the people thronged towards the country, each carrying his belongings and driven by the Imperialists. Soon afterward the carnage began.

Since the night when the first attack was made by the rebels, the Tartar general has endeavored to terrorize the inhabitants by wholesale executions. Those whose queues had been cut off were beheaded, but to-day when the order for a general slaughter was given the whole native city was instantly set upon by Manchu soldiers, who massacred them right and left. Even the aged and women and babes in arms were shown no mercy.

Thousands of Chinese poured from the gates at noon to-day. It was estimated fully 70,000 persons had escaped. Before nightfall 20,000 more, representing every class, the merchants, the moneyed men, and coilies had left.

Meanwhile the Manchus scoured the narrow streets of the city and the homes of wealthy merchants were sacked. Any queueless Chinese were beheaded immediately.

The Associated Press correspondent saw several women executed and their children stabbed and trampled under foot. The order appeared to be that anyone wearing white, which suggested the whote badge worn by the reformers, must be killed forthwith. A white pocket handkerchief marked the possessor for death. White shoes, which are worn by the Chinese as a sign of mourning, were a signal for the execution of the wearer. The horror of the massacre cannot be described. An attempt to-night to estimate the number of innocent persons and non-combatants slain would be futile.

A Chinese wearing foreign clothing immediately became a victims of his taste, but foreigners were not molested.

Their protests against the massacres, however, were disregarded and even laughed at.

The correspondents of the Associated Press worked throughout the day within the outer walls of the city, eight miles from the telegraph station, with which they communicated and to which they were permitted access through the courtesy of the railway officials.

Fires sprang up everywhere, and a large section of the native city was burned.

To-night the Manchus, driven to bay and glutted with blood, having slain thousands, watched the flames from Purple Mountain and to await the morrow.

CITY LOSES APPEAL.

Appellate Court Upholds Opinion of Supreme Court on Right to Sell Liquor With Meals.

The Court of Appeal now sitting at Vancouver has delivered judgment in the case of the city of Victoria against Levy, upholding the lower court decision in which the defendant won.

The case was brought by the city to test the liquor by-law, and in the police court the defendant was convicted of selling liquor with a meal after the regular closing hours named in the by-law.

The Supreme Court reversed the decision and the Appeal Court has upheld the Supreme Court, so that it is now determined to be legal that liquor can be supplied in restaurants with meals at all hours.

The Appeal Court judgment was given with three of the judges in favor of the defendant, and one, Mr. Justice Irving, in favor of the city of Victoria. Chief Justice Macdonald held that the sections under which the city asked a verdict overlapped.

GUARDING STRIKE BREAKERS.

Schenectady, N. Y., Nov. 10.—Three carloads of strike-breakers who began work Wednesday in the boilershops of the American Locomotive Company's plant here, where 5,000 boilermakers and helpers have been on strike for two weeks, are under the protection of armed guards. Two powerful searchlights are being operated at night from the buildings, and a twenty-foot fence has been erected about the shops. The strikebreakers are being housed and fed within the plant. The boilermakers went out when they were asked to work on New York Central engines. They stated that as long as the New York Central boilermakers were on strike they would not do the work.

ACTION TO OUST THE COUNTRY CLUB

Suit Brought by City Regarding Race Track May Be Tried Next Month

The action brought by the city of Victoria against the Victoria Country Club to oust the club from possession of the race track at the Willows, held under the original lease given by the city at the time of the sixty-day meeting, came before Mr. Justice Gregory in chambers this morning when H. W. R. Moore appearing for the Country Club, asked that the city furnish further and better particulars of the faults alleged in the complaint by the city. Mr. Moore asked for specific mention of the alleged breaches of agreement.

F. A. McDiarmid, city solicitor, held that the city having furnished a general complaint had done sufficient, as the complaint covered the grounds on which the suit is brought. Mr. Justice Gregory said that the city had no ground at present and could not obtain a hearing of the action until specific particulars as asked for by Mr. Moore were furnished.

The matter had been in abeyance for some time but now it has been reopened it may be proceeded with as soon as the particulars are furnished. When these are received by the defendants the date of trial will be set, and the much argued position of the city and the Country Club in regard to the lease of the race track be decided. The city claims that the club has violated its agreement by allowing betting on the grounds and by selling liquor.

BOY KILLED.

North Yakima, Wash., Nov. 11.—Missing his six-year-old boy, Melvin David Longmire, a rancher of the Wenassas, setting out to look for the little lad found the boy dead, hanging by his foot to the stirrup of a horse he had been riding. It is thought that the child's foot became entangled and he fell, his head striking the horse's hoofs.

PILOT WHO BROUGHT ISLANDER HERE DEAD

Capt. Geo. W. Robertson Passes Away at Vancouver Death Comes as Shock

Death has removed from Pacific Coast shipping circles one of the foremost seafaring men in the person of Capt. George W. Robertson, who passed away at his residence in the Terminal City at midnight on Thursday, after a short illness from diabetes. Being a Vancouver pilot he made frequent visits to this port to guide the big steamships through the intricate channels to the mainland city, and the news of the passing away of the well known skipper was received here this morning with sincere regret.

For many years the late Capt. Robertson resided in this city before removing to Vancouver, and outside of marine circles he had a host of friends. He is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Tripp, residing here, and his son, Capt. Douglas Robertson, late master of the steamer Princess Beatrice, also a resident of this city, both of whom have the sympathy of their friends in the hour of sorrow.

Capt. Robertson was born in Birkenhead, Eng., in 1851, and when fifteen years of age commenced his sea-faring career. For many years he sailed in deep water steamships, and in 1877 joined the service of the Cunard line as second officer on the steamship Etruria. He was later promoted to chief officer on the ship, and was transferred to other vessels of the fleet. When work was commenced in 1887 by the Canadian Pacific Navigation Company in building the ill-fated steamer Islander on the Clyde, Captain Robertson was engaged as superintendent of the construction of the vessel. When she was completed the deceased brought her to Victoria in 1888 via Cape Horn, and has ever since resided on this coast. For about a year the captain remained in the service of the C. P. N. when he entered the Vancouver pilotage.

The late Capt. Robertson was one of the best known Vancouver pilots. He was of a jovial disposition, and while waiting for the liners to arrive at the outer docks was always entertaining shipping men with his favorite sea yarns. He was popular with all the deep sea captains, and his piloted nearly every ship which calls here from this port to Vancouver.

BLAST WRECKS WINDOWS.

North Vancouver, Nov. 10.—Residents in the neighborhood of First street and Lonsdale avenue were startled yesterday afternoon by a tremendous explosion, followed by the sound of breaking glass. Rushing out into the street, a number of people saw that men employed in the excavation work on the new theatre had exploded a charge of powder, tearing up the ground and sending the debris in all directions. Many windows in the neighborhood were broken and one piece of earth was hurled two blocks away, landing on the esplanade.

Men of the local police force soon arrived on the scene and after making inquiries arrested Kenneth Stergeon and Eric Stoneham on a charge of careless blasting. They were taken to the police station and later let out on bail of $700 each.

An Italian statistician estimates the number of strangers visiting Italy at not under seventy thousand a year, and their expenditure at about $200,000 a day, an annual income for the country of more than $60,000,000.

NO CIVIC CENSUS WILL BE TAKEN

DEPUTATION OPPOSES LIMITATION OF SIGNS

Plans Are Being Prepared for the New Police Station

At the city council meeting on Friday a number of matters were dealt with apart from the city engineer's report on his department, and the important memoranda dealing with Sooke Lake water supply from the consulting engineer, Wynne Meredith, referred to elsewhere. The finance committee briefly reported there were no funds to take another census, and this report was adopted without debate.

A delegation of merchants waited on the city council with reference to the electric signs on the streets which will be limited after June 1, 1912, under the new streets by-law.

H. Pooley spoke on behalf of E. A. Morris and other petitioners, urging that capital had been invested in these means of advertising in his clients' case of nearly $600, and they could not see the necessity of removing the signs, which were no obstruction, and assisted materially in the lighting of the streets.

Mr. Young energetically denounced the proposed regulations as a direct inducement to thieves and rogues, and showed little sympathy with the cluster lighting system now being installed.

The mayor promised that the council would give the matter due consideration when it came up again. The deputation then withdrew.

Two communications on behalf of motor manufacturers in connection with the fire chief's automobile were read, complaining that the specifications for the car were practically a copy of the specifications of the Speedwell Company, of Dayton, Ohio, and as such only that company could manufacture the car.

Fire Chief Davis denied that the specifications were copied from the catalogue of this company, but drawn up from various catalogues of different companies, and the letters were prompted by jealousy.

Ald. W. F. Fullerton said it was a question between the chief, who was to use the machine, and the manufacturers, who wished to make it as they chose.

Ald. Langley said they wished to give all a fair deal in inviting tenders.

The communications were laid on the table to come up later in the evening.

When the tenders came up only one was received from the Victoria Motor Company, at a cost of $3,900, but the fire chief said the tenders should come from fire apparatus specialists, who made cars for fire chiefs, and he had received telegrams that day from two people asking for further time for tenders. He added that the tenders he had received by wire were about $4,000. The council decided to call for new tenders.

The provincial secretary, Dr. Young, wrote saying the application for the extension of the city boundaries would be brought before the premier on his return from the east, and the council would be duly notified of the date. The special committee to look in to the details of the scheme has not yet met, but will do so before the conference with the provincial executive. The letter was received and filed.

Building Inspector W. W. Northcott reported that the architect for the police station, J. C. M. Keith, will have the plans for the new buildings ready by November 16. The letter was received, Mayor Morley making no comment on this matter, which has provoked so much controversy, and upon which he has exercised his veto, and the council has overruled his action.

The secretary of the Victoria Building Exchange, W. J. Cox, wrote on behalf of the exchange asking for no action of the council on the building by-law till the exchange had had further opportunity to consider the matter.

The council has had only time to commence consideration of the by-law, and the request of the building exchange will therefore be complied with.

The medical officer of health, Dr. G. A. B. Hall, drew attention to the unsanitary condition of the stables occupied by the pound-keeper, and it was left to the keeper to make some temperary arrangement till the city yard is reorganized, the old stables on the site of the proposed new High school being suggested as the present location for the horses pending reorganization.

The lowest tenders for printing the civic voters' lists were as follows: T. R. Cusack, $2.30 per page for the mayor's list, and the Victoria Printing & Publishing for printing the ward lists at $2.39 per page. There were four tenders in each cases for 150 copies. The council approved the report, letting the contracts as above.

BONAR LAW TO LEAD UNIONISTS

London, Nov. 10.—That Andrew Bonar Law would be unanimously selected at a caucus on Monday as Unionist leader in the House of Commons in succession to A. J. Balfour, whose resignation was announced November 8, was given official confirmation to-day. The other candidates, J. Austen Chamberlain and Walter Long, withdrew.

Mr. Law, [illegible] from New Brunswick, e[illegible] [illegible]liament in 1900.

BOWSER TELLS OF OTTAWA TRIP

NO ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING RESULTS

Discussed the Question of Purse Seine Fishing Licenses

Ottawa, Nov. 9.—Before leaving for the coast to-day, Hon. W. J. Bowser said:

"We have had a very satisfactory visit. Speaking for the premier, Mr. Ross and myself, I can say that our reception was in marked contrast to the chilling ones we received on the occasions of former trips. In the course of a few hours' negotiations we have been able to wipe out a great deal of misunderstanding of other years between the two governments. As time goes on, we expect to get definite answers on all the questions discussed. In a few instances conclusions have already been reached, but one or two of these are not ready for announcement."

Armed with his special knowledge as fisheries commissioner in British Columbia, Mr. Bowser took up with the marine department the question of the issue of special purse seine fishing licenses by the late government in the West. On this subject he said:

"Besides a great number of applications for foreshore, I find in the department that scores of speculative fishing licenses had been issued. Some of these are to persons in Vancouver, while a great many are now held by people in Victoria and other places on the coast. I pressed strongly that if on investigation it was found that these licenses were held by persons who would not erect canneries, then cancellation should follow. I have no doubt but that this will be done, because Mr. Hazen thinks as I do about it. These licenses are not given to be hawked around for sale. Some new licenses were issued just before the election. I understand, and since the preparation of a list with which our provincial fisheries department was furnished some time ago, and they as well as the older ones will be subject to investigation."

"While we are on this subject," said Mr. Bowser, "I might add that we have the assurance of the minister that the matter of building suitable fishery protection steamers will be given first attention."

Mr. Bowser is keen on the cultivation of Manitoba whitefish and lobsters on the coast, and has completed arrangements to this end. November is the best month for transplanting and a shipment of five million eggs of whitefish will be sent immediately, and will be installed in electric jars in the coming salmon hatchery at Harrison, B. C. When in the fry stage they will be liberated in the Harrison and Shuswap lakes.

Another shipment of lobsters will be sent later. Years ago, under the direction of Prof. E. E. Prince, Nova Scotian lobsters were transplanted in various selected spots in the Gulf of Georgia. When, a few months later, a government steamer went around to call on them the lobsters were not at home. They have not been seen since, and it is presumed that they did not find the eclimate congenial. [illegible] year Mr. Bowser has been asking every lobster expert he met, even during his trip to the coronation, about the habits of his pets. And now he is ready to try again. The lobsters will be slipped overboard in the sunny sands of Boundary Bay, 20 miles south of Vancouver. The merit of the location lies in the fact that the tide leaves a bar flat of six or seven miles which, in summer warms the incoming waters. Most of the king crabs eaten in Vancouver come from Boundary Bay. If the red fellows won't grow there, Mr. Bowser is likely to give them up as a bad job and leave the Nova Scotians with a monopoly.

STOWAWAY BOY PUT ON DESERTED SHORE

Master of Alemeda in Wrath, Lands Youth on Bleak Coast —Passengers Protest

Seattle, Nov. 10.—On the bleakest shore of San Juan Island, miles from the nearest habitation, without food or shelter, a boy 11 years old, a stowaway aboard the steamer Alameda, was put ashore by Captain John Johnson yesterday. The boy was found in the steerage soon after the vessel left Valdez and was put to work by members of the crew. All went well until Captain Johnson learned that he was aboard and determined to put him ashore before Seattle was reached.

Several of the passengers who had learned of the boy's plight appealed to the vessel's master, offering to give double the amount of his passage if he were allowed to continue the voyage, but Johnson was deaf to their entreaties. In a lifeboat, in charge of the third mate and two sailors, the boy was landed on the beach despite the protests of passengers and left to walk without food or money to the nearest ranch.

Soon after the return of the lifeboat and when the passengers learned that the little fellow was thinly-clad, and did not even have a coat, a meeting was called and after Captain Johnson had been criticized, resolutions protesting against the treatment of the little fellow were adopted. A wireless message was also sent to officials of the Alaska Steamship Company advising them of the action of their employee.

B. C. FISHERIES DURING SEPTEMBER

Half the Value of Dominion Sea Fisheries Taken in Provincial Waters

Interesting comparisons with the fisheries of the British Isles are given in the monthly bulletin of the department of marine and fisheries just issued, covering the month of September. Comparative figures for Newfoundland and Norway are also published. The total value of the catch in Canada was $2,520,894, or $1,176,110 for the six months ending September 30, this representing all sea fish caught and landed in a fresh or green state.

Of the salmon catch amounting to 144,879 cwts., practically all comes from this province, and is valued at $1,115,234. Composing this total the northern district of British Columbia contributes 14,000 cwts., the southern 126,000, and the Vancouver district 4,500. Of course the season is practically over, or else the takings would have shown much larger results. However the bulletin does not give comparative figures with other years. This total of British Columbia salmon includes 196,000 cases of canned fish and small quantities of dry salted and smoked varieties, about 8,000 cwts. only being used fresh, or frozen for dispatch to the East and the Orient.

Next to the salmon industry, that of halibut ranks in the province in importance, and of the 23,744 cwts. taken, valued at $124,791 throughout the Dominion, British Columbia contributes about 13,000 cwts., of which the value is about $60,000, the whole of it being marketed. Nova Scotia is the only other province which affords any practical contribution to the halibut fisheries of the Dominion.

The third principal fishery of the province, that of the herring, which is confined to Vancouver Island, accounts for 6,450 cwts. of fish fresh caught, and these are valued at $8,000. This is but a small fragment of the herring catch for the Dominion, which amounts to nearly 100,000 cwts., Nova Scotia supplying 50,000, and New Brunswick 30,000 cwts. of the balance.

Cod ranks fourth in importance with 1,667 cwts. valued at $8,335, so far as British Columbia is concerned, a mere fraction of the 515,000 cwts. taken in the month throughout the Dominion, no less than 440,000 cwts. being taken in Nova Scotia, though the scarcity of bait and the abundance of dogfish made a considerable difference to some of the chief fishing counties of the Atlantic province.

Seven devilfish are reported to have been caught in the province, and apparently are valued at $7 a head, though the majority of fishermen would rather be without them, and are the only ones taken in the Dominion during the thirty days under review. The clam industry amounts to 447 barrels, worth about $2 a barrel, and other fish frequenting British Columbia waters noticed in the report are flounders, smelts, soles, oolichans and skate, while 137 cwts. of shell fish were captured. The total value of the British Columbia fisheries for September was thus $1,234,240 or forty-nine per cent. of the fisheries of the Dominion.

NANAIMO BOARD OF TRADE.

New Officers are Elected—Proposed Visit to Alberni.

Nanaimo, Nov. 10.—The council of the Board of Trade met last night in the offices of the Citizens' League, when the resignations of President H. Mahrer, Vice-president E. H. Bird, Secretary W. F. Norris and Treasurer J. M. Rudd, who were the officers when the Board of Trade was in existence several years ago, were received and accepted. New officers were elected as follows: President, John W. Coburn; vice-president, Jno. Shaw; treasurer, H. Mahrer.

It was decided to call for the applications for the position of secretary, in the meantime W. F. Norris to act as secretary pro tem.

A committee consisting of Messrs. E. H. Bird, Jno. Shaw, C. H. Beevor-Potts and J. M. Rudd was appointed to revise the by-laws and it was decided to assume the assets and liabilities of the Citizens' League.

The question of the members of the Board of Trade paying an official visit to Alberni on the opening of the railroad to the West Coast terminus was discussed, and the secretary was instructed to communicate with the Alberni Board of Trade in the matter. Votes of thanks were tendered the retiring officers and congratulations were extended to those responsible for the reorganization of the board.

STORE AND POOLROOM BURNED.

South Vancouver, Nov. 10.—Only the prompt work of the fire brigade volunteer residents in the district prevented one of the most disastrous fires in the history of Collingwood. As it was damage to the extent of about $9,000 was done by the flames. The blaze started in the rear of the stores owned by Joseph Powe and the poolroom of James Dodd on the Joyce road, Collingwood East.

A high wind was blowing at the time which greatly increased the difficulty of fighting the fire and drove the flames towards the premises of the Manitoba Hardware Company; also threatening other buildings in the neighborhood. Fortunately the conflagration was got under control, although the walls of the Manitoba Hardware Company's building were badly scorched. Mr. Powe lost $3,500 in stock and Mr. Dodd $2,500.

FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

Nanaimo, Nov. 10.—At the general meeting of the Nanaimo-Cedar Farmers' Institute the following officers and directors were elected for the ensuing year: H. B. Greaves, president; Samuel Mottishaw, vice-president; Herbert Skinner, secretary-treasurer; directors, John Stewart of Ladysmith, John Stewart of Stark's Crossing, Robert F. Hickey, W. N. Shaw, Wm. Kidd, Wm. Thomas and Thos. Cunningham.

PICKS UP WIRELESS FROM LINER MARAMA

Operator at Estevan Hears Australian Steamship 1,700 Miles at Sea—Due Tuesday

Early on Friday the wireless operator at Estevan picked up a message from the Canadian-Australian liner Marama, Capt. Morrisby, which is now en route to this port from Sydney via Auckland, N. Z. At 2 a. m. the steamship reported her position as being 1,700 miles from Victoria and shipping men figure that she will reach the outer docks late Tuesday afternoon.

Last Tuesday the Marama was reported clearing from Honolulu with a full complement of passengers and about 1,500 tons of general freight. The Australian boats are always crowded with travellers and the new steamships, now in course of construction for this run, cannot be ready for service any too soon. There is not an available berth on the Marama and the agents say that nearly all the staterooms have been sold for her next southbound passage.

Another trans-Pacific royal mail steamship, the Monteagle, Capt. Davison, will sail on Wednesday next for Yokohama and Hongkong. She is now at Vancouver loading a large cargo of wheat for Oriental ports. The coasting steamer Princess Ena has reached the Terminal City from Seattle with 1,000 tons of flour and is transferring it into the holds of the Monteagle. Besides this freight the steamship will have consignments of machinery, cotton, condensed milk and salmon.

Next Wednesday the Canadian-Mexican liner Strathdene, which has been chartered to make one trip in the service, will clear from here for Salina Cruz with a full cargo of coal and lumber. The big freighter is to replace the steamship Henley, Capt. Masters, which is en route north from Mexican ports and is expected on November 20.

SEWER WORK AND OAK BAY OUTFALL

Special Committee Was Appointed Before Contract is Let—City Finances

At the city council meeting on Friday a discussion took place on the Oak Bay sewerage outfall, in which scheme the city is largely bound up, the adjacent municipality offering a straight contribution of $35,000 for their share of the scheme and outfall works, and leaving the arrangements for the work to the city authorities. The total cost of the works proposed to be let were $95,659, of which $5,823 was for the cost of expropriating a right of way for the big drain.

A long discussion took place as to whether the work should be done by day labor or by contract, the advocates of the latter course taking the view that the contractors might lose on the work should rock be encountered, and if the city did the excavation and ran into material which cost more than the contemplated expenditure they would have to foot the bill, as Oak Bay would not agree to any other proposal than a straight contribution.

Alderman W. F. Fullerton moved that the work should be done by day labor, and the offer of the municipality accepted, and Ald. Okell seconded.

Alderman H. M. Fullerton proposed, and Ald. Langley seconded an amendment that tenders should be invited for the whole work on the lump sum basis.

Another amendment was then proposed by Ald. Humber, and seconded by Ald. Gleason, to appoint a special committee to bring in a recommendation on the matter, and the second amendment was then agreed to on a division, by a majority vote. The committee appointed will be Aldermen Moresby (chairman of the sewerage committee), Humber and Gleason.

Hon. J. S. Helmcken again wrote with reference to the proposed widening of Douglas street, for which purpose some of his property will be expropriated, the letter being of the same tenor as his previous communications, and the city solicitor will reply as to certain legal features contained therein.

An application from J. D. Taylor and other owners on Gorge road for an increase of the city proportion of the cost of street improvements on that trunk thoroughfare from thirty-three to fifty per cent., was read, and led to a debate on the scheduled streets which ought to be treated as trunk roads upon which the council shall pay one-half, and a report on the subject will be prepared.

Alderman Moresby's resolution asking for information about the state of the city finances was replied to in a report from the controller, Mr. Raymur, which stated that the city's overdraft at the end of October was $1,791,327.64, compared with $1,063,646.63 on January 1, the amount steadily increasing until August, when the city's indebtedness to the bank was $2,165,479.78, and since then the amount has been reduced, the receipt of taxes during October permitting the wiping out of the sum of $569,019 borrowed for current revenue account. Of the overdraft $1,765,324.22 has been borrowed on local improvement account to permit of the carrying out of improvement works pending the sale of debentures. On Thursday the council decided to sell one million and a half dollars worth, or six-seventeenths of the total overdraft, which will bring the adverse balance down materially.

Better a girl who can sing and won't than one who can't sing and will.

FIRST ATTACK ON BUILDING BY-LAW

COUNCIL DISCUSSES IT SEVERAL HOURS

Several Important Amendments Suggested by Builders Exchange

The city council of Victoria spent three hours Thursday night considering the new building by-law and at the end of the session they had the satisfaction of knowing that a quarter of the bulky measure had been dealt with. Under the circumstances the meeting was unusually quiet throughout, each member of the board contributing his suggestions and amendments without the suspicion of antagonism. A delegation from the Builders' Exchange waited upon the council and urged several amendments, one of which was the abolition of the charge for building permits. Already the measure had received the approval of the Architects' Association and in its present form contains many of that body's views on the subject.

Those who represented the Builders' Exchange were Messrs. J. W. Bolden, McDonald, Parfitt, D. B. Plunkett and W. J. Cox. Each speaker declared himself against the policy of charging for building permits, saying that it was not in the best interest of the city or the builder. In the event of the council deciding to retain the principle they recommended that the fee should be fixed at $1 for the first $1,000 value and twenty-five cents for every additional thousand. This view, while it met with some criticism from one or two of the aldermen, was on the whole received favorably. The matter was not disposed of Thursday and it is possible that when the measure finally passes into law it will contain provisions along these lines.

Another important point which the deputation of the Builders' Exchange called to the attention of the council with a request for amendment was that relating to the roofs of dwelling houses. They suggested that provision should be made in the by-law for the abolition of one-half inch of asbestos paper or mortar under the shingles, in order to permit of the shingles being laid directly upon the roofing and painted.

This proposed amendment received the ardent support of Fire Chief Davis, who took the opportunity of addressing the council upon the subject and impressing the necessity for such an amendment. He stated that 50 per cent of the fires in the city of Victoria had started in the roofs of dwellings, and therefore from the point of view of fire protection the amendment was to be commended. Better support for metal cornices on buildings was also urged in the interest of the fire fighters who might, in the event of a fire, have to rely upon them as stances.

After going fully into the matter of the roof fires the council decided to amend the measure by abolishing the mortar and asbestos provision and inserting a clause calling for two coats of fireproof paint.

An important suggestion which the deputation placed before the council was to the effect that a board of arbitration should be appointed to settle all disputes as to value, etc., that might arise between builders and the building inspector. While welcoming the suggestion the council did not think this was a matter that could be disposed of at a sitting, and consequently nothing was done in this connection. At the present time it was stated that differences arose and on account of the lack of appeal the builders sometimes suffered, as they might not be called upon to do if an arbitration board existed to whom they could bring their complaints.

The first class fire limits, that is the area within which only buildings of the first class can be erected, was dealt with in a preliminary manner, nothing definite being decided upon. The suggestion was made that the limits should be extended to the south of Humboldt street, and as there appeared to be a division of opinion on the matter a small committee was appointed to consider the whole question of differentiation and report back to the council. At the present time the limits commence at Pandora avenue, east of Douglas street; thence south to Broughton street; thence west to Langley street; thence north to Cormorant street; and thence east along Cormorant street and Pandora avenue to the point of commencement.

This new area represents the select location within which only first class buildings are to be erected. Beyond that lies the present fire limit area, within which buildings of the class B order, that is, buildings in the construction or operation of which more inflammable material is used, can be erected; and beyond that again is the large open sphere wherein the frame building and the dwelling house will reign supreme.

Thursday's session, while long and interesting, did not do more than touch the fringe of the measure. A number of special meetings will have to be held before the measure is finally disposed of.

THANKS U. S. CONSUL.

Tripoli, Nov. 10.—General Caneva, commanding Italian forces, yesterday issued an official note in which he thanked the American consul, Mr. Wood, for his "loyal conduct," towards Italy in deciding not to leave Tripoli aboard the American cruiser Chester, and for having cabled to Washington that all was quiet at Tripoli and the foreign consulates in no danger.

The Italians understand that the Chester was ordered here in consequence of the false reports emanating from Constantinople that Tripoli was about to be retaken by the Turks.