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VOL. XV, NO. 40. PRINCE RUPERT, B.C., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1925. Yesterday's Circulation 1702. Street Sales 404. PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## HALF MILLION SET ASIDE FOR ELEVATOR AGREEMENT WITH MILL OWNERS IS TO BE VOTED ON BY RATEPAYERS

### Agreement with Sawmill to go Before the People for Their Endorsation Before Effective

#### Gives Concessions regard to Power and Water but in return City Gets Cheaper Lumber

After a lengthy discussion which was not devoid of some occasional acrimonious remarks particularly between Ald. Casey and Ald. Stephens, the city council last night decided to submit to the people an agreement, sponsored by Mayor Newton, whereby the Seal Cove sawmill will be given for the balance of this year concessions with respect to water and power supply in return for which the mill will agree to supply to the city and citizens lumber at a price not exceeding \$2 per thousand over Vancouver prices. The assessment on the mill, under the same agreement, will stand as at present.

Mayor Newton, in opening the subject, told of an informal meeting that had been held by the city council last week where it had been decided to recommend that the assessment should stand as at present and the old power rate of 3/4c per kilowatt should be granted together with a flat rate of \$10 for water. This would be for the present year only and not later than October 1, the council and company would get together again to negotiate a permanent agreement. It had also been agreed that the mill owners should be asked to sell their products to the city and citizens at a price not exceeding \$2 over Vancouver prices. This stipulation had subsequently been agreed to by the mill owners in the following telegram that had just been received: "We will undertake to supply our lumber to the city and local contractors at Vancouver prices plus \$2 per thousand, providing the city grant power and water rates as discussed with Mr. Bell."

City Solicitor Jones questioned the powers of the city to make an agreement regarding lumber prices to citizens generally. The proposal was a novel one and would probably have an effect on other lumber companies.

Mayor Newton was in favor of taking a chance on possible litigation when the opportunity presented itself to obtain cheaper prices for citizens. Ald. Casey felt similarly. Inasmuch as this tentative agreement had been made, he (Ald. Casey) felt the arrangement should be confirmed. He moved accordingly and Ald. Perry said he was willing to second provided there was some limit to the water that might be consumed under the flat rate. Mayor Newton felt that stipulation as to water might be waived in view of the fact that the proposed agreement was to be for such a short period. If necessary, he would approve of the whole thing being put to the vote of the people at this time. Ald. Perry also thought it might be wise to take the advice of the citizens. Ald. Casey could not see the necessity of going to the people with the temporary agreement. His motion that the agreement be confirmed and that the city solicitor be authorized to draw up the contract was seconded by Ald. Brown.

Stephens Disapproves

"I can only register my disapproval of the whole agreement," declared Ald. Stephens. "It constitutes a complete and unconditional surrender to the company by the city. The citizens will get nothing while the mill will get all it has asked for." (continued on page two)

### CONSERVATIVES BALDWIN GETS MAKE SPEECHES GOOD MAJORITY

Attack Government Policy But First Attack on Policy of British  
no Replies From Other Side of House Government by Opposition  
Falls

OTTAWA, Feb. 17. — The debate on the address finally ended in the House of Commons last night. The address was adopted on a division but without the usual recording of the vote and without the submission of an amendment.

Since the debate was revived on Friday, the speakers were entirely from the Conservative ranks. Donald Sutherland of North Oxford attacked W. T. Preston, who investigated the North Atlantic combine. Horatio Hoeken of West Toronto said Canada was being taxed to death. J. N. Stansell of East Elgin asked what was the use of spending money on immigration when for every raw immigrant who entered the country two native Canadians went out. Hon. J. B. Baxter declared the speech from the throne was nothing but an attempt at patchwork.

HOEY SCORES  
Vancouver 3, Calgary 1.  
Regina 6, Edmonton 8.

### Proposal to Place All City Lots on Market in near future under Comprehensive Plan says Casey

A debate of some length as to the principle that should be applied by the city in disposing of lots that had reverted to it at tax sale was indulged in at the meeting of the council last night. The matter came up in connection with the opening of tenders for a number of lots for which application had been made and which had been subsequently advertised for sale. It was suggested by Mayor Newton that the bids be referred to the finance committee with power to act and Ald. Casey moved to that effect.

Ald. Stephens felt that the principle that might be involved was too important a one to be dealt with summarily by the finance committee. The entire council, he thought, should share in the responsibility. There should be a definite policy which could be applied to all such lots. Then the city could not be accused of playing favorites. He would recommend that the assessed valuation would be a fairer basis in disposing of such lots than that of accrued taxation against them. Against two of the lots now under consideration there was a total of \$1,700 in accrued taxation. An offer of \$200 each had been made. In this case, the city could hardly expect to receive the \$1,700. On the other hand, he was not in favor of sacrificing lots at less than the assessed values because there was only a small amount of taxes against them.

Ald. Casey's Plan

Ald. Casey felt that, if Ald. Stephens' policy was adopted, the city would be able to do no business in lot selling. The city now held over 800 tax sale lots and he felt that as many of them as possible should be disposed of. If the city could sell all these lots for the taxes that stood against them it would bring in a revenue of \$110,000. All the city should expect to get out of them was the money owed them. It would be wise, he felt, to get rid of them on that basis. He felt that the present offers might be referred to the finance committee with power to act. "Later on," said Ald. Casey, "after the 1925 assessment has been settled, it is my intention to lay before the council a program to dispose of the entire bulk of these lots."

Ald. Stephens inquired if it was Ald. Casey's intention to sell any of the property at less than the taxes against it.

In reply, Ald. Casey said it would be his intention to take all conditions into consideration, such as past and present values and future prospects, and judge on that basis. Some lots, he felt, might bring more than the taxes against them, others less. He would hope to strike a balance, though the city might stand to lose some money in respect of accrued taxes. In any case, the city would be able to know just how much it was going to lose.

Reply to Casey

Ald. Stephens said that his plan would be that, if the assessed value of the lots could not be taken as a basis, at least a percentage of it could. Ald. Casey had said that the city would get \$110,000 if it obtained the taxes against all its lots. However, it was not his (Ald. Casey's) policy to get that \$110,000 for he had said that the city would lose on some while it might gain on others. "If the city does not consider its lots worth anything, then how can the private holders be expected to do so?"

Ald. Casey felt that, if the city (continued on page 5)

### PROTECTION IS BATTLECRY OF CONSERVATIVES

Party Headed by Arthur Meighen  
Would go Limit in Higher  
Duties

OTTAWA, Feb. 17. — Protection to the bill is the proposed remedy for all the ills of state according to the Conservative party now putting up a vigorous opposition to the government. This is directly opposed to the policy of the Progressive Party, which is also part of the nominal opposition but which through its vote is keeping the government in power. The debate on the address shows clearly that the Progressives have nothing to hope for from the Meighen group.

During the debate on the address the policy of most of the Conservative speakers has been to paint a gloomy picture and then to place beside it another picture of what might be if protection were put into force.

It does not look as if the opposition would pierce very deeply the armor of the government and an election is scarcely a probability this year.

### WATSON COMES FACE CHARGE

Left This Morning for B.C. After  
Waiving Extradition Pro-  
ceedings

SEATTLE, Feb. 17. — Ross Watson, former Seattle detective, left on the 9 o'clock boat today in custody of the provincial police for British Columbia to face a charge of participating in the Nanaimo Bank robbery. Watson waived extradition after two months of futile fight against it. He declares he will prove an alibi. Application for bail will be made without delay.

### COLLINS DEAD WHEN REACHED

Rescuers Came Too Late as Life  
Had Fled Several Days Be-  
fore

CAVE CITY, Feb. 17. — After more than two weeks battle with nature the rescuers yesterday reached Floyd Collins in the gravel cave where he had been pinned by a rock which held his foot, only to find him dead. Physicians who examined the body said that Collins had been dead several days.

### CHURCH UNION HAS 1300 VOTES AND 431 AGAINST

TORONTO, Feb. 17. — The returns up to noon today given out by the Church Union bureau indicate that 1303 congregations had then voted in favor of Church Union and 431 against. This is in addition to the large number of congregations favoring union which do not vote.

### P. BURNS GETS ABATTOIR SITE

Railway Company Announces  
Lease of Property Has Been  
Granted

The way is now open for P. Burns & Co. Ltd. to build the abattoir that they have proposed to erect at Cow Bay. Through the local superintendent's office, the company has been offered the lease of 150 feet of water frontage just west of the Imperial Oil Co.'s dock. This is practically identical with what it asked for. Whatever trackage the company requires will also be granted.

In reference to this, R. E. Moore, the local manager for P. Burns & Co., stated this afternoon that the plans for the abattoir were in the hands of the head office and he could not say definitely when building would proceed.

Definite decision has not yet been reached by the railway company with respect to the application of the Edison Coal Co. and the Consumers Coal Co. for waterfrontage adjoining that which has been granted to P. Burns. It is expected that these applications will also be definitely settled within a short time.

### INQUIRY INTO HUGE SWINDLE

Alleged Obtaining of False Cer-  
tificates and Permits of En-  
try For Foreigners

OTTAWA, Feb. 17. — A searching inquiry into a huge swindle was allegedly unearthed by the Canadian Mounted Police in the illegal obtaining of certificates of naturalization passports and immigration permits for entry to Canada of relatives and friends of foreigners by conspiracy and fraud is being continued by the authorities.

It is believed there are many cases of large sums paid agents in Canada for illegally bringing foreigners to Canada.

Rev. Arthur Barner of Toronto, superintendent of Methodist Missions, after having spent the past month in this district, is sailing with Mrs. Barner this afternoon on the Cardena for Vancouver.

### Vote for Elevator at Ottawa Half Million Dollars in Estimates

OTTAWA, Feb. 17. — The main estimates for the coming fiscal year tabled in the House of Commons last night by Hon. J. A. Robb, acting minister of finance, contain a sum of \$500,000 for the grain elevator at Prince Rupert. Halifax gets \$575,000 for an elevator and Esquimaux drydock is provided for to the extent of \$1,000,000.

The total estimates for the year provide for expenditure of \$342,036,597, a reduction over last year of \$6,933,279, for similar services.

### OFFER IS MADE FOR PROPERTY

Proposal to Erect Concrete Block  
If Sale of Government  
Land Is Made

An offer has been made to the provincial government for one hundred feet frontage on Third Avenue at the corner of fourth Street, where the library building now stands. The person making the offer is ready to give \$20,000 for the property and to erect a two storey concrete block thereon at once.

There is nothing to indicate whether the Government will accept the offer or not. The Government had been expecting to get more money than that for the land. If it is sold it will at once become taxable, whereas at present it pays nothing to the city. It is also argued that it would begin to fill up a bad gap which at present interferes with business.

The Provincial Government assured the Library Board at the time they were given the use of the building, that they would be allowed to move it off, in case of the property being sold. This they will doubtless do if the sale is consummated. It is understood that the city has room for the library building on its property near the City Hall.

Mrs. E. C. La Trace left on last night's train for St. Paul, Minn., on a holiday trip.

### POOR FARMERS WANT PROTECTION AGAINST SWINDLES

LONDON, Feb. 17. A score of Middlesex farmers requested the Government to aid them in recovering the sum of \$288,000 invested by them in Texas oil stocks. They allege they were victims of one of the greatest swindles ever staged in Ontario.

### STORK'S MOTION IN HOUSE OF COMMONS COVERS LOT OF GROUND

The motion to be moved by Fred Stork asking for returns in the House of Commons, mention of which was made Saturday in a special despatch from Ottawa, asks that there be returns of all monies received by the Dominion government from all sources within the boundaries of each province and the amount expended by the Dominion in each province.

In addition he asks the amount of money contributed to each province by the Dominion since confederation with a view to ascertaining whether the present basis of contribution by provinces is fair and equitable.

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### WAR VETERANS FINED \$1,000 SELLING BEER

Magistrate Decides Dominion  
Organization Liable For  
Local Branches

VICTORIA, Feb. 17. — For selling beer to minors a fine of \$1,000 was imposed upon the Great War Veterans' Association of Canada in the police court today.

In discussion of the evidence counsel Magistrate Jay disagreed with the arguments that local branches were distinct from the Dominion organization.

### COLLINS' BODY STILL IN CAVE

Funeral Service Held at Mouth of  
Shaft This Afternoon

CAVE CITY, Feb. 17. — The natural tomb in which Floyd Collins was buried alive nearly two weeks ago will remain his final resting place owing to the danger of rescuing the body. The doctor said Collins had been dead from three to five days when the body was reached yesterday.

Funeral services were held this afternoon at the mouth of the rescue shaft.

### MISS TOLMIE KILLED SELF

Verdict of Suicide While of Un-  
sound Mind Brought by  
Jury

VICTORIA, Feb. 17. — A verdict of suicide while of unsound mind was returned yesterday by the coroner's jury inquiring into the death of Miss Geraldine Tolmie who was found on a cement path below the second storey window of her home. She was a niece of former Lieutenant Governor Patterson and made her home with Mrs. Patterson at the Uplands.

### KING GEORGE HAS BRONCHITIS ATTACK

LONDON, Feb. 17. — King George is suffering from bronchitis. His condition is reported satisfactory this afternoon.