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**Bilton
House School**
FOR BOYS
29th Street and P.G.E. Railway
Day Boys and Boarders Taken
Next Term Starts January 9th
Headmaster, K. H. FOYSTER

Correspondence

Editor, West Vancouver News,

Sir—In view of the forthcoming elections and more particularly concerning the road and bridge bylaw which is being re-submitted to the electors at the same time, may I ask space in your valuable paper in which to express an opinion on the matter.

Though the votes cast when the bylaw was first submitted showed in favor of it, will anyone say the majority of the permanent residents of this municipality really wish the improvements embodied in the bylaw (however desirable they may be?) to be effected at the present time or in the immediate future?

Consider the much more urgent and needful work it is imperative to have done if our municipality is to grow to the proportions we all wish, viz.: improved water service, the opening up of the higher levels, sidewalks, a modern sewerage system, and that absolute essential—adequate fire protection.

I am informed on good authority that because of the insufficiency of the fire protection, that the fire insurance rates in West Vancouver are nearly double the rates which obtain in the City of Vancouver.

Further, I am firmly of the opinion that had there been proper fire-fighting appliances, such as the size of our municipality requires, the disastrous fire which occurred at our home on the morning of December 15 would not have exceeded \$500 in damage, instead of between \$5,000 and \$6,000 as is actually the case.

One must bear in mind the obvious fact that future residents contemplating building homes here, will hesitate and seriously consider the question of investing, say, from five to six thousand dollars in a home if their investment cannot be properly protected. It is indeed a serious matter and well worth serious attention.

It would be, to say the least, interesting to know how many of the permanent residents of West Vancouver would receive direct and immediate benefit from the passing of the bylaw. I imagine but a few, and it would be much more interesting to know to what purpose and extent, even that few would be benefitted.

I would ask, sir, through the valuable medium of your paper, that every elector in this municipality take into serious consideration the facts mentioned herein, and that in their deliberations they put "first things first" and vote against the bylaw.

Yours truly,
JOHN SPECK.

TRAFFIC AND REVENUE GROWING ON P. G. E.

Interesting figures relating to the Pacific Great Eastern Railway were given to those attending the luncheon on Tuesday of the transportation bureau of the Board of Trade by Robert Wilson, assistant to the executive of the railway.

Fifty per cent. of the total investment in the road is made up of interest and discount on funded debt, loss on operations since 1913, and other charges not in the nature of construction or equipment of the railway, he said.

In submitting figures showing the increase in traffic and earnings since the government took over the railway, Mr. Wilson pointed out that the earnings for the sixteen months ending June 30, 1919, were \$247,662, as compared with \$401,469 for the twelve months ending 1926.

It was declared that as a result of reduction in freight rates to farmers to induce production, there had been a marked increase in tonnage of shipments. For example, 1129 tons of hay were shipped in 1921, and in 1926, 2503 tons. In 1921, the tonnage of livestock handled was 2349, and in 1926 the total was 4852 tons. Of forest products, 28,754 tons were hauled in 1921, and in 1926, 32,683 tons.

Reduction in the deficit in the operation of the railway last year, as compared with the preceding year, was \$40,000, Mr. Wilson said, and a further improvement was expected this year. Due to curtailment of service commensurate with the traffic, the North Shore branch showing had also improved this year, he said.

The speaker dealt with the agricultural, mineral and timber resources of the territory tributary to the railway, and expressed an optimistic view of the railway from a traffic standpoint. Efforts of the new board of directors to improve conditions under which the road was operated were described by Mr. Wilson.

W. B. A. WHIST DRIVE WELL ATTENDED

Election of Officers

Last Saturday night the Women's Benefit Association held a progressive whist drive in Ambleside Hall which was most successful from every point of view. Refreshments were served by the ladies of Review No. 24, and all round there were very evident signs that the function was enjoyed by all present. Mrs. L. R. Scribner and Mrs. P. C. Chapman were each winners of a turkey for first prizes. The consolation prizes went to Mrs. K. L. McMillan and Mr. D. McDonald, whilst Mrs. McDonald was awarded the hidden prize. The travelling prize went to Mrs. Grisedale.

At the regular meeting held Wednesday of last week there was an election of officers, when the following ladies were elected to office dating from 1st January next: Past president, Mrs. Laura E. Edwards; president, Mrs. Henrietta Urquhart; vice-president, Mrs. D. McTavish; recording secretary and treasurer, Mrs. Harry Thompson; financial secretary, Mrs. A. Stronge; chaplain, Mrs. F. Rivers; sergeant, Mrs. C. Hay; captain of guard, Mrs. Dennison; color bearer, No. 1, Mrs. J. Burkhart; press secretary, Mrs. S. E. Romans. Other officers will be elected next month. The W. B. A. meets monthly in the Ambleside hall.

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J. M. Barrie's "Peter Pan" On Screen Next Monday

The secret of the origin of fairies is out. "Peter Pan" gives it away at last in Herbert Brenon's production of J. M. Barrie's famous fantasy for Paramount, coming to the Hollyburn theatre next Monday.

When the first baby laughed for the first time, its laugh broke into a thousand pieces and they all went skipping about. That was the beginning of fairies," says Peter Pan.

Children who believe in fairies are the ones who keep them alive, according to Peter.

"Every time a child says 'I don't believe in fairies,' one of them suddenly dies. Fairies are nearly all dead now because so many children refuse to believe in them any more."

The adventures of the three Daring children, Wendy, John and Michael with Peter in the Never Never Land form the theme of Barrie's wonderful fantasy.

For more than twenty years, "Peter Pan" has been a favorite with millions of theatre-goers. For the first time this wonderful story has been brought to the screen.

Betty Bronson, chosen by Barrie, plays the title role; Ernest Torrence, Cyril Chadwick, Virginia Brown Faire and Anna Wong are featured in the picture.

Willis Goldbeck wrote the screen play from Barrie's stage production. Roy Pomeroy's artistic genius materially aided Herbert Brenon in the filming of many fairy-like effects.

Jim Jefferies Starts Training For Channel Swim

"Jim" Jefferies has seemingly decided to start training for the Christmas Day swim. The first practice was held yesterday (Wednesday) morning, in the creek running alongside his meat store. Evidently this first experience dampened his ardour very considerably and it certainly dampened his clothes, which he had neglected, in the rush of things, to take off. Mr. Jefferies says that "a skate" is going to be good enough for him in future. Let those bathe who will. It is said that all things have a beginning as well as an ending. The beginning of this episode lay in the fact that Mr. Jefferies felt an overwhelming desire to start work, but the spring lock on his store door prevented him from gaining admission, so, being more or less of an athlete, he decided that he would gain entry through the basement. Hence he started to clamber down the rocks with this object in view. Suddenly his foot slipped on the icy surface, and he was immersed in the creek. We have it on good authority that any records made by other "channel" swimmers were totally eclipsed in J. J.'s get-away. It is a good thing it was in the early morning—right after porridge—instead of at night, or we would have been thinking very much of Christmas cheer.

Dr. F. Stainsby, 19th and Marine Drive, who recently suffered an infection in one of his hands, has now fully recovered.

RIDLEY—CATES

A pretty wedding was solemnized on the evening of November 30, when Ethel Uneata, youngest daughter of Captain H. E. Cates and Mrs. Cates, was united in marriage to Mr. Charles Ridley, second son of Mr. and Mrs. Ridley of Caulfeild. Rev. A. H. Sovereign officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, wore a gown of white silk georgette, her veil held in place by a wreath of orange blossoms and brilliants. She carried a shower bouquet of pink rosebuds, carnations and lily of the valley. She was attended by Miss Annie Ridley sister, of the groom, wearing a gown of peach georgette and a black picture hat. Her bouquet was of carnations and lily of the valley. The groom was supported by Mr. Arthur Ridley. Mr. Bullen played the wedding march and during the signing of the register Mr. Stanley Stenes sang.

After the ceremony a reception was held at the home of Captain and Mrs. J. A. Cates, uncle and aunt of the bride, when the rooms were decorated with huge bowls of chrysanthemums and ferns.

Mr. and Mrs. Ridley are now residing at the Mowat House, Cypress Park.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

The public and high schools close today, (Thursday), for the Christmas holidays, and will not re-open until Tuesday, January 3rd.

The Capilano Timber Co., Ltd.
extends to all its friends and
Patrons of West Vancouver its
Best wishes for

A Very Merry Christmas

The Capilano Timber Company
LIMITED

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