

The WEST VAN. NEWS

A Weekly Newspaper

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No. 40

Reeve Vinson Gives Masterly Address

Explains Fully About By-Law

The first big gun in the municipal campaign was fired last night, when Reeve Vinson and Councillors Watt and Jackman addressed a meeting in the Hollyburn Theatre. Ex-Reeve Geo. H. was chairman and the large audience present listened with close interest to the speakers, who gave figures and reasons why the council had submitted the by-law last October and why they had decided to re-submit it again this month to the electors.

Reeve Vinson gave a forceful and convincing address of an hour's duration, during which he went very thoroughly into the facts and figures relating to the by-law. On the platform were a large car, giving economic facts on the bridge and road. Figures contained in these two checks have been gone over and checked by Engineer Duncan, Engineer Hanes, Mr. Gallagher, and the Deputy Minister of Public Works in Victoria, and in their opinion are absolutely correct and represent the actual costs of the proposed new bridge and road with the alternatives in each case.

The figures are as follows:

BRIDGE
Principal sum \$77,000.00
Interest on bridge 3,850.00
Sinking fund, bridge 1,378.30
Total annual fixed charge 5,228.30

ALTERNATIVE
Bridge maintenance annually. Average over 10 years \$4,500.00

ROAD
Principal sum \$143,000.00
Interest annual 7,150.00
Sinking fund 2,559.70
Total annual fixed charge 9,709.70

ALTERNATIVE
Principal sum Nil
Annual maintenance \$23,910.86
Municipality's share 60% \$14,346.51

These figures were the basis on which Reeve made his address and referred to them again and again. He emphasized the fact as did the two councillors, despite all statements that had been made to the contrary, that these were the actual figures that had been presented—as well as the future as regards the road bridge.

The 1 and 800 feet of mile 12 had been classified this year, as an important thing and one that previous reeves and councillors had been trying to accomplish for years. For this he gave credit to J. M. Bryan, M.L.A., whose efforts it was mainly due to that the council had been very thoroughly into the question of the unsatisfactory condition of Marine Drive when it was in his office, as a result of which he had instructed Engineer McGowan to go over the road and make his recommendations.

He called for an expenditure of \$22,500.00 of which the municipality's share was \$13,600.00. His report on the road, which had been authorized by the 1926 council, called for an expenditure including river

bank protection, of \$154,200.00, of which the municipality's share was \$77,000.00. His plan allowed for a choice of two positions for the bridge, one just south of the present structure, the other some 600 feet north of it. The government, however, had decided in favor of the present location.

He referred to the present road being too narrow for safety, and stressed the fact that, while the west end of the district had been dead for a number of years until the road from Caulfeild to Whytecliff had been built, following the opening of the road property had immediately begun to sell. In Ward 1 the following increases in assessments had taken place between the years 1926 and 1927:—land values, 66%; improvements, 75%; Ward 1, west of Caulfeild, land values 66% and improvements 64%; tax levy in Ward 1, 64%.

The total expenditure on the road for this year had been \$20,464.28. Vancouver spent millions on publicity to attract the tourist and got millions out of them as witness the amount of American bills in circulation everywhere in the city during the summer. If we did not get some of this money in West Vancouver, it was because we had failed to provide the necessary attractions.

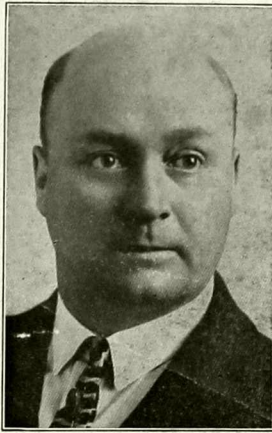
In conclusion he had always given his best efforts and frequently more time than he could afford to the service of the municipality, and would continue so to do if elected.

Councillor Watt reminded his hearers that the road was now, being classified, out of our control. We were in the position of partners, and must play fair with our partner, the provincial government, who had stated, very politely but none the less firmly, that they were opposed to spending anything more on the road for repairs.

Councillor Jackman stated that the figures displayed on the economic checks on the road and bridge were sufficiently convincing without any further evidence, but pointed out that the difference between maintenance costs of the present road and sinking and interest fund charges on the new road would provide the annual charges of a new ferry.

REV. A. M. O'DONNELL RESUMES PASTORATE

The many friends of Rev. A. M. O'Donnell will be glad to learn that he will be back in his pulpit at the United Church next Sunday and will preach at both the morning and evening services. Mr. O'Donnell, though not yet fully recovered from his very serious illness, has shown great improvement of late, and it is the sincere hope of his friends that he will soon regain his usual health. The United Church will undoubtedly be packed next Sunday to welcome back this popular minister.



REEVE V. V. VINSON

MANY NEW YEAR PARTIES HELD

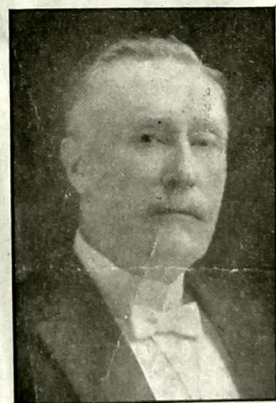
The people of West Vancouver celebrated the advent of 1928 in a very enthusiastic manner. Many parties were held and there was much social visiting among old friends who year by year make it a point of seeing each other and expressing their good wishes for the year. The general feeling throughout the municipality is one of optimism and belief in the steady growth of the district, and this feeling was much in evidence at the private parties and the atmosphere at all the social functions was, apart from its seasonal nature, one of confidence and contentment.

SCHOOL TRUSTEES' ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Board of School Trustees will be held next Wednesday, January 11th, in the auditorium of the new Inglewood School.

A. A. RERRIE IMPROVING

A. A. Rerrie, 18th and Duchess, who has been very seriously ill with typhoid fever since November, is much improved. Some weeks ago he suffered a relapse and his condition for a time was a matter of great anxiety to his many friends, who will be glad to hear he has now passed the danger point and is well on his way to complete recovery.



J. J. DUTTON

who will again be a candidate for councillor.

Point Grey Refused Assistance By Government in Road Building

Point Grey electors will vote on 3 bylaws amounting to \$195,000. It was proposed to submit a fourth measure to provide \$85,000 for that municipality's share of the cost of paving Granville Street from King Edward Avenue to 41st Avenue, but this had to be DROPPED BECAUSE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S REFUSAL TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROJECT.

The above item is of more than passing interest to the people of West Vancouver. Here is a concrete instance of a municipality's wish to obtain government assistance in road building which has been offered to West Vancouver, and which some would have us refuse. The government does not offer this financial assistance to all and sundry, as is very evident in the case of Point Grey as outlined above. Indeed it is safe to say that very few in any district would decline a cool quarter of a million dollars as some in our municipality suggest doing, but, since the government has offered this, there is, as Reeve Vinson has pointed out, a very real danger of the offer being withdrawn unless it is accepted without any further hesitation. If the bylaw does not pass, it will not be a question in the future of whether we shall accept this financial assistance but rather can we prevail upon the government to grant it? Neither this government nor any other is going to try and force a sum of money of this magnitude on West Vancouver or upon any other municipality.

In previous issues of THE NEWS we pointed out the danger of this very condition now realised by Point Grey—the refusal of the provincial government to pay any share of the cost of the construction. However, since through a fortunate circumstance the opportunity has been given us, we should think and think well and carefully before turning it down.

Reeve Vinson and Councillors Watt and Jackman on another page of this issue give us their reasons why the by-law should carry. As our elected representatives, their views should be carefully considered. Study the question carefully yourself. Go to the meetings. Ask questions. Analyse the conditions. We believe that then you will think as we do, i.e., that the by-law should carry by a handsome majority.

C. R. Lane, late city treasurer, will be opposing Mayor Morden in North Vancouver City and there is a possibility that another candidate will be heard from before nominations close. In North Vancouver City and District as well as in West Vancouver all offices will be keenly contested. The issue of the Road and Bridge By-law, however, holds the centre of interest for the North Shore.

ELECTION MEETINGS CREATE REMARKABLE INTEREST

Signs are everywhere evident that a strenuous campaign is being held in West Vancouver. Reeve Vinson has opened campaign headquarters in the Keith block, 1540 Marine Drive, and Mr. Gisby's headquarters are in the Ross block, Ambleside. Next Monday we shall know definitely just what candidates there will be in the field for the council, school board, and police commission. Meantime, no names have been prominently mentioned, other than those given in our last issue, for the council, Messrs. W. McQuaker, J. J. Dutton, Robert Fiddes, and Peter Wait.

Interest in the election is now at fever heat, and, of course, the fight between Reeve Vinson and Mr. Gisby and the road and bridge by-law is the battle royal on which all eyes are focussed. Reeve Vinson's meeting in the Hollyburn Theatre last night was the first big gun fired in the campaign. His meeting in the Dundarave Hall tonight and the annual stewardship meeting in the Hollyburn Theatre next Monday as well as the Tuesday and Thursday meetings next week will create remarkable interest, and there will be no excuse that any of the citizens did not have an opportunity of learning the why and the wherefore of the platforms.

There will unquestionably be a record vote polled, and, to ensure electing your candidate, no matter for what office, you will have to get out and vote. Nothing is sure in an election of this kind except the vote, and it is both sure and efficacious.

DATE OF ELECTION

Next Monday is Nomination Day.

Candidates for all offices must file their declarations with the returning officer at the Municipal Hall, Hollyburn, before 2 p. m. The election will be held a week tomorrow, that is Saturday, and the poll will be open from 8 A. M. to 8 P. M.