

The Daily News

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DAILY EDITION

Tuesday, Jan. 13, 1914



A VIEW OF CANES, CAPITAL OF CRETE, SHOWING DEFENCES

Island of Crete a few days ago became a possession of Greece King Constantine himself raised the Greek flag over the Capital.

The Power Issue

Is it good business to spend several hundred thousand dollars on a city hydro plant that will only develop 2,000 horse power? If Prince Rupert is going to be a big city she will require 20,000 horse power in a very few years. If she is not going to be a big city all our plans are wrong and the city itself is a mistake. Vancouver takes 125,000 horse power. What will Prince Rupert take on a conservative estimate?

Supposing we erect the Diesel oil auxiliary plant and build the Woodworth Lake power house. About the time we get them completed we will begin to realize that Prince Rupert needs a 10,000 h. p. system. That means the Woodworth Lake plant will have to be discarded for a bigger one, and we will have half a million dollars or more tied up in three plants that will go to the junk heap—the steam plant, the Diesel oil plant and the Woodworth Lake plant. Is that good business?

Does it not appeal to you as being better business to purchase power outside the city and use it as we require it until such time as the city needs a large unit justifying the development of a big power plant? There is no question of price. It is admitted that the price from the private company will be practically as cheap as the city developed power, but there is the advantage that in buying the power the city takes no chances. Why should the city expend its credit in developing a plant that will have to be discarded before it is paid for, when they can get the same service without any expenditure of capital?

The city is giving nothing but a contract to purchase a small amount of power at a definite price for a period of twenty years. There is no franchise for the company gets absolutely nothing within the city limits. The cutting out of a switch will shut them off at the completion of the contract. In the meantime the citizens have a definite assurance that their light bills will

be practically cut in two next September.

To develop the Woodworth Lake plant it will be necessary to overcome many obstacles which will make the project one of the indefinite future. It will first be necessary to pass another bylaw for \$200,000 or \$250,000. That may pass or it may not. Then the debentures will be issued and they may sell and they may not. After taking these hurdles the plant may be installed. Providing the people pass the bylaw, the financiers sell the bonds and there are no accidents or delays in putting in the plant, Prince Rupert may get cheaper light in two years. In the meantime we are paying through the nose for the empty privilege of saying we are developing a municipal plant, we will be turning away business and population. Is it worth the price?

When a politician asks a city on the eve of his growing time to forego sewers, light extensions, telephone extensions, water extensions, public buildings, schools and recreation grounds in order to develop a power scheme that won't give us electricity any cheaper than we can buy it from a company willing to invest millions in the district, he is working a fad to death.

Mr. Grady, representing the Barrett ranch in the Bulkley Valley, is now in the city shipping which came in on the Prince John yesterday. These will be the first sheep sent into the interior. The Barrett ranch is the only really big ranch in the interior. There are several thousand acres of it and several hundred are under cultivation. The sheep herding is a new venture.

Committee Rooms of opponents to Bylaw have established a telephone. Ask for, No Franchise 368. 7-14

You are asked to elect directors to handle your business. You should choose a man like D. H. Morrison for alderman, who is safe and progressive. 8-13

Garage Complete
Messrs. Rogers & Black's new garage on the corner of Third Avenue and Ninth Street is completed. It is a splendid building and fills a want that has been long felt. It is well lighted, both naturally and artificially. It has a cement floor and two approaches. The garage will probably be used to house all the cars in the city.
Messrs. Rogers & Black are also purchasing a new auto truck to be used for the outlying sections.

Aux Canadiens Francaise
Une assemblee Canadienne Francaise sera tenue dans la salle du Club Catholique, 5ieme et rue Fulton, ce soir, jan. 13, a 9 hrs. precis. Le but est de discuter d'affaires tres importantes, concernant les elections municipales. Ni manquez pas.
9-10 C. A. COUTURE.

- Hotel : Directory**
- Members P. R. L. Vintners Association**
 - WINDSOR HOTEL**
Corner of First Ave. and Eighth St.
W. H. Wright, Prop.
 - HOTEL CENTRAL**
First Avenue and Seventh St.
European and American Plan
Peter Black, Prop.
 - KNOX HOTEL**
First Ave., Between Eighth and Ninth
European Plan, Rates 50c to \$1.00
Per Day
Seener & Seener, Props.
 - J. Y. Rochester V. D. Casley**
EMPEROR HOTEL
Third Ave., Between Sixth and Seventh Streets
European Plan, 50 to \$1 Per Day
 - PREMIER HOTEL**
American and European Plan
F. W. Menning, Manager
 - ROYAL HOTEL**
Corley & Burgess, Props.
Third Ave. and Sixth St.
European Plan Steam Heated
 - BEAVER WHOLESALE LIQUOR CO., LIMITED**
Second Ave. and Sixth St.
Phone 102
 - PRINCE RUPERT IMPORTING CO., LIMITED**
Fraser and Sixth Sts.
Phone 7

The most interesting phase of the present campaign is seen when it is reviewed from the psychological side. The city seems to be divided into two hostile camps with a margin lying between that seems to care very little how it goes, and all they want is the fun. This applies particularly to the hydro-electric agreement. Most of the participants have arrived at the place where argument seems to count for little, for their minds are already made up.

At last night's meeting the attitude of men like Dr. Kergin and W. P. Lynch was one that would appeal to disinterested parties. Those are men whose opinions count, and when they declare that they believe the agreement to be a good one it should weigh strongly with those who have not yet made up their minds.

One of the speakers argued that the company under the agreement could get a few of their largest consumers together and by concerted action advance the peak load and make the city pay at that rate for the whole month. Perhaps

it never occurred to the speaker that such an action was criminal and that if a man is criminally inclined he can practice that principle in every walk of life—for a time. If men were so base as all that it would not be safe to do business at all, and even society itself could not stand.

While the hydro-electric agreement would be a great boon to this city, the most important issue before the people is their choice of a council. With the large number of aldermen in the field it should be easy to secure a very effective body. The next important thing is to elect a mayor who can work in harmony with them. This phase is perhaps more important than the calibre of the man. S. M. Newton fought with every council yet elected in Prince Rupert, and it would be hard to convince the citizens that those councils were all composed of bad men. Let us elect a man who will uphold the dignity of the office and who has enough faith in his fellow man to believe that he is not entirely hopeless.

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.

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