

# The WEST VAN. NEWS

## A Weekly Newspaper

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### REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF TRADE NEXT MONDAY

The monthly meeting of the West Vancouver Board of Trade will be held next Monday at 8 p.m. in the Legion rooms. The meeting of the council of the board last Wednesday was well attended and several matters of interest discussed there will be brought up at the meeting next Monday. It is hoped that every member will make a special point of being out for this meeting.

### CEMETERY BOARD ASKS FOR \$2,000.00

The cemetery board have advised the council that the anticipated deficiency in meeting sinking fund, interest and operation charges for the ensuing year would be approximately \$2,000, which would be required by 1st June, and have asked them to make provision in the estimates for this sum. The question was laid over for the estimates.

### ESTIMATES AND TAX SALE LANDS BEFORE COUNCIL

The council is holding a meeting tonight (Friday) at 7:30 o'clock, for the purpose of discussing estimates and the question of tax sale lands. It is expected at this meeting that the mill rate will be struck.

### CONTRACTORS ARE GIVEN EXTENSION

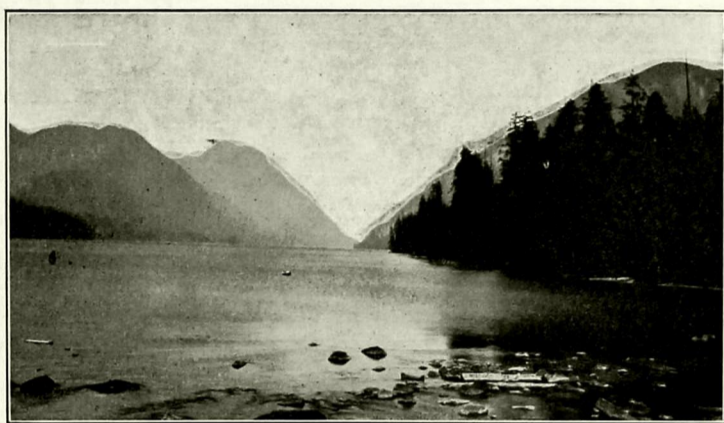
The council at their special meeting on Monday night granted Bartholomew, Montgomery & Co., the contractors for the Queen's avenue pipeline, an extension of time up to 15th April to complete their contract.

### Spring Approaches

February is more than half over. Spring is not very far away. The weather this month has been very mild, and all indications point to an unusually early spring. The Indians say so, and they are seldom wrong. The birds and animals act so, and they never make any mistakes in such a matter, where mistakes spell starvation and death. The robins and blue jays have been back for some weeks, and recently the seals passed up the B. C. coast a full month ahead of the usual time to their breeding grounds on the islands north of us. Violets and snowdrops and the crocuses are above the ground in our gardens, and the daffodil plants are growing again after their long winter sleep.

Last year we had very little summer, although we were more fortunate than the old country, where they had no summer at all. It looks now, though, as if nature is going to make up to us in 1928 for her niggardliness in 1927 in the matter of warm sunshine, and there is every prospect of a long summer ahead of us. This brings before us the matter of our gardens and boulevards. While it may appear to many somewhat early for them, still the frost is out of the ground and, with little likelihood of any more severe weather, we have an opportunity of turning over our flower beds and getting them ready for the summer's activities. West Vancouver has always been justly celebrated for its flowers and gardens, and our residents, backed by the Horticultural Society, have year by year worked hard to beautify this beautiful part of Greater Vancouver. That they have been successful in their efforts is proved by the prizes they have won in competition with the people of other localities.

Nothing renders a place so attractive as well-kept gardens and boulevards. This coast is celebrated for its flowers, and people from other parts of Canada view with envy and admiration the roses that bloom so profusely in Greater Vancouver. With the evidences that are accumulating of an old-fashioned summer, our residents will do well to begin their preparations now for getting their gardens in order for planting time.



WATER POWER OF "ALOUETTE LAKE" BEING DEVELOPED

With the completion of the new automatic power plant at Alouette, the British Columbia Electric Railway will add 12,500 h.p. to its hydro-electric system on the Lower Mainland of British Columbia. This new additional power source has necessitated an expenditure of approximately \$2,500,000.

Work on the construction of the new Alouette power plant has been in progress since the early part of 1924, and is now practically completed. The construction of the tunnel, erection of the dam and building of the power house have now been finished to all intents and purposes, and the installation of the generating machinery is also nearing completion.

The new power plant is located about twenty-five miles due east of Vancouver. The nearest point on either roadway or railway was Haney, and the first work to be undertaken by the company after deciding to develop the water power of Alouette Lakes was to establish the necessary transportation communication.

A tunnel has been driven from Alouette Lakes to the Stave River and a dam built to raise the level of the lakes to permit the necessary diversion and to increase the storage capacity.

The new plant will commence supplying power to the Lower Mainland of British Columbia in a few more weeks, and will be but a further indication of the confidence which the British Columbia Electric Railway Company has in the future of this province.

### WATERBED BEING TESTED FOR TUNNEL

Testing of the waterbed on the North Shore at the Lions Gate, in connection with the proposed pressure tunnel to carry submarine mains, has not yet revealed suitable conditions for such a tunnel, it is reported. The work has cost approximately \$30,000. Commissioner E. A. Cleveland of the water board has been given authority to drill two more test holes east of First Narrows.

### Building Shows Signs of Activity

Evidence accumulates that 1928 is to be a banner year for West Vancouver. It is rumored that a building to contain two stores and living quarters is to be erected on the south side of Marine Drive immediately east of the Royal Bank building, and it is said that the construction of another store building is contemplated in the same district. A number of houses are in course of construction in various parts of the municipality.

Permits have been taken out this month for a \$3800 house at 25th and Lawson, and for another \$3500 home at 17th and Gordon, as well as for several others for smaller amounts.

### ESTIMATES FOR SCHOOLS \$54,300

The school board wrote the council on 13th February stating that, in submitting estimates for 1928 for \$54,300, it was their intention, if a bylaw is prepared for the construction of school buildings, to include in such by-law the items of school grounds, \$2,200, and equipment, \$1,600, making a total of \$3,800.

The council passed a resolution on Monday night that the estimates be approved, subject to the school board's letter of 13th inst.

### BUILDING BYLAW TO BE REVISED

Councillor Watt gave notice at Monday night's council meeting that at the next regular meeting he intended to move that the building bylaw as drawn up in 1926, with such amendments as may be found advisable, be adopted after the council has had an opportunity of reviewing it.

### CONSERVATIVES TO HOLD ANNUAL MEETING

The West Vancouver Conservative Association will hold their annual general meeting next Thursday, 23rd inst., at 8 p.m., in Ambleside Hall. The election of officers of the association for the coming year will take place, and a number of matters relative to the welfare of the association will come up for discussion, also the question of the probable provincial election next June. C. M. O'Brian, vice-president of the Central Conservative Association in Vancouver, will be the special speaker. Every member is requested to make a special point of being present.

### ALL STREETS INTERSECTING DRIVE TO BE "STOP" STREETS

The police commission sent in a letter to the council on Monday night suggesting, on the recommendation of Chief Squires, that a bylaw be introduced making all streets intersecting Marine Drive "stop" streets. The council instructed the municipal solicitor to prepare the necessary bylaw.

### BICYCLE RIDERS MUST STAY ON ROAD

The police have asked us to give notice that any person riding a bicycle on the sidewalks will be prosecuted. This practice has become somewhat general of late, and one Dundarave boy was fined last week in the police court for this offense.

The youth of the district should take particular note

### Number Your House

West Vancouver last year grew faster by actual statistics than any other part of Greater Vancouver, and according to present indications the year 1928 will witness even greater gains here.

The greatest difficulty which faces every new and growing municipality is the problem of providing those improvements which in these days are held to be necessities without unduly increasing the general tax rate. The difficulty is always particularly acute in the case of municipalities which are adjacent to a large city, because prospective residents demand every city convenience before they consent to become residents, and these conveniences cost money, as we in West Vancouver are well aware.

There is one convenience, however, which costs very little, and which, taking it by and large, we have not yet attained to, and that is numbered houses. A few of our residents have number signs on their front doors, but they are very much the exception. So far, we have been content to have the location of our houses designated by their proximity to some street intersection. It does not matter what point of the compass they occupy from the intersection or the side of the street on which they are located. Throughout the municipality in most cases all the houses in any particular block are designated, for example, as at 17th and Fulton, or 27th and Bellevue, or 12th and Duchess. That is the address given in the directories, and that is all the information a stranger can get when he asks particulars about any particular address he may be seeking.

The effect of such a haphazard method on the stranger from the city or any up-to-date district needs very little imagination. Remember that most probably it is his first introduction to the municipality, and he is apt to come to the conclusion, and rightly so, that everything in the district is run in the same slipshod fashion. This impression will be heightened if he has to go up and down a block ringing the doorbells of twenty or more different houses and disturbing a like number of householders before he finds the particular address he is after.

There are few of us residents, even, who know well more than a few of the sections of our fifteen-mile district, and,

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