The Greater Vancouver CHINOOK

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The Week's Business at South Vancouver Municipal Hall

Question of a Garbage Incinerating Plant is Discussed and Action Taken

A special meeting of the council was held last Thursday afternoon, the chief item of business being the consideration of the report from the delegation of councillors and from the solicitor, who visited Victoria in regard to the desired legislation to permit the issuance of treasury certificates against deferred taxes. The deputation, which consisted of Solicitor Donaghy, Councillors Allen, Rowlings, Stanley, Street and Welsh, reported that they had done all it was possible to do, but had been unable to secure any promise from the representatives of the government that anything would be done, the only promise that could be obtained being, that their case would receive careful consideration, the usual and hopeless answer of the Bowser-McBride machine.

The request for a grant which the delegates made for the purpose of work being started on the paving of Fraser Avenue or River Road was flatly turned down, the councillors being reminded that when the grant was given for the paving of Kingsway, the understanding was that no more grants for road paving would be made to this municipality for three or four years to come. The only little hope of assistance in this way would be, from a share in the grant towards maintenance of trunk roads in Richmond district.

The question of reapportionment of the assessment of the various municipalities had been taken up fully, with the Hon. Thomas Taylor, and objections were made against the present rate of assessment. The deputation suggested that an independent assessor be appointed. Councillor Welsh pointed out that in this suggestion South Vancouver, being already over-assessed, had nothing to lose and a chance to gain, by an independent assessor being appointed with power to act and his decision to be final.

A protest was also made against the proposed reapportionment of cost as between vancouver city and the municipality and against the proposed increase in the representation of Vancouver city, and from the stand taken by the Hon. Mr. Taylor, it was felt that the city would not get the additional representative asked for.

Following this report, Councillor Russell protested that $180 had been wasted by so many going to Victoria, and in his opinion that money could have been much better spent in the municipality in work for the unemployed men; he claimed it was a shame that such a large delegation had been sent at a time when so many men were practically starving and requiring help.

A communication was read from the solicitors of Mrs. Kalenberg re the claim for damages to her property. The council had made an offer of $1,500 in settlement of the claim, but this was refused. The claimant now offered to settle for $3,000, or allow the claim to be settled by arbitration. A committee consisting of Councillors Stanley ,Rowlings, and Welsh was appointed to confer with the municipal solicitor and appoint an arbitrator.

Messrs. Wilson and Black were present in the council chamber, appearing before the council on behalf of a number of property owners on Thirty-fifth Avenue and Kingsway, asking for a settlement of a claim made against last year's council, because of certain property taken by the municipality for road purposes and the owners never having been paid for the same. Speaking to Messrs. Wilcox and Black, Reeve Gold stated it was not the policy of this year's council to confirm the policy or actions of last year's council, but in this case an exception would be made. A motion was made and carried that the claim be paid when funds were available for the same.

A letter was read from Mr. H. H. Stevens, being an answer to a letter from the council asking that the work on the new post office for South Vancouver, for which $60,000 had been granted, should be hastened so that the men in South Vancouver might have work. The letter stated that it would be impossible to start work at once, but arrangements will be made to have the work started at an early date.

The school board extraordinary estimates were to have been considered at this meeting, but no communication had been received from the board and Councillor Campbell suggested that the members of th school board should be asked to appear before the council, so that the matter could be gone into fully, and the clerk was authorised to communicate with the board to this effect.

Reeve Gold read a letter from an annonymous writer, asking the reeve to investigate as to whether a certain councillor was a British subject. The reeve stated he declined at any time to take any notice of such communications and if any one wanted to have anything investigated, they must sign their name and address to their communication. Councillor Allen said the place for such communications was in the waste paper basket.

Considerable discussion arose over the amount of salary to be paid the newly appointed chaffeur mechanic, also the electrician, the former chaffeur having resigned because of a proposed reduction of his wages to $85 per month, and the proposal was made to give the new man $90. Councillor Campbell pointed out that this did not look much like a policy of retrenchment but rather like a policy of extravagance, but ultimately it was agreed, with the reeve showing that the newly appointed chaffeur was an expert mechanic, that the salary be $90 per month. The electrician's salary was placed at $90 per month.

A committee with Councillor Russell as chairman was appointed to investigate the personnel of the building inspector's office, and to bring in a report of same to the next council meeting.

Tenders for 4000 feet of 12-inch steel pipe were considered and it was found that the City of Vancouver had in the lowest tender, their price being $140 per 100 feet. The tender was accepted on condition that this pipe conform to the specifications of the council.

The matter of supplies was next dealt with, and it was decided that all office supplies be listed and advertisements be put in the papers calling for tenders for the same, and also that on the 1st and 15th of each month, the storekeeper prepare a list of the supplies wanted, and those wishing to tender for them do so by sealed tender, the same to be opened and decided upon at the following council meeting. The meeting then adjourned.

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A special meeting of the board of works was held on Friday, when many matters in connection with this department were considered.

A communication was read from the Saanich municipality regarding the purchase of the steam roller and steam wagon, and this was the cause of considerable discussion. It was agreed, after full consideration, to place a price of $55,000 on the roller and wagon, and offer them to the Saanich municipality at this price, also agreeing to have them overhauled and put in good working condition.

The engineer brought before the committee the question of rock breaking in the municipality, stating that there was still considerable rock to be broken in some of the wards, and asking for definite instructions regarding the placing of men to work upon the job. It was agreed that the men in the municipality be given rock to break at $1.50 per yard, and each man only to allowed to break six yards at a time. Complaint was made that some Italians had been getting all of this work and had been making up to $30 per week at it. This will be stopped and the men put to work as ordered by the council.

The meeting at this point resolved itself into a full council meeting, Councillor Russell, as chairman of the board of works, vacating the chair and the reeve taking his place. A resolution was passed authorising the clerk and the reeve to visit Victoria for the purpose of interviewing the government and try to get some assistance for the unemployed men of the municipality, also to try and hurry legislation to allow the municipality to proceed with the sale of treasury certificates against unpaid taxes. It is necessary for the municipality to raise $102,000 for interest on South Vancouver stock sold in London, England. This money must be in London by April 1st, and the money must therefore leave Vancouver by March 10th to arrive in time to meet the payment due by the municipality.

Considerable discusiion arose over a request sent in by a workman who had worked for the waterworks department asking for arrears of wages, he having only been paid two dollars per day, when it was claimed three dollars was being paid the other men. After an explanation of this case had been made by the engineer, it was resolved that in future all men should be paid the standard wage fixed by the council and no preference be made or favors shown to anyone.

The council, after careful consideration, agreed that the rebate of ten per cent on taxes would be extended until April 1st, giving all possible opportunity for taxpayers in arrears to pay up and so help the council carry out necessary work in the municipality.

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A special meeting of the council was called on Tuesday afternoon, but Reeve Gold and Clerk Springford not having returned from Victoria, this meeting was not held, but the health committee met instead and discussed at considerable length the question of the garbage disposal of the municipality. It was felt that with the approach of the summer, this must be dealt with immediately and a recommendation was decided upon

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TO OUR READERS

The statement has been made in Council by Reeve Gold, that the Editor of the CHINOOK writes letters, signed "Ratepayer," himself. We wish to deny this assertion and to inform our readers that all letters and correspondence that appears in our columns must have a signature and these signatures are open at all times to anyone calling to see them.

FACTS AND FANCIES

By "Observer"

"Oh that mine adversary had written a book!" exclaimed an ancient writer. If Reeve Gold had been the adversary he would probably have obliged him. I note the reeve has prepared one written statement of his reasons for certain actions and has announced that another statement is being typewritten. Printed and written statements are all right if sure of your facts—not otherwise. And in Reeve Gold's statement of reasons why he refused to put Russell's motion to make an additional grant to the North Fraser Harbor Board the reeve proves conclusively that he did not know what he was writing about —that is assuming he wrote the statement and that it was not done for him by his private secretary, Mr. A. H. Seymour.

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The presence of "presumably" so many times in the statement of the reeve (or Mr. Seymour) shows that he was not sure of his ground, and that, therefore, it was necessary to qualify his statement and leave a loophole through which to creep if found out. Then too, the reeve's omissions show that his statement was not an unbiased or unprejudiced one. If he had desired to be fair, Reeve Gold would have stated frankly that if the additional grant of $2,500 was made the harbor board guaranteed to repay the money to the municipality, out of the first government appropriation. But the chief objection to Reeve Gold's statement is that his "facts" are not correct but are woefully misleading.

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There is no excuse for the reeve's mistakes, because the facts have been published in the press time and time again. For instance, the reasons given by Reeve Gold for the fact that Burnaby has not made any grant towards the harbor scheme. The reason has been in all the newspapers, and even if the papers were not at hand for reference, if Reeve Gold had desired to make a statement of fact the telephone is on his desk and another telephone is in the clerk's office in Burnaby, and the telephone operator would have been only too pleased to charge the municipality ten cents for the privilege of putting Reeve Gold and Reeve Fraser into communication. But, no! So long as the councillors and the public can be gulled by fiction so long will Reeve Gold mislead them—as he has tried to do by his explanation of why Burnaby did not come through with the $7,500 grant. This was one instance where he used the word "presumably."

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The facts in connection with Burnaby's grant are no secret and are briefly, that the finance committee recommended a grant of $7,500 be made. This was approved by the council and the solicitor was instructed to draft a bylaw authorizing the grant. In some way a clause was inserted in the bylaw binding the harbor board to construct a 40-foot channel to and through the Burnaby district, and to guarantee that the work be carried out within three years. This clause the harbor board said it had no power to accept, as the board's object and powers are at present limited to the preparation of plans for submission to the Dominion Government, and the board had not power to guarantee that the government would do as requested by Burnaby. That clause has been the source of the whole trouble between Burnaby and the harbor board and at present both bodies are standing on their dignity and have not come to any satisfactory agreement. Reeve Gold, however, in his usual manner insinuates that Burnaby believes "that what is a Dominion Government scheme should be financed by the Dominion Government, or they may even have better reasons for holding back their portion of the initial cost." The reeve is very fond of insinuating and implying motives, which as a matter of fact do not exist, and as a rule he is able to get away with it; but not when he puts his insinuations in writing where they can be seen by those who know the facts, as in this case.

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Reeve Gold also states in his list of reasons that Richmond and Point Grey "have not only not made this additional grant but are not even committed to do so." Here again the reeve is wrong in his "facts." Richmond council has this year, according to newspaper reports, passed a resolution authorizing the additional grant and one or more of the ratepayers' associations have passed resolutions approving of the council's action. Notice of motion to introduce a bylaw authorizing the grant has been given and all that Richmond council is waiting for is that South Vancouver and Point Grey come to some decision in the matter. These are facts which Reeve Gold or his private secretary, Mr. Seymour, could have ascertained as easily as typing fictitious "facts," if the reeve had been desirous of placing facts before his council. But it is not unreasonable to assume, in view of these "facts," that it was not facts that Reeve Gold wanted, but an excuse for his unreasonable and childish conduct in refusing to put a motion regularly moved and seconded.

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The reeve's reasons for suspending Chief Lester and other employees are not yet to hand; but if his facts are as fictitious and as suppositious as those given by him for refusing to put Councillor Russell's motion the council will be amply justified in telling Reeve Gold in no uncertain manner that they have been fooled with long enough and that it is high time the reeve quit making an ass of himself and settle down to business. Verb. sap.

A debate of special interest and which promises to be largely attended, will be held on the evening of March 15th, the debators being sides of two young men each chosen from the Epworth Leagues of the Methodist Church, Collingwood, and the Knox Presbyterian Church. The subject will be "That the Pulpit is mightier than the Press." The debate will be held in the Methodist Church. Much interest is being aroused over the debate in this district, and it promises to be a record breaking attendance to hear the debate by these young men.

Westminster Presbyterian Church Welcomes Rev. J. Richmond Craig

Ladies Aid Serves Excellent Dinner and Induction Services Show Healthy Spirit of the Congregation

A most enjoyable day for all members of the Westminster Church and a number of visitors was Thursday last, when induction of the new minister took place at 4 p.m. and the services merged into a banquet and social evening.

The induction service, which was a most impressive one, was in charge of the Rev. J. H. White of Eburne, who is moderator of the Presbytery of Vancouver and district. The sermon of the afternoon services was preached by the Rev. A. McLean of Langley, who preached an eloquent and impressive sermon to the large audience present.

The Rev. R. J. Douglas of Westminster Hall addressed the minister, congratulating the Rev. Mr. Craig upon his care to this congregation.

In a very practical address Mr. Douglas sought to show the newly appointed minister that this unanimous call to such a congregation as Westminster Church was a call to a high service, a call from God and a call which would need his every effort and his noblest endeavor. Mr. Douglas counselled the minister-elect to take his people into his full confidence and thus working together, a great work could be done for the Master's Kingdom in this portion of His Vineyard.

Rev. H. J. MacKay addressed the congregation and his address was full of splendid counsel and advice as to the congregation's duties towards their new minister, asking them to work together as one family, counselling them to take their new minister into their hearts and into their every confidence, showing the congregation that only in as far as they did this would the work of the Rev. Mr. Craig be successful. Mr. MacKay pointed out to the congregation that they must be loyal to their minister, loyal to their church and ever loyal to the cause for which they were all working. Unless they worked in harmony and worked together realizing that in unity was strength and ever keeping before them the Cross of Christ and the gospel of love, then work would not be fruitful and would not be according to the Divine will of God. Congratulating the congregation upon securing such a splendid minister, and again counselling them to take him into their hearts and confidence, Mr. MacKay closed an impressive address.

The Rev. Mr. Craig who was inducted and received the charge, spoke a few words, thanking all for their kind words and good wishes towards himself, and assuring all present that in as far as God gave him strength and power for the work, he would do what his Master commanded.

The right hand of fellowship was given Mr. Craig by the following members of Presbytery: Revs. J. R. Robertson, H. J. MacKay, J. H. Millar, W. Bates, A. Macaulay, R. J. Douglas, A. MacKay, J. S. Henderson, Dr. McLaren, Dr. Grant, H. D. Henry, W. Burton, A. McLean, R. MacKay, D. James.

The moderator complimented the congregation upon the "happy union" which had been consummated that day and expressed hope for a long and useful pastorate.

At this stage Mr. McCuaig, session clerk, in the name of the congregation, presented Rev. H. D. MacKay with a gold mounted umbrella as a token of their appreciation of the services which he had so faithfully rendered during the vacancy. Mr. MacKay replied fittingly.

At the invitation of the ladies of the congregation the Presbytery and friends were entertained at a banquet served in the schoolroom. At this function the moderator was also chairman and after ample justice had been done to the good things provided, called upon the Rev. J. R. Robertson of St. David's and the Rev. F. W. Kerr of New Westminster to voice the thanks of the guests. Mrs. Eslemont of the Ladies' Aid replied in gracious terms.

In the evening a reception was given in honor of the pastor and his wife. Mr. D. McCuaig, session clerk, occupied the chair and was accompanied on the platform by the Rev. F. W. Kerr of New Westminster, Rev. Alver Mackay of West Vancouver, Rev. A. Macaulay of St. Matthew's church, Rev. H. Donald Henry of Vancouver Heights, and the pastor.

Mr. McCuaig welcomed the large congregation and read expressions of appreciation from the managers of Central Park church and expressions of regret for absence from Rev. G. C. F. Pringle, Collingwood and Rev. C. G. Caffin, St. Peter's. Mr. Burns, on behalf of the Sunday School and the young people, welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Craig and voiced the hope that the heartiest support of the congregation and especially of the younger element would be given the new minister.

Reminiscences of a long acquaintance with Mr. Craig were humorously told by the Rev. F. W. Kerr, the principal speaker of the evening. He sounded the optimistic note and urged one and all to hold on and apply themselves with all diligence to the work of building up the church. The pastor of the Mountain View Methodist church, the Rev. Mr. Davidson, extended the greetings of his people. Congratulatory addresses were given by fellow-ministers and fellow-students of the pastor. Mr. Craig suitably replied and asked the congregation for as enthusiastic support as their welcome impqlied. Several musical numbers were rendered during the evening and a social hour concluded the evening's programme.

On Sunday the Rev. Mr. Craig conducted both services, morning and evening. In the morning instead of the regular sermon, Mr. Craig had a real heart to heart talk with his congregation and this at once endeared him to the large audience present.

In the evening the newly appointed minister preached a powerful and impressive sermon to a large congregation.

Local Notes and Jottings

Evangelist R. M. Whiteside with Mr. Gladale, soloist, are holding services every evening this week in Mountain View Methodist Church.

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The debate given at King Edward High School last Friday was well attended. The affirmative was taken by King Edward pupils and the negative by South Vancouver High School pupils. South Vancouver won the debate.

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Mr. Harry Pike of the first contingent expects to be invalided home as he has been ill for the past three months.

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The special meetings which have been held during the past two weeks in the Ruth Morton Memorial Church has been largely attended and reports to hand show that a large number have made decisions to live the Christian life. The meetings will be continued until Monday evening of next week. Rev. Mr. Litch will preach at both sermons on Sunday first and at the evening service the sacrament of baptism will be administered.

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Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Woodford entertained a number of their friends in the form of a dinner party at their home, Blarney Cottage, 27th Avenue East, on February 26th, in honor of the second anniversary of their marriage.

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Last Sunday evening a special service of praise was held in St. David's Presbyterian Church. The choir of the church, under the leadership of Mr. Milligan, gave a splendid service of song, including three special anthems, which were delightfully sung. Mrs. Sterling and Mr. Jas. E. Patterson sang solos, Mrs. Sterling singing "He Wipe's the tear from every eye," and Mr. Patterson sang "Saved by Grace." The whole of the song service was in the form of a memorial service of the late Fanny Crosby, the greatest hymn writer of the age, who died last month at the ripe old age of 9 2years. All of the hymns sung during the evening's service were hymns written by this wonderful woman and the sermon preached by the Rev. Mr. Robertson was taken from the text: "And this shall be for a memorial of her" was especially applied to the life of the writer of these wonderful hymns.

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The Ladies' Aid of Westminster Church will meet a week earlier this month to complete arrangements for the St. Patrick's supper that they intend to hold in the basement of the church, March 17th. All ladies interested in the work will attend the meeting at the home of Mrs McCuaig, 28th Ave. and James Street, Thursday afternoon, March 12th, at 3 p.m.

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The regular monthly meeting of the Victorian Order, South Vancouver branch, was held at the home of Mrs. Freeland, Tuesday afternoon. The president was in the chair. The meeting opened with prayer led by Mrs. Beavers. A good attendance of members and five ladies from the Kingsway branch, besides several visitors, were present. Mrs. McCaully was unavoidably detained at the last minute, and the arrangements are being effected to hold the next meeting in some local church, when the meeting will be addressed by some prominent members in the work. The ladies regretted to receive Mrs. Harvie's resignation from the relief committee. The Burnaby branch tendered an invitation to the ladies to attend their quarterly meeting on March 5th.

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"The truth at all times firmly stands
And shall from age to age endure."

WHAT IS THE MATTER?

THIS question is being asked everywhere throughout this municipality, in connection with our municipal affairs. That a time has come when some drastic steps will have to be taken by this municipality in one way or another is evident to all. A state of demoralization exists at headquarters, a condition of chaos is what we find in all of this municipality's affairs, and apparently, unless this municipality is to be irretrievably ruined, a change will have to be made at once in its administration.

Reviewing the work of the Reeve and Council since coming into office, it has to be admitted that instead of helping to lift the municipality to a higher plane, and to a sounder position in the eyes of the outside world, it has rather made things worse and spoiled any little credit we had in the world of finance. There is no use closing our eyes to the fact that today this municipality is in a perilous condition. And what is the reason, just simply unbusinesslike administration.

We believe the majority of the council have conscientiously tried to do their duty in the affairs of the municipality, but any good that could have been done, any creditable work that could have been accomplished has been vetoed and held up, by the autocratic actions of Reeve Gold. Today the work of the municipal staff is being demoralized and held up by the action of the reeve in suspending several heads of departments. The different committees of the council find their efforts to secure efficiency in the several departments crippled and their work of the past few weeks spoiled and gone for nothing. What faith can the world of finance have in a municipality when at every council meeting a cry is raised by the reeve for a constable to be sent for, so that certain councillors may be ejected from the council chamber. How can any credit that this municipality may have remain good when its main department, the fire organization, finds its chief under suspension by the reeve from time to time, all because of a petty, childlike spirit of jealousy and vindictiveness. This spirit and the Kaiser-like actions of Reeve Gold is bringing ridicule and contempt on our municipal administration, and will finally land this municipality in a position of discredit and bankruptcy, unless a change is quickly effected. That it should be necessary for any municipality to go to the large expense of an election to elect a council of men to administer its affairs and then find that the council has little effect in that administration because of an autocratic power usurped by the reeve, seems to be out of all reason and beyond common sense. The affairs of the municipality are in a muddle, its work is being held up, its departments are being disorganized, its council is being ridiculed and its credit is being lost, because of the actions of a reeve who, without blush or shame, suspends whosoever he will, vetoes whatever resolution he decrees fit, and literally proclaims himself the one and only power in the affairs of South Vancouver.

That such a state of affairs cannot be tolerated much longer is evident and the sooner a change in tactics by the reeve or a change in the administration of the municipality takes place the better it will be for South Vancouver. Away with those childlike, petty, unbusinesslike methods, and get down to hard work. Stop the child's play and seek to do the best that can be done for this fair municipality.

THE FORTHCOMING ELECTION

PARKER WILLIAMS is proving a thorn in the side of the powers that be over at Victoria. The fact that one man, on his own little lonesome, can find out facts that are of sufficient importance to warrant him asking for the resignation of the attorney-general and in a fortnight later lay charges against another minister sufficient, if true, to drive him from public life for all time, should be sufficient to show the evils attendant an administration which has had no check on its actions for a period of years.

This government never at any time represented the true interests of the electors of British Columbia, and now, with conditions as they are, the longer they are in power, just so long will these conditions last.

It is apparent to every citizen of British Columbia that the time has gone past for any mincing of words in condemning the make-believes that pose as a responsible government in this province.

As long as there was plenty of other people's money coming into the province for investment, everybody was more or less having his three-square meals a day and politics were left severely alone by the great bulk of the community.

The Liberal party have never been inactive in decrying this government and at peril of being called pessimists, have denounced the rotten policy pursued in its handling of the natural resources of the province.

"Chickens come home to roost" and it would seem pretty much as if this old adage would be very fitting to conditions in this province.

"As ye sow so shall you reap," and as the government thought it wiser to turn over the crown lands to the speculators, so do we find the cities of the province crowded with hungry men and women—some of the men and women who in that "tight little Island" have helped make the British Empire what it is.

But signs are not wanting that all this is quickly changing. A year ago even, anyone predicting a defeat of the present provincial government would have been regarded "loonie" and not to be taken seriously. Now however, the question does not resolve itself into defeat of the government, but as to how many of the cabinet will even retain their seats.

It would seem as if the government cannot long delay going to the country. The longer they are in just now, the worse their position becomes and it will not surprise anyone should they decide to make an instant appeal to the electors right after the close of the present session.

British Columbia is on the eve of a great awakening. The time has come now when the ultimate destiny of the province as an honorable member among the nations which comprise the British Empire will become a reality and not a sham.

Are we to be members of the family for the sole purpose of extracting all the surplus cash lying about or are we to start and build a house for ourselves by developing the resources which lie around us.

The forthcoming election will not be fought between Liberal and Tory, Labor and Socialist, but will be an expression of the people's own morality in its desire for a cleaning out of the corruption which has made this province's name a byeword throughout the world.

TOO MODEST!

WHO would be a councillor of South Vancouver? A week or so ago the council passed a motion to be forwarded to the provincial government asking them to pass enabling legislation so that their indemnity could be raised to $900 a year.

While we consider the principle on which the council acted as being perfectly correct, in that it required practically their whole time in the discharge of the duties of their office, yet as things are at present with the municipality, we did not think their actions well advised.

However, we must confess that we were wrong. A man that serves the municipality on the council board at present for $300 per year deserves not only an increase of salary but should also be decorated with an iron cross.

The conditions prevailing in South Vancouver at present put us very much in mind of Russia of the past. The czar in his wisdom established once a duma, and that institution is something after the style of government we have at present in the municipality. The duma might sit all night studiously making laws which appeared to be necessary for the well-being of the nation, but the czar and his advisers did the ruling.

So with South Vancouver council. The members of that body might be ever so earnest in their attempt to do the right thing and to act according to their convictions, but, like the duma, they find their efforts are negatived by the action of an autocrat who even threatens them with dark dungeons if they should not obey his commands.

Nine hundred dollars a year—we are rather surprised now at the councillors' modesty.

In the meantime, South Vancouver is being made a jest of. How long will this disgraceful condition of things be allowed to go on?

WHERE THE CREDIT REALLY BELONGS

IN his statement regarding the purchase of the two submarines built in Seattle for the government of Chili, and which were turned down by the navy department of that South American republic, which acts in all things on the advice of a British naval officer, Sir Richard McBride said in the legislature practically that these under sea boats had saved British Columbia from a German attack.

In making this sweeping statement, the premier has taken the credit away from the cruiser "Rainbow," to which it really belongs. At that time the only German war vessel near enough to this coast to be a menace was the cruiser "Leipzig," a ship of about the same class as the "Rainbow." In fact, though the German vessel, which now lies at the bottom of the sea, was inferior to the "Rainbow" in gun power. Like the "Rainbow" she was armed with 4-inch guns, but the guns of the Canadian cruiser are four-point sevens, and the "Leipzig's" guns were but four-point two's. The "Rainbow" had no fear of the German, and steamed out to look for her down on the Oregon coast within a few days of the beginning of the war. If Vancouver and Victoria were ever in danger from the German squadron on the Pacific it was then. But only the "Leipzig" ever came within wireless range of the British Columbia coast. The "Nurnberg," the only other German war boat within ten days steaming of this coast, did not approach very close. If the "Rainbow" had not been on this coast, the "Leipzig," and possibly the "Nurnberg," would certainly have made a piratical raid on Victoria or Vancouver early in the war. They might have been torpedoed by Sir Richard's boats, but they would have taken a chance. Evidently they did not wish to risk an action with the "Rainbow." The "Leipzig" was steaming between the Mexican coast and Cape Flattery for some time not far offshore, but she evidently avoided the "Rainbow," which stripped for battle in the usual way by casting all the carpenter work adrift and lay in the courses which she expected the German to be steering. The Canadian cruiser with barefoot crews sleeping in navy style beside the guns, crept many a night off the coast between the Cape and the Farallones, a gray blur on the sea with every light covered, hoping to steal upon the German ship. Every man forward and aft on the "Rainbow" was eager for a fight, and the "Leipzig," kept well informed by merchant craft, and by the three American steam schooners who gave her bunkers and stores at sea, knew well that the Canadian cruiser was lying on her path ready to bite. But she did not wish a fight which she knew would be a desperate duel, which could have ended only as the actions between the light cruisers of Nelson's day frequently ended, by the destruction of both ships. She had other work to do.

But for the lurking "Rainbow," however, she would probably have passed the Cape, made a raid on Victoria or Vancouver. Sir Richard's submarines might have sunk her, but while her captain would not risk losing his ship in an action with an enemy equal to him in size, he would have cheerfully taken the chance of submarines and a possible mine field of small extent, to make a piratical raid.

A raid on the coast, whether successful or not, would have thrown such a scare into the British Empire that it would have been well worth trying. Sir Richard McBride's submarines did not frighten away the "Leipzig." It was the "Rainbow" with a crew made up of old British navy men, the finest seamen and the best gunners in the world, and able sailormen from Vancouver and Victoria, who made up in willingness what they lacked in smartness when they first joined the good little ship for real work in a real war. Of her commander and her officers, too much could not be said. They are fine officers and brave gentlemen, and it is a shame that their services to this coast have not been referred to in the legislature this session.

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BY THE WAY

TIME WAS WHEN it was thought correct for a chief magistrate to be the upholder of law and order. At a recent meeting of unemployed in South Vancouver, the chief magistrate of that municipality practically incited his audience to maltreat a ratepayer who dared to open his mouth and criticise. Talk about Prussia and its militarism!

* * *

FIRST TIME WE KNEW Price Ellison was a farmer. We thought he was a politician. Guess we are mistaken in both of our suppositions.

* * *

"WHAT IS THE difference between $400 and $75, Johnnie?" asked the schoolmaster over at Victoria. "Father was doing that sum last night, sir, and I heard him say it was a cow."

* * *

COMPLIMENTS TO THE "Evening Journal." "May the wings of friendship ne'er moult a feather," as Dick Swiveller said. Mutual respect for the great and only W. J. B. should be the means of keeping us both on the lay.

* * *

NO SIR, THEY ARE NOT barricades that are being erected along Main Street. Only meant to keep up the land.

* * *

SEVERAL ONTARIO PAPERS have been scolding the young men of rural Ontario for not enlisting more freely. One or two of these papers have practically called young Eastern Canadians disloyal. Certainly the younger Canadian generation in the East have shown a lack of the strong sentiment that makes a volunteer take up arms. They have also shown a lack of the adventure spirit that probably sends as many to the front as patriotism. There is more of this spirit of adventure in the West. The Eastern native-born Canadian is rather apathetic. In the West young men, both native-born and British-born, have enlisted more freely.

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The Work of the Red Cross

By Col. G. Sterling Ryerson, M.D., President of the Canadian Red Cross

The present war is the most barbarous and at the same time the most merciful war ever waged. Although the casualties are much larger than in any previous clash of nations, the percentage of deaths from wounds is much smaller. Soldiers carried from the field of battle recover more surely and more rapidly than ever before. This is due to the wonderful stride made in surgery and to the increased efficiency of the Red Cross.

The great need for men "skilled to heal" with armies in the field was early recognized. References to this fact are to be found in the classics. Recognition of the value of military surgeons grew very slowly, however, up to the sixteenth century; and the temper of the times can be estimated when we read such allusions as, "the poor soldiers when severely wounded were discharged with a small gratuity to find their way home as best they might."

Unbelievably barbarous as this may seem, the practice of turning wounded soldiers adrift through lack of facilities for caring for them was not uncommon during the dark centuries. It was based on the principle that it cost more to cure a wounded soldier than to buy a recruit.

The roots of this diabolical idea will be found in the mercenary system of warfare which prevailed. It will be remembered that until quite late in the eighteenth century it was customary for monarchs to hire troops from other countries when they could not raise a sufficient number within their own boundaries, paying for their hired forces at so much per head. When a foreign trooper became through illness or injury of no use, the hirer had no further interest in him.

It was not until the campaign of Marlborough in Germany that military surgeons really had any official existence. At the outset of the brilliant campaign conducted by that versatile leader, full attention was focused on the winning of battles and no thought was given to the inglorious details of nursing and surgery. A veritable cult of iron efficiency had sprung up in the British ranks. It was considered effeminate to be ill. As the campaign developed, however, and sanguinary battles were fought, the need for an adequate hospital service became recognized. This was felt all the more keenly as the armies marched and fought in fever-stricken countries and contagious diseases decimated the ranks.

The utmost credit is due to Sir John Pringle, Marlborough's principal medical officer. The clever administration and the great courage and perseverance of Sir John kept the medical service prominent and ultimately led to its recognition as not only a humanitarian measure but as an essential factor in the winning of battles.

The next advance came during the Napoleonic wars and again it was in the British army that the idea was evolved. Sir John McGregor was the head of the medical service with Wellington through the Peninsular campaigns. In order to systematize the work, he devised the scheme of having regimental medical officers—the idea being that each regiment was a family and that it was the duty of each family to look after its own sick. This proved an extremely effective measure and paved the way for reforms in the medical service. Sir Arthur Wellesley (later the Duke of Wellington) was a very humane general and on every occasion he spared his troops. Nevertheless the campaigns in the Peninsula proved an extended period of hardship and horror and the terrible experiences of his ill-equipped corps led to many improvements in the medical service. Improvement from this time on was very slow, however, little progress being recorded until the Crimean War.

The Crimean War proved the darkest hour before the dawn of a new medical era. Every reading man knows of the horrors of that war, brought about largely by the almost entire absence of drugs and medical appliances and equipment. Red tape and indifference in the home departments reached their apex at this time and the result was seen in the sufferings of the men who fought the Empire's battles at the front. So bad were conditions that the nation was aroused and there was brought about the rise of the trained nurse. Until the end of time or the annals of human glory fail, the name of Florence Nightingale will be indissolubly associated with this great development. The popular idea of Florence Nightingale is embodied in the figure of "a gentle lady with a lamp"—an angel of gentle ministering care carrying peace and comfort to pain-wracked men. Such no doubt is the picture that best fits the efforts of Florence Nightingale at the front; but there is another side. Miss Nightingale would never have scored so remarkable success had she not been possessed of a masterful personality. She was a strong-minded woman with a large share of the gracious gift of tact. Her influence was not confined to directing the work of mercy on the battlefront, but was even more potently exerted in securing co-operation from unwilling or indifferent ministers. She had the good fortune to be on terms of personal friendship with the Secretary of State for War, Mr. Sydney Herbert. By exerting her influence, some say by brow-beating the distinguished war minister, she managed to gain official assent to her wide propaganda of reform in the nursing of the sick and wounded.

Up to this time, the female nurse had been conspicuous by her absence, if we except the wives of some of the soldiers who followed the forces and in other rough and untrained way nursed the sick.

It remained for a Swiss gentleman, Henri Dunant, to bring to the aid of the sick and wounded in war co-ordinate and systematic assistance. It so happened that this high-minded man was travelling in Northern Italy on the 24th of June in the year 1859 and that by chance he was present as an onlooker at the great Battle of Solferino. This battle fought between France and Italy on the one side and Austria on the other, was perhaps the most sanguinary conflict of history. An idea of the appalling casualities may be gained from the statement that there were killed or wounded three field marshals, nine generals, fifteen hundred and sixty-five officers of other grades and nearly forty thousand soldiers. To this total could be added two months later another forty thousand sick and those who died of the excessive fatigue or of wounds. Bald figures can give no adequate conception of the soul-searing horrors of Solferino, of the wholesale slaughter of the gallant men and the suffering which ensued through the absolute lack of facilities for caring for the fallen. Wounded men died on the field and their bodies were left to rot; and a pestilence arose which added disease to the other horrors.

His soul was sickened at what he had witnessed. Dunant left the field of Solferino with a great resolve. He had determined to devote his life to bringing about an improvement in Red Cross work. Inasmuch as it was evident that the organized medical services of armies was quite insufficient, the remedy as he saw it lay in bringing about some form of voluntary organized aid. Dunant thus evolved the idea which has served as the foundation on which the modern Red Cross has been built.

Filled with this great resolve Dunant visited all the courts of Europe and expended many years, and his private fortune, in an endeavor to arouse the world to united action. As a result of his efforts and influence a conference was held at Geneva in October 1863, at which were present representatives of sixteen of the powers of Europe. This was followed by an important gathering on August 22, 1864, when the representatives of the following nations signed a convention on behalf of their respective governments, namely: France, Prussia, Spain, Portugal, Holland, Belgium, Italy, Switzerland, Greece, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, Baden, Wurtemburg and Hesse-Darmstadt.

The principal articles of this Convention were that all material of the Medical Service of belligerents should be immune from capture, that hospitals, nurses and Medical Officers should be "respected and protected."

It is worth noting that Bismarck was one who supported the movement with a view it is said, to securing a good medical service for the German armies in the war with France which he was even then planning. Certain it is that the Franco-Prussian war saw a great improvement in the matter of caring for the wounded.

Although it is not the object of this article to touch upon matters of a controversial nature the subject invariably leads to the work of the Red Cross during the present war aind to the consideration of the lamentable fact that whereas the medical services now in operation have seen a development to the point of highest efficiency, there has at the same time been a tendency to revert to the barbarous practices of earlier wars.

The Germans have taken advantage of a weak spot in the Convention to seize hospital equipment and to make prisoners of medical officers. It was the intention and it is the practice of all civilized nations to consider medical officers as non-combatants and as representing philanthropic aid, to be immune from capture. At the present moment there are fifty or sixty medical officers of the British army prisoners of war in Germany. It woud appear, moreover, that these medical officers are not allowed to render medical aid to their fellow prisoners or to anyone else but are obliged to waste their time in idleness.

It is stated that, in some instances at any rate, medical officers have been deliberately killed or wounded upon the field of battle while in the discharge of their professional duties in aiding the wounded—a notable instance of which is the case of Doctor McNab, Surgeon of the London Scottish, who, it is stated, was deliberately murdered by a German soldier while in the act of assisting a wounded man. There would appear to be no excuse in this case as Doctor McNab was dressed in a blue uniform and wore the Brassard with a Red Cross, and was, moreover, unarmed.

Added to this is the strongest indictment of Germany's methods, the barbarism displayed in the treatment of trained nurses. If but a small fraction of the atrocities laid at the door of the German soldiery be found true when the verdict of history is rendered, it will have been established that Germany has done much to put warfare in the class of a brute beast conflict.

It is not necessary to enter into the larger phases of the Red cross work, the carrying of the wounded from the field, and the exercise of proper care afterward. This side is thoroughly understood. A further and very important function of the Red Cross—by which is meant the service that is maintained by voluntary and not government support—is the furnishing of supplies of comforts for the sick and wounded as supplementary to the regular list of requirements as established by the Govern-

(Continued on page 4)

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Mrs. (Rev.) Davidson is at home from Burrard Sanitarium after a serious operation, but is still very weak.

* * *

This is one of the replies that come from the front from men who have received gifts from Canada. One of our local men sent some Christmas packages to the front and the boys there appreciated it very much. Here is a typical letter:

"H.M.S. Actaeor, Sheerness.

"Dear Sir,—I am writing to thank you for your kindness in sending to me the present I had today.

"It makes me think that you must be interested in the men that are fighting for their King around our shores.

"It is such men as you, though you cannot come, try to back up the men that are doing their best.

"I am smoking the tobacco as I write this letter, and I can tell you it's fine.

Wishing you a happy New Year and hoping to hear from you again, if only a postcard. I remain, your friend,

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Cedar Cottage Notes

A bonnie boy is what the stork left last week to gladden the home of Mr. and Mrs. Winkler on Fleming Street.

* * *

Mrs. Leighton of Welwyn Street, has been called to Nanaimo, on account of the serious illness of her sister, Mrs. Thompson.

* * *

Mrs. Farmer of Mission has been visiting Mrs. Craig of Vanness Ave.

* * *

The Ladies' Aid of the Robson Memorial Church are preparing to give, at an early date, a sketch entitled "The Minister's Bride," which promises to be very entertaining.

* * *

The regular monthly meeting of the Political Equality League will be held at the home of Mrs. Hambly, at 4080 Beatrice Street, on Monday afternoon, the 8th. All friends and members invited.

* * *

Their many friends will hear with interest that Miss Eunice Wilson and Miss Laura Wharton, who recently went to train for nurses to the Methodist Mission hospital at Bella Bella, are very happy in their new surroundings, and getting along famously in the noble work they have undertaken of caring for the sick.

* * *

Under the auspices of the Women's Missionary Society a very successful tea was given on Wednesday last by Mrs. Whelen and Mrs. McPhie, at the home of Mrs. McPhie, which was the social event of the week. A splendid attendance rewarded the ladies for the very excellent programme they had arranged, and which was contributed to by the following: Mrs. Hunter gave a humorous reading entitled "The Deacon who talked in Church," which was enjoyed by all; Mrs. Caughey read a personal letter received from a missionary now working in the Peace River district, describing in an interesting manner the good work being done in that territory; Mrs. Vosper and Mrs. McPhie sang a duet which received hearty and well deserved applause; while Miss Rhodes presided at the piano, and in her own incomparable way, rendered several instrumental solos. The serving of dainty refreshments and an hour of social chat brought to a close the afternoon's entertainment, which was one of a series which will be given for the cause.

* * *

On Friday afternoon, the 26th, the regular monthly meeting of the South Vancouver Women Voters' Association was held in Robson Memorial Church, with a good attendance, the president, Mrs. Shoemaker, in the chair. There was considerable business transacted and several new members received into the association, which is doing much good work in the municipality. A delegate was appointed to visit the Women's Employment League and to report at a special meeting to be held in the near future for the purpose of forming some plan to assist women out of work in South Vancouver. A delegate was also chosen to represent the association at the next meeting of the Women's Institute at Central Park. Mrs. Gardiner read an enlightening paper on the subject of the collection and disposal of the garbage of the municipality, in which she criticized the present system, or lack of system, as unsanitary, and a menace to the health of the people. Mrs. Gardiner thought that instead of individual householders paying ten cents per week for having their garbage cans emptied and the contents dumped on a vacant lot, to create smells and support rats and flies, it would be more sanitary, and cheaper, in the end, if the municipality would erect an incinerator where the garbage could be properly burned. She referred to the annual spring campaign against the fly, and expressed the belief that it was good policy to "swat the fly," but that it would be far better policy to swat the home of the fly. After discussion it was decided that the association send the council a recommendation to the effect that an incinerator be erected, also that the matter be agitated along other lines.

* * *

In Robson Memorial Church, on Tuesday evening last, Prof. Odlum brought to a close a series of interesting lectures, he has for several weeks been giving, on the subject of "British Israel." The church was filled, many in the audience having heard each lecture of the series, which the Professor has given, in his scholarly manner, to prove that the present great war is a fulfilling of bible prophecy. By innumerable references to the good book, the lecturer made it plain that Britain and her allies are the direct descendants of the so-called lost tribes of Israel, and that at the close of the war, which would result in victory, they, with the Jews, (the tribe of Judah), would return to the heritage promised by God to Abraham, under the rule of King David. Prof. Odlum pointed out that these prophesies were now being rapidly fulfilled, and intimated that in the present Prince of Wales would be found the good King David of bible prophesy.

* * *

Mr. Eugene Plant, inspector of city bakeries, favored the domestic science classes of Lord Selkirk School with a splendid lecture on "Bread and Bread Making" last week. To all makers and consumers of the "staff of life" who were fortunate enough to hear him, Mr. Plant, with his knowledge and practical experience made the theme one of particular interest, and was given a hearty vote of thanks.

THE INTERNATIONAL SCOTS HOME RULE LEAGUE

The annual meeting of the international Scots Home Rule League was held at 1127 Granville Street on the afternoon of Thursday, 24th February. Vice-president Mr. Wm. Thomson, presiding. Officers were elected for ensuing year as follows:—Vice-president, T. Shankie; second vice-president, Mrs. Taylor; treasurer, A. G. Dickson; secretary, J. Grant.

The usual committees were appointed and arrangements made to meet again on an early date to inaugurate a campaign for increase of membership. Three delegates were appointed to attend the meetings of the United Scottish Societies, now in course of formation.

LOCALS

The South Vancouver branch of the Victorian Order of Nurses will meet at the home of Mrs. Freeland, 19th Avenue East, on Tuesday afternoon, March 9th, at 3 p.m. sharp.

* * *

The Women's Institute of Central Park held their regular meeting in the Agricultural hall last Thursday, when it was decided to donate $25 to the Belgian Relief Fund. Most of this money was raised by a concert given in January in the Agricultural Hall by the children of the Beaconsfield Methodist sunday school for this purpose under the auspices of the Women's Institute.

THE WORK OF THE RED CROSS

(Continued from page 3)

ment such as shirts, socks, underwear, cholera belts, sleeping caps and many articles of personal comfort. Further, the Red Cross supplies great quantities of dressings, rolled bandages, lint, adhesive plaster and such adjuncts to the hospital requirements.

It does not, however, limit itself to these apparently small and unimportant articles—it furnishes complete hospitals, nurses, doctors, equipment, durgs, instruments and everything which is necessary to go to make up a hospital. At the present time the British Red Cross Society, in conjunction with the Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, is maintaining, either wholly or in part, no less than three hundred and fifty-eight hospitals in England and on the Continent. The Saint John Ambulance Brigade has a small army of orderlies and there are at present employed by it on the Continent nearly six thousand of these trained hospital attendants.

The British Society is aiding in the quick transportation of wounded from the front by the establishment of a great number of motor ambulances, of which they have now some four hundred and fifty in operation.

The casualties in this war have been so enormous and the number of wounded so large that, with all these hospitals, in addition to the Government establishments, the society is now in process of organising and equipping a hospital in the new building which has been built for H.M. Stationery Office in Waterloo Road, London, with a capacity of sixteen hundred and fifty-eight beds, which are being paid for largely by individual subscriptions of $100 per bed. This great hospital will, upon completion, of its installation, be maintained by the British Government.

Hospital trains, capable of carrying five hundred sick or wounded men, are either in existence or in course of construction by the society. The society has also three hospital ships finely equipped with every convenience, including a modern operating room.

All this active and philanthropic work costs a great sum of money and, while the receipts of the British Red Cross Society up to the present time amount to nearly $3,500,000, there is but a small surplus at this time of writing.

The Canadian society which was organized by the writer in 1896, is endeavoring to do its share, in proportion to the means at its disposal, in the relief of the distressed soldiers. The Canadian society has presented to the British society twelve fully equipped motor ambulances and has provided seven hospitals for the Canadian contingent and one travelling field kitchen. A Canadian hospital has been established in Mr. Waldorf Astor's house at Clevedon, and is being equipped by the society. This hospital will be staffed by Canadian doctors and nurses.

Great quantities of supplies amounting up to the present time to about three thousand cases of an average weight of one hundred and fifty pounds each have been sent forward to the Canadian Commissioner in London, and their contents are being distributed by him to the hospitals according to their requirements.

Some people may say: "Why should the society or the public apart from the Government be required to furnish all this money and these supplies?" In explanation of this it may be said that the medical services in the field of all armies is insufficient to meet with the demands. Also, it is the right and duty of private individuals to remedy this insufficiency. Further, the Red Cross is the means of an expression of the sympathy of the people of a nation with its soldiers.

It may truly be said that the alleviation of the sufferings caused by the war is in these days a universal obligation imposed by Christian civilization on all nations. It is a solemn duty to the accomplishment of which every man of influence should lend his co-operation, and every honest man should give his thoughts.

In the end it is to the charitable co-operation of the public that we must look in order to alleviate the sufferings of the soldiers and to surround the victims of war with such comfort as is possible.

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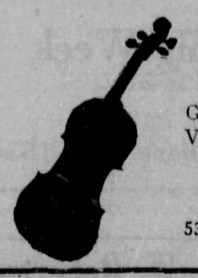
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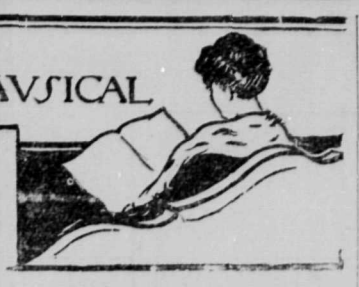
A grand series of lectures is being arranged for in Collingwood East by a committee of the representative men of the district. The lectures, which will be free, and which are expected to be popular and largely attended, will be given on the most popular topics of the day. Knox Presbyterian Church has kindly been offered to the committee as a central building for these lectures, and has been gladly accepted by them and it is expected that much interest will be shown and large audiences will hear each successive lecture.

The Women's Institute of Collingwood East have this week received for relief purposes a large consignment of fifty sacks of potatoes, also a nice sum of money from friends in Agassiz. The potatoes will mostly be given out to the householders in this district who are feeling the pinch of these hard times and who have gardens, and will be used as seed for planting purposes. The money will be used to relieve some of the cases best known to the women of the institute as being deserving and in need of help at this time.

THEATRICAL & MUSICAL



Pantages Theatre

Headlining the new bill at Pantages commencing Monday will be the much talked about Morton-Jewell Troupe in their latest success, "An event in Clubdom," declared from a score of cities to be a very well worth while feature.

For the added attraction of the week, Manager Graham will bring on that thrilling playlet of the wilderness "Outwitted." This is said to be one of the most effective sketches that has ever played the Pantages time. The offering is presented by Ronald Bradbury, Edward Hern and Company.

An notable event in the new bill will be the appearance of Carl McCullough, known as "The Joy Germ," who disports himself in a most attractive repertoire of music, patter and general comedy. McCullough is one of the best bets that Alexan der Pantages has ever routed over his circuit and his appearance here is an occasion of great importance.

Hennings, Lewis & Co. have a funny little conceit which they call "Mixed Drinks," and it is expected to find great popularity here.

Eccentric comedians are Gibson & Dyse, and mighty good ones at that according to advices received here. They are always sure-fire hitters and are going strong this season.

Renello and Sister have a novelty bicycle act that serves additional interest and importance to the coming programme.

As usual there will be a splendid showing of motion pictures, pitched in a comedy key.

South Hill Palace of Varieties

This popular play house is again this week putting on a splendid programme. A programme of varieties that will be hard to beat.

The management of this house are to be congratulated on securing such a splendid number of artists, all of them stars in their own particular line. Mr. Harry Wells, styled champion whistler and female impersonator, is an entertainment in himself. Mr. Bird, the Australian humming bird, is a wonder and woth going a long way to hear. The two Anderson sisters are good in singing and violin solos, and Miss Gene Anderson gives a splendid selection of Scotch songs.

For Saturday evening, the four special numbers have been added: Mr. G. P. Morris, character actor and vocalist; Sandy McPherson, the popular comedian, known as Vancouver's Harry Lauder, and Mr. Larry Lashbrook, known as the champion comedian of B.C.; also Miss Whyte, lyric soprano, whose ability is well known and who rounds out a programme which will be an excellent one from start to finish, and will no doubt draw crowded audiences to this popular palace in South Vancouver.

The management have made a change in the admission prices to this house, charging only five cents admission to every show except on Wednesdays and Saturdays when special vaudeville numbers will be put on the programme, and the charge of admission will be 10 cents as usual.

Scene from The Call of the North at Dreamland Theatre, Main Street, Saturday, March 6th

EVANGELISTIC SERVICES

Considerable interest is being evidenced in religious circles in the evangelistic mission being conducted in Mountain View Methodist Church by Rev. Robert H. Whiteside, assisted by Mr. Frank Gledhill, basso, a converted opera singer. Large audiences greet the evangelists each evening. The singing of Mr. Gledhill is particularly fine.

It is planned to give Friday evening to a young people's service and to make Sunday a great Decision Day in all the services. Special attention is devoted by the evangelists to work among men and a men's meeting will be held in the church Sunday afternoon at four o'clock. The services will be continued next week.

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COLLINGWOOD NOTES

On March 8th in Knox Presbyterian Church a lecture will be given by Mr. John McIntyre, the subject being: "John Knox and the Reformation." This should prove a most popular lecture and as it is entirely free and the public are cordially invited, it is expected a crowded house will be out to hear this lecture.

* * *

A grand concert is to be given in Knox Presbyterian Church on the evening of March 12th. Miss Reed, soprano; Miss Amos, contralto; and Mr. John McIntyre, elocutionist, with others, will provide the programme and a high class concert is promised to all who can arrange to be present on that evening.

CANADA'S HOPE

Canada may well cherish the hope that the soldiers who wear the rotten boots supplied by the Dominion Government may never be as lame as the explanation given by Sir R. Borden of the military muddle.

ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING OF MAIN STREET LIBERALS

A large and enthusiastic gathering met in the Liberal rooms, Main St., last Thursday evening to hear addresses by Mrs. Ralph Smith, Mr. J. S. Cowper and Mr. J. P. McConnel.

A TRYING EXPERIENCE IN 1870

How a Canadian Was Nearly Shot as a French Spy

Dr. Geo. M. Warren, until recently surgeon-major of the 2nd Dragoons, went through the Franco-Prussian War 1870-1, as a member of one of the Bavarian ambulances. He had a number of interesting experiences, one of which was a narrow escape from being shot, after the battle of Sedan. The decisive battle had been fought and won and Dr. Warren's ambulance was immediately stationed in the Caserne D'Asfelte, a huge fortress at the back of and overlooking the town, which was completely surrounded by a wall of solid masonry.

This place soon filled with wounded and the work of the surgeons became very ardous, as Dr. Warren relates. "It was almost necessary to run out for a walk on the ramparts, to get a breath of fresh air, three or four times a day, and on one of these trips I noticed in the moat below, a very handsome sword with rich gold belt and, although the whole country around was thickly strewn with swords, lances, rifles, etc., this one was so much better, that I decided to secure it as a souvenir, that evening. But, owing to an officer of the Imperial Guard having been shot the night before by a sentry and the large number of spies prowling about, an order was issued from headquarters warning everyone to be inside the town gates before dark and the sentries were cautioned to be doubly alert. There appeared, however, to be plenty of time after the hospital work was done for me to go out and around the ramparts to where the sword was lying in the moat, and this I attempted. The sword was secured and after buckling it on and admiring it I started on my return, highly elated and pleased with my find. I had not, however, noticed a pair of keen eyes watching my every movement from a corner on the wall about fifty yards distant. I had only taken a few steps when I was stopped by a sentry who fairly roared 'Halt.' I did not lose time halting. Then came the order to advance, which I also obeyed promptly but this did not seem to satisfy him. I called out who I was but he shouted back that Iwas French and a spy. I tried to go closer to him but immediately heard the clicking of his needlegun as he opened the breach, slipped in a cartridge. Raising the rifle he took dead aim at me and without hesitation fired. For an instant I was stunned. I had thought at first he was trying to frighten me but this showed me I could expect no mercy from him. He had missed me the first shot. I then began to shout the names of some of our surgeons, hoping, by some chance they might hear me. In the meantime the sentry was struggling with his rifle to loosen the empty shell, which had stuck, a defect that occurred very frequently with the first lot of needle guns turned out by the Prussians. I had time to think of home and saw nothing but death for a few minutes. I knew what the sentry's instructions were, especially when darkness was settling down and I knew he was bound to shoot anyone out of place and have it approved of, but never to let one escape. I knew also that a hole in the bottom of the moat where I stood would be dug, and inside thirty minutes, my body would be rolled into it, and my relations never know. These thoughts passed quickly through my mind, though it seemed an hour until the sound of footsteps running towards us on top of the wall caused me to turn quickly. I saw another sentry, who, on hearing the report of his rifle had come up. The first sentry replied to his query: 'A Frenchman, a spy, shoot him.' I raised both hands and jumped towards him, shouting that I was a surgeon from the fortress and begging him to take me into the guardhouse. He gave the command, 'Right about march,' and with his finger on the trigger and muzzle of his rifle pointed directly at my head, he marched me to the next sentry and he to another, etc., until I was brought into the guardhouse, where after some excited talking, I was allowed to go free. I left the sword in the moat. I never went back for it."

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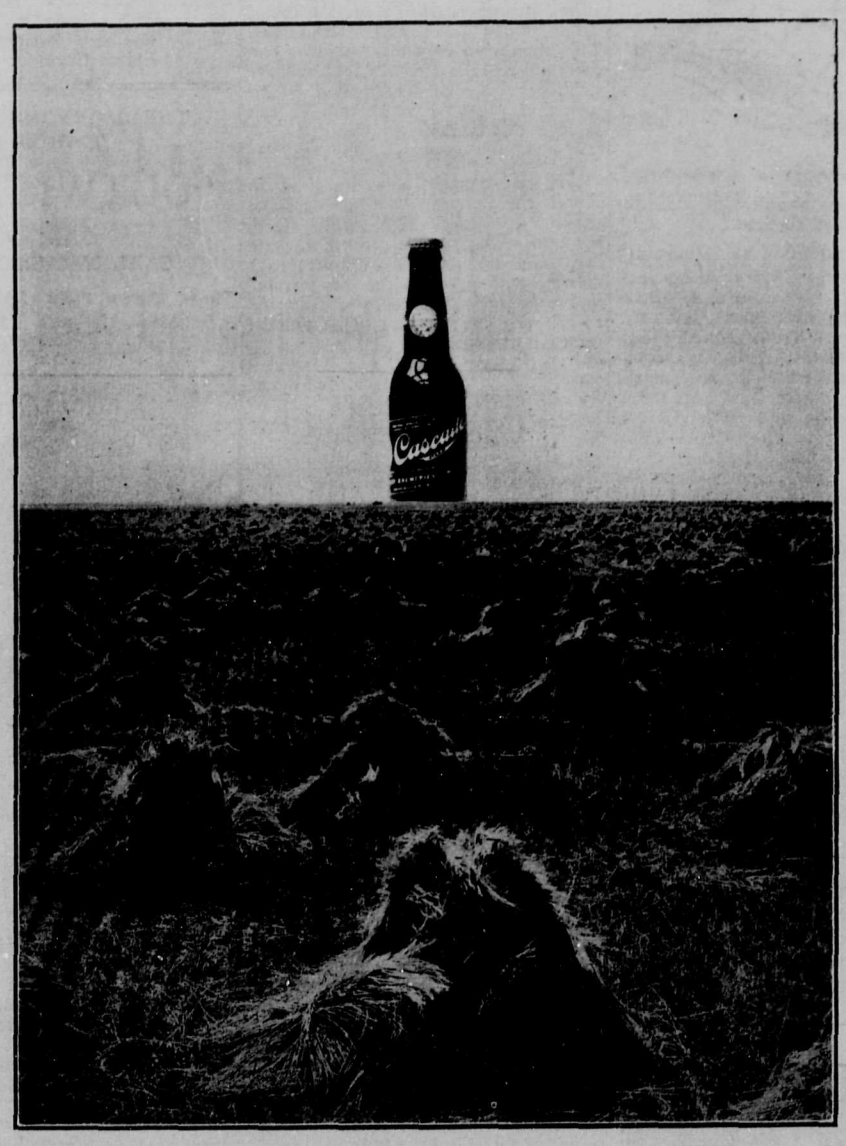

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Unemployed Situation In The Municipality and "Baby Bonds"

Mr. Seymour Drafts a Scheme Whereby the Unemployed Situation, He Thinks, Could Be Relieved

To the Reeve, South Vancouver:

Dear Sir,—The following is submitted for your consideration, as a means towards relieving the distress, arising from unemployment, in the municipality.

From close observation and information received through the medium of your health officer, I estimate, that there are roughly two thousand men in the municipality in need of some means of earning enough to live on. It will at once be apparent that any small scheme will not do much towards relieving the situation. It will also be admitted that there is abundance of work to be done in the municipality, some of it of the most urgent nature and that the only reason for same not being done is because of the inability to finance same.

My proposal is that the municipality issue what has been termed baby bonds, in $100.00 amounts to the extent of $1,000,000, to be applied on work to be decided by the engineer and council as being urgent and necessary, also to do such permanent improvement work, such as paving streets that the provincial government has already promised assistance to.

The question now arises how are you going to sell such bonds. My proposal is that we sell same to, first, our local merchants, to be paid for by them, in goods, at current retail prices, orders to be issued by the clerk or by a specially appointed labor commissioner, from time to time as arranged with by the purchaser. The price to be paid by such retail merchants for these bonds to be par. I should have stated that I would suggest that they be forty year debentures, bearing interest at five per cent, unless where the work to be done was local improvement work, and I would then suggest that the life of the debentures already issued by this municipality.

Realising that our local merchants could not absorb the total issue, the next parties to whom we could apply would be the wholesale houses in Vancouver and elsewhere, also to farmers and milk vendors, in short to anyone who has anything in the way of necessaries to sell. The price to be paid by all wholesale firms and farmers and others who would be paying for the debentures in goods at wholesale cost would be par, less what it would take to give the purchaser bank interest on his investment.

The third party to whom I would sell at least one quarter of the total issue would be the workmen themselves. You will probably ask how destitute men can purchase debentures.

My proposal is that the laboring men accept thirty cents per hour as the wage they are to be paid, and all skilled mechanics and foremen to accept a proportionate reduction, on what is known to be the regular rate, and to take in lieu of wages orders on the various local merchants who have purchased bonds, or goods from the warehouse that the goods supplied from the wholesale houses would be stored in. If a workman found that his immediate needs did not call for the total expenditure of his weekly wages on the lines suggested, then whatever balance would be credited to him, until he had saved an amount equal to the price of one debenture certificate, which would then be issued to him, with which he could certainly pay his rent, or instalment on lot with. The point I desire to make clear is that no money would be paid to any workman, that he would have to agree to accept orders for whatever goods he wanted, that we would sell him car tickets, that I have hopes could be secured by the Street Railway purchasing a few thousand dollars' worth of our debentures, and that outside of this the workmen would have to accept debentures at par, on which he would be receiving five per cent interest, which is one per cent more than he could get from any trust or savings account in the regular banks. This scheme would not only let us know the real deserving cases, but would establish of necessity thrift among all of us who need to work.

To work out this scheme, I would suggest that the council appoint two or more of their number to act with a volunteer committee appointed from different parts of the municipality, same to work in conjunction with any relief institution, church, or other organization that is interested in the work of providing for our large body of unemployed men.

Another plan whereby we could sell a considerable amout of our debentures is by insisting that those in our permanent staff set aside a small proportion of their wages for investment in municipal bonds.

If put up to them I believe that there are very few who would not endeavor to help in every possible way in what would be almost a charitable act.

I would also suggest to your worship that as much as possible of the work proposed to be done be done on the Local Improvement Plan, as by so doing I understand that you do not reduce the borrowing power of the municipality.

The advantages of this plan are (1) That there would be a great saving, in the elimination of the discount usually paid to fiscal agents, issuing houses, etc., as the price set will bring in larger returns than any debenture sale of South Vancouver debentures has done in the past, even in the best of times.

(2) It will enable the council to carry out work that is needed at present, and for which there is no money available.

(3) By disposing of the debentures in the manner outlined above it will save the enormous loss that goes with the issuance of treasury certificates.

(4) It will provide immediate relief to those who are out of work.

In submitting these proposals, I do not claim that they are a permanent cure for employment, as I realise that the work proposed to be done is nonproductive, but what I do claim is that they are a practical and feasible way of getting over the present crisis, and would be doing so in a manner that would be no loss to the municipality, and would be a great improvement on any charity or relief scheme that so far has been tried.

The Week's Business at South Vancouver Municipal Hall

(Continued from Page 1)

to place before the next full meeting of the council the necessity for an incinerator beiing built in South Vancouver as soon as possible.

Considerable dissatisfaction is being felt around the hall this week owing to the disorganized state of affairs caused by the suspension by Reeve Gold of Miss Dench, Chief Lester, Mr. Bell, storekeeper, and others of different departments. It is felt that the work of every department is being held up and unless a change is speedily effected, everything will be in a muddle and at a standstill, and it will only be at considerable expense and after much delay that things will be brought up to their usual standard.

* * *

A meeting of the board of health was held on Wednesday morning. Dr. Turnbull, medical health officer for the municipality, reported a case of smallpox in South Vancouver and detailed what work he had done in the case. Fortunately, the doctor stated, this case had happened in an isolated part of the municipality, and consequently had been easy to handle and no danger existed of any spread of the disease from this case.

Considerable discussion arose over the manner of collecting the garbage throughout the municipality. Four men had been employed on this steady all the year round at three dollars a day. It was felt that with so many idle men in South Vancouver this work might be divided up into giving more men employment. A resolution was adopted to have eight men employed and these men to relay each other, working two weeks and being off for two weeks. This seemed to the committee to be the best solution to the working of the garbage system, with the view of giving more men employment.

Mr. Graham, school board inspector, appeared before the committee to place before them the necessity of something being done re the supplying of glasses to children in the different schools and whose parents under present conditions were unable to supply them with the same. Mr. Graham stated that Dr. Saunders of the city examined free of charge any of these cases which were brought to him from South Vancouver, and also stated that a certain optician in the city willingly supplied glasses to the children in these circumstances at cost price.

After some discussion a recommendation was passed that this committee recommend that the council pay for these glasses in these cases, when after careful investigation by the health officer it was found that the parents were unable to do this.

Following the health committee meeting, the committee of fire and light met. A communication was read from Mr. Pearson, re the remittance to him of the amount of taxes payable on his property on which No. 5 firehall is placed, and for which last year's council had agreed to remit the taxes as payment of their lease of the property for one year. After some discussion it was agreed to issue a cheque to Mr. Pearson covering the amount of taxes with the understanding that the same would be turned over by him to the tax collector. The municipal solicitor was instructed to have a properly drawn up lease prepared for the purpose of leasing this property in a manner suitable and agreeable to the owner of the property and the municipal council.

Communications were read from B. C. Electric re removing of flaming arc lamps in the municipality. It was agreed that the B. C. Electric be instructed to proceed with the work of removing the flaming arc lamps and replacing the same with the B. C. Electric arc lamps at a cost of 20 dollars per lam.

Meantime the council on Monday forenoon next will go over the municipality and investigate the whole of the lighting system of South Vancouver.

Reeve Gold and Clerk Springford being back from Victoria and present at this meeting, Councillor Campbell as chairman, asked the reeve to give an explanation of his action in suspending Fire Chief Lester. The reeve replied that he was having his reasons for the suspension typewritten and a copy of the same would be placed in the hands of each councillor as soon as they were ready. Councillor Campbell insisted, that as chairman of the fire and light committee, he had a right to know the reasons for this suspension as soon as such suspension had been made, and claimed it was an act of discourtesy on the part of Reeve Gold to act as he had done. The matter will be thrashed out on Friday at the full council meeting to be held that evening.

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