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SCHOOL BOARD HAS FOUR SESSIONS ON REPAIR QUESTION—COUNCIL IS TO BE CALLED IN.

(Continued from Page 1).
 as big as his hat in the masonry was exaggerated. There were no cracks in the corridor floors although there quite possibly were surface cracks. Mr. Potter said there were no sags in the floor before the heating of the building.

Mayor Gives Opinion.

Mayor Rochester maintained that there were sags in the floor before the heating. He had visited the school before that time and had noticed them in more than one room. The janitor had told him that water ran into the centre of the rooms.
 "There is no question of the fact that value was not given and the floors were not built according to specifications. It is a matter for discussion, the floors need reinforcing," declared Mr. Cox.

Mr. Basso-Bert Inquired about Foundation.

Mr. Basso-Bert inquired about the foundation, Mr. Cox replying that he had gone with a flashlight to different parts of the basement and had plunged into one foot deep in the basement. The foundation walls had been built on sloping rocks, against all sensible building methods and on irregular lines of excavation. He would not say that the building would slip off, but he would say the foundation had not been built in a proper way.

Mr. Basso-Bert said that the walls were only the long way.

Mr. Basso-Bert said that the walls were only the long way and there was nothing faulty with the foundation. Mr. Cox contended that there were slopes in all directions.

No Side Slopes.

Mr. Potter said there were no slopes that he knew of, but he might be the appearance of such on account of the excavation that had subsequently made for the proposed swimming tank.

Mr. Cox report indicates that the building has no stability and no carrying capacity, Mr. Potter, said Dr. Kergin, "What is carrying the weight now?"

"The tile walls and the 18-inch masonry floor," replied Mr. Potter. "I do not understand this wall proposition advanced by Mr. Cox."

"Probably you don't," interjected Mr. Cox. "You did not understand the other." Mr. Cox was here checked by

splendid opportunity to camouflage workmanship," said Mr. Cox, in referring to the rubble walls. Forms were used and stones of any size could be thrown in and facings put on the outside with cement. He maintained that the method of construction here was wrong for a public building and gave excellent opportunity for the covering up of sloppy work. He would not condemn them altogether at this time, however.

Mr. Basso-Bert went at length into the use of such walls, referring to buildings in Europe built exclusively by this method. It had been first class material. Mr. Potter said that the form of construction used here was just about the right system for local rock.

Mr. Cox said it was not equal to concrete. The rocks themselves would not stand up and the form of construction was rotten.

Mr. Basso-Bert referred to the DeLuxe Block which had been built in this manner. "Dances have been held there for three years. Do you think if it was no good that it would not have collapsed?"

Parapet Walls.
 In regard to the parapet walls, Mr. Cox said he could show where it would have been possible to make a much better job under the cornices. There were irregular joints and longitudinal wood had been put in the brick work. The fire walls had an unequal bearing on brick and tile and were badly balanced. This constituted a very weak point.

Mr. Potter said he did not know anything about longitudinal wood being used.

Cracked Tiles.
 Mr. Cox inquired why broken tiles had been used. They had become pinched and had slivered off. He had pushed his finger through the holes. Nine hole tiles specified had not been used. He would condemn six hole tiles as the building stood without pillars and beams. It made it nothing but a shell.

Mr. Potter said that the nine hole tiles could not be obtained so six hole were used. They had been ample for the purpose, however.

The question of laying the tiles on end instead of on their flat sides then came up. Dr. Kergin said that this was probably the crux of the whole matter and asked Mr. Parfitt for his opinion.

Mr. Parfitt said that workmanship had a great deal of bearing on the success of laying tiles on end. They were not laid on end for carrying weight unless they were filled with concrete. In a building of this nature he would say that they should have been laid flat especially because of local weather conditions.

California Contractor.

Mr. Valentine, a California contractor, who was called upon said that he had laid tiles in the vertical way on many buildings and it had been satisfactory. In the case of the school he would not say that it was necessary to fill them with concrete although the method of laying them on end needed careful workmanship and supervision. It would be impossible to get a perfect job in this manner if the tiles were saturated with water and frozen.

R. Bryson, court house construction superintendent, said that the vertical plan should not have been used in building the school. It should have been interlocking tile.

Mr. Potter said that metal clips had been used in holding the tiles.

Mr. Cox declared that the building was bulging in some places and the mortar was practically dust. When he scraped the joints the mortar had come out like porridge.

Mr. Potter said some defects were due to frost and wet, others to poor workmanship.

Usual Material.

Mr. Foster, who had worked

on the tile and brick laying, was called upon. The materials used, Mr. Foster said, had been as good as ever used in Prince Rupert. Some of the mortar had become like wet sand on account of the frost during and after laying. He had put pointing on the fire walls to replace the facing which had become rotten. It had been used to cover up the old mortar. (Laughter.)

Answering a question put by Mr. McLennan, Mr. Foster denied that mortar which had been allowed to freeze in a pile outside the building was smashed up with a pick and used. The mortar had really been frozen after it had been laid.

Threw a Bomb.

W. Watts threw something of a bomb into the proceeding when he declared that during the laying he had seen the walls bulge and knocked back into place with a trowel and the work carried on from there. He had said to the workman: "For God's sake, Fred, quit," to which the reply had been given that orders were to go on. The bricks could be picked off.

Mr. Patmore asked Mr. Watts why, when he knew of this, he had not notified the board. If they had known of it, it would have been stopped. Mr. Watts replied that it was not his duty to report to the board and was really none of his business to go over Mr. Potter who had told him, when he drew the matter to his attention, that it was a mere detail. The school board might have taken a look at the work once in a while themselves.

"Were you aware of this, Mr. Potter," asked Mayor Rochester.

"When I was there, 3 or 4 hours a day, 4 or 5 days a week, the work was being carried on properly. Regarding Mr. Watts' statement when I saw such work being done I ordered it fixed. However, it would have been possible for the workmen to flim flam it and it would take a mighty clever man to keep his eyes all over the job at one time."

"You were responsible for the release of Col McMorris," observed Mrs. Ling.

"Was the building built according to specifications," asked the mayor.

"With such modifications as I sanctioned," replied Mr. Potter. "Looking back now," asked Mr. McLennan, "is it your opinion that the faulty mortar was caused by frost?"

"Yes. If I built another building of this kind it would be built in the months of June, July and August," said Mr. Potter.

"How would you account for the fact that, in some places, the mortar is quite hard and in others quite soft?" queried Mayor Rochester.

"I would assume that there was more concrete in some places than in others."

Mr. Potter then gave a history of the tile and brick laying. The work had commenced at the beginning of September and had continued until March with a shutdown during the cold weather around Christmas and in January.

Explosion Danger.

The question of explosion in the building through fire was then spoken of. Mr. Cox declaring that disasters of the greatest kind had occurred in buildings of this nature through the walls blowing out. If the concrete wall was put around there would not be the same danger as in a shell such as the school, at present, was.

Floor joists were then discussed. This, Mr. Cox said, was a great factor in the safety of the building for deflection of joists had a tendency to weaken the walls.

Regarding the roof, Mr. Cox said that it looked to him as if temporary supports had been added after the roof had been put on.

Mr. Cox doubted if the building was anchored in every direction as Mr. Potter stated. It

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