

THE DAILY NEWS

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DAILY EDITION

Saturday, Jan. 10, 1914

The meeting last night was the best Pattullo meeting yet. It was called by S. M. Newton and his supporters, but the result demonstrated beyond the shadow of a doubt that his case is lost. Men who previously to that were saying that the contest would be close were most enthusiastic in their belief that Mayor Pattullo has already won.

Several speakers preceded Mr. Newton, and while their remarks had nothing of enthusiasm in them, the crowd remained in silent expectation for the chief event. When that had come, however, it fell terribly flat. Mr. Newton had none of his old-time fire and before he was speaking fifteen minutes the crowd began to drift out, and before he was through the theatre was half empty.

The first mistake of the ex-mayor was in refusing to meet his opponents face to face. Mayor Pattullo had invited him to his previous meeting, but he refused to attend. When the Newton meeting was called he showed the white feather again and no invitation was sent either to the mayor or his supporters. His own followers were quietly asked to be present and the impression has got abroad that the old man is afraid to face the music.

Another noticeable feature of the meeting was the apparent discomfort of some of the gentlemen on the platform. This was particularly plain in the

attitude of the chairman, who, whatever his faults, at least likes to be in good company. There can be no doubt but that he regrets very much the embarrassing position in which he was placed, and it is doubtful if they will be able to rope him in again.

When every other effort failed to rouse enthusiasm, the ex-mayor decided to fall back on his old methods. The following are a few of the choice epithets which he used against his opponents: "Rascals," "robbers," "swindlers," "thieves." The use of such terms are enough to place a man behind the bars if he made his charge direct, but he knows that they are not true and therefore makes them in a general way. If any of our public men come under those classifications the people should know it, and Sam Newton or any one else would be backed up in his effort to rid the city of them. If he knows the facts the easiest way for him to get elected is to make his charges straight and expose the guilty parties. The people are weary of these veiled insinuations and will soon lose faith in a man who will not speak out.

The Hydro-Electric agreement is still uppermost and a big vote may be expected on that issue. The strangest kind of arguments are used against it. One man said that it is a scheme to boost Port Edward. As a matter of fact the more

little towns there are about Prince Rupert the better, and only the narrowest of minds will entertain such foolish notions. Indeed if this city refuses the company's agreement it is only natural that they might turn more of their attention to Port Edward than if they were admitted to this city. The Prince Rupert Hydro-Electric Company are in this district to stay. They have already a large outlay in capital, and if they can show that cheaper power can be had at Port Edward than here they are sure to attract business there that would otherwise come to this town.

We hear it said that the company want a monopoly from the city. As a matter of fact the city is offered a monopoly from the company. They are ready to give us an option on their first 3,000 horsepower. In this way the city can prevent outside points competing with us for power. This monopoly can be ours if we want it. We are giving away no franchise. A franchise is a concession granted within the city; the right to come in and sink perpetual power. Whatever defects the agreement may have, two things are clear. The period of the contract is twenty years; the maximum amount of power they ask us to buy is 3,000 horsepower, and these are the two most important clauses in the agreement.

Those who say the company should compete at the city's gate are trying to turn down the best part of the contract. If the agreement does not pass what the company is likely to do is to sit down till Rupert has a market worth going after, and then they will demand their price. We have a chance now to bind them down to a reasonable price, and if we don't take it we are sure to rue our action. The acceptance of the agreement means cheap power, and that almost immediately.

The ex-mayor went into a terrible rage about the city advertising. He says thousands of dollars were paid out for this purpose. Instead of that sum, this paper finds on its books a few paltry hundreds, which any citizen can verify. Besides this, the price paid by the city varies only from a third to a half of the price charged to private business men. And then, Sam Newton was offered his share of this work, but he turned it down flat. He would have nothing to do with it at the price the others papers charged. He wanted an increase of 20 per cent., and now he has the audacity to take the stand he does. His conduct clearly shows him to be devoid of all moral and social virtue.

Mining Machinery Coming

Two carloads of pipe and mining machinery have arrived at Skeena Crossing for the Rocher de Boule mine and there is a lot more on the way. The Continental Development Co. have had a big force of men on right along and they are ready for most of the plant. Frank Brown recently returned from a trip to Butte and Supt. Brown will be back in a short time. He will be back in a short time. Omineca Herald.

Twenty-eight towns in Ontario buy power in bulk at the city limits with a less favorable agreement than the Prince Rupert Hydro-Electric Co. agreement and all these towns are in favor of municipal ownership.

FOREST FIRES MINIMIZED

Co-operative Protection Prevents Large Losses.

The forest fire loss on Dominion forest reserves in Western Canada was smaller during the last season than ever before. On several of the reserves in Manitoba and Saskatchewan fire occasioned no damage whatever, and on the Dominion reserves in the railway belt, B. C., the only green timber injured by fire was four acres of young lodgepole pine.

That the fire loss on Dominion reserves in the west has been so remarkably small is due in large measure to the fact that the government rangers unceasingly sought, and obtained, the co-operation of all with whom they came in contact, whether settler, Indian, hunter, tourist or packer. The new fire posters ask for this co-operation instead of demanding it as previously; a plea for it is printed on railway time tables and on hunting licenses; it is secured from homesteaders by providing them with firefighting tools and by connecting rural telephone lines with ranger stations on the forest reserves, and even the Indians, many of whom were careless with fire, are now induced to assist in its prevention by being presented honorary metal badges by the Dominion government. Carelessness is the chief cause of forest fire and by its elimination the greatest difficulty in forest fire protection is overcome.

Reports Not Holy Writ

Great stress is being laid by the opponents of the power agreement bylaw on the reports of Engineer Thompson and Electrician Ross of Seattle. These men were brought in by the city. They looked over our hydro-electric proposition and made reports. These reports contained valuable technical information and good advice. They are probably worth every bit of their cost, but they must not be considered as holy writ. For instance Engineer Thompson made an estimate on the cost of the combined hydro-electric and waterworks scheme. The result of the work up to the present time shows his estimate to be at least \$200,000 out, or about 35 per cent too low. This is not to be charged as a blunder on the part of Mr. Thompson. He did not understand conditions in this country.

When Mr. Ross says the rates of power under the proposed agreement are too high he is probably sincere in his opinion. They may look high in Seattle, but they don't look high in Prince Rupert. If the citizens can cut 50 per cent. off their electric light bills they can afford to let the company make some profits.

Mounted Police Party Safe.

Regina, Jan. 7.—All fears as to the safety of Sergeant Harper of the Northwest Mounted Police and party were set at rest Saturday when Commissioner Perry received a wire via Edson stating that all hands, safe and well, were returning to Saskatoon Lake with their prisoner.

Baptist Services

Owing to the absence of Rev. Mr. Wright from the city, there will be no service in the Baptist church in the morning, but at 7:30 p. m. Capt. Eva Stride will preach. Sunday school at 2:30 p. m. Strangers cordially invited.

Whether the hydro-electric agreement passes or not you will require competent men at your council board. Don't forget to cast a ballot for D. H. Morrison.

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The Sealing Enquiry.

Victoria, Jan. 1.—Mr. Justice Audette sat every day last week except Christmas Day, hearing the Indian claims for sealing compensation and will sit every day this week but New Year's Day. Two hundred more claimants arrived Saturday and Sunday from west coast points and the north end of the island.

Municipal ownership means all public utilities within the city limits owned by the city. Under this agreement the city owns all its public utilities inside the city limits.

See the new American "E. Z. Wak" shoes for children at Scott, Froud & Co's.

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Comparative Statistics

The great growth of the business of the British Columbia Electric Railway Company Limited during the fifteen years of its operation is strikingly told in brief form by the following figures:

	1897-8	Present
General—		
Capital	\$2,700,000	\$30,000,000
Gross annual income	318,724	5,855,700
Population of districts served	50,000	220,000
Light and Power—		
Generating stations (output)	2,000h.p.	128,000h.p.
Lamps in service	28,068	707,000
Tramway System—		
Miles of single track	40	280.77
Passengers carried annually	3,654,300	60,563,300
Numbers of cars in service	50	700

In May, 1912, the number of lighting customers noted on the Company's books was 43,750 and the connected load for industrial purposes was 31,250 h.p.

GAS SUPPLY

Miles of Mains	36	139
Number of connections	2,258	14,750
Gross annual income	\$113,000	\$516,889

For the month of March, 1912, the payroll of the Company covered 5,086 employees, the total amount of the payroll for the period being \$391,255.77.

From the above it is seen that more than 1/2 h.p. is used per person; and this in a district where they have gas and cheap coal.

What More Could You Expect From The Boss?

Drawn For The Daily News by "Hop"

BY GOLLY-IT'S THE DAY AFTER XMAS- I DON'T LIKE TO ASK HIM FOR IT- BUT I CAN DROP A GENTLE HINT

HUM-I DID FORGET THE LIL' MONKEY-

LEFT HIS PRESENT IN MY DESK-

OH WELL-EVEN A PACKAGE OF PIPE CLEANERS IS BETTER THAN NO PRESENT AT ALL!