

CITY TO WELCOME BOYS IN KHAKI

**Council Will Arrange for Fitting
Reception of Men From the
Fighting Line.**

THE INTERNMENT CAMP

**Electric Light Committee Ar-
range for Additional Lights
and Fix Schedule of Prices—
Council Will Consider Matter
of Investing Sinking Funds in
Dominion War Loan—Clerk
Reports Arrears of Rates
Coming In.**

In response to a plea sent to all municipalities by the Canadian Municipal Journal, the city council, on Monday night appointed a committee which will add to its number from the citizens and will be responsible for welcoming and looking after the returning soldiers from the front. The Mayor appointed Ald. Shatford and Costerton on this committee, all the members of the council expressing their concurrence in the idea. It will be the duty of the committee to extend an official welcome to the boys in khaki who are sent back wounded from the fighting line, and to look after their comfort and welfare in every possible way.

All the members were present at the meeting, and after the minutes had been read, the following communications were submitted:

Thanks from the 11th C. M. R.

Victoria, Nov. 25, 1915.

To the Mayor of the City of Vernon—
Sir—On our journey down from Vernon to the coast, two boxes of apples were found in each car as a gift from the citizens of Vernon. This attention was absolutely unexpected, and was all the more thoroughly appreciated on that account. Please accept the acknowledgement of the great appreciation of myself and all the members of the regiment for the kindly spirit and consideration displayed. I can assure you, sir, that my regiment will carry away with them many pleasant recollections of the summer spent in Vernon.

Yours truly,

G. H. KIRKPATRICK,

Lieut.-Colonel.

Officer Commanding 11th O. B. Regt.
C. M. R.

Other Communications.

W. Hall wrote that he considered himself entitled to interest on an overdue account owed him by the city.—Referred to Finance Committee.

Cummings and Agnew sent in a copy of their account for services rendered in connection with the sewerage and under-drainage work of 1914, amounting to \$350, and asked for settlement of same.—Referred to the Finance Committee.

The school trustees asked for a price on 4-ft. wood delivered at the different schools.—Referred to the Electric Light Committee.

The Okanagan Steam Laundry wrote asking for a reduction on the water rates, which they claimed were double or treble those charged to steam laundries in other towns. They stated that they would have no work from the C. P. R. this winter, and unless they were given the reduction they would be compelled to close down.—Referred to the Water Committee.

The McLennan Produce Co. asked for a wooden sidewalk from Seventh to Montclair Streets. They would be willing to furnish the lumber if the city would do the work.—Referred to the Board of Works.

Milk Tests.

Dr. Duncan, medical health officer, sent in a report on samples of milk taken from city dairies, and analyzed by him. All the samples came up to the standard test of the by-law.

Reports.

The Finance Committee reported recommending payment of a long list of accounts reaching a total of \$4,449.

Ald. Costerton explained that in most cases these accounts would be set off by contra accounts for water light and taxes; but it was first necessary to pass cheques for them, before the accounts due the city could be paid.—The report was adopted.

The Water Committee recommended that the Steam Laundry be charged a water rate of \$15 per month, beginning with November, in addition to the usual charges of \$9 per month for the boiler.—The report was adopted.

A further report from the Water Committee recommended that the charge for water at the Internment Camp and for the B. C. Horse from May 1st, be \$20 per month, and \$8 per month to the armory.—The report was adopted.

The Fire Committee recommended that A. Green be appointed assistant auto driver in place of F. Cummings as per the letter from Chief Moffat; and that the chief of the Fire Brigade be authorized to have necessary repairs made to the roof and walls of the fire hall, and also to provide a manure box. The report was adopted.

The Health Committee reported that the request of E. V. Delatour and others for sewer extension on Charles Street could not be granted, first, because the Provincial Government would not permit further extension until the disposal works were increased in capacity; secondly, because the properties on the north side of the street already had sewer connections; and thirdly, because the financial condition of the city did not permit the council to undertake such work. The report was adopted.

Internment Camp Lighting.

The Electric Light Committee reported re lighting the Internment Camp as follows:

Your committee would recommend that ten 500 watt lamps with fixtures and pole line be installed at a cost of \$200, the cost to be defrayed by the city; that a special rate of five cents per k.w. hour, without discount for exterior lighting be charged, this rate

to take effect when the new 500 watt lamps are installed; and that all lamp renewals be supplied by the city. The regular meter rate to be charged for ordinary lighting at the above mentioned camp. Your committee would further recommend that the superintendent be instructed to change the circuit at the Internment Camp so that the inside and outside loads will come off separate meters. The estimated cost for this work is \$20 for material and \$20 for labor.

With reference to the request of chief engineer Blakeborough, for an 8-hour shift for the power house staff. Your committee regrets that, owing to the financial position of the city at the present time, it is impossible to entertain his request; the committee, however, after careful consideration would recommend that Supt. Hammond be requested to assist by taking a short watch daily during the winter months, in the power house, and that a satisfactory substitute be arranged in this way by the supt. and the chief engineer.

Your committee would also recommend that the city clerk be authorized to issue a cheque for \$50 in favor of Engineer Martin, as an appreciation of his services rendered the city, apart from his regular duties, during the absence of the chief engineer, also that Mr. Blakeborough be paid \$75 to cover two weeks holidays for which salary is due him.

Ald. Shatford stated that it was only fair to Major Rowan to say that he had objected to these charges as he considered them too high. Nanalmo, Major Rowan said, charged only from \$15 to \$18 per month to the military authorities there. But in view of the heavy expense entailed, and the fact that the rate recommended was only half of the ordinary one, the committee did not see how they could do better. The report was adopted.

The 54th Smoker.

Ald. Shatford reported verbally on behalf of the committee appointed to provide a farewell smoker to the 54th battalion. The success of the affair, he said, was due to the untiring effort of the committee and the valuable services rendered by the ladies. The committee had collected \$546, and the expenses came to \$520. The balance, about \$25 would be turned over to the soldiers tobacco fund.

The Mayor said that he was only voicing the expression of many citizens in congratulating the committee upon the splendid manner in which they had handled what at one time looked like a serious problem. The officers of the 54th had stated that no men could appreciate more than their regiment what had been done for them, and the committee and the ladies were certainly entitled to high praise for their splendid work.

Festoon Lights.

Ald. Shatford asked for the opinion of the council regarding the festoon lights on Barnard Avenue and Seventh Street. The Electric Light Committee he said, was of the opinion that they should be taken down for the winter. It cost about \$70 per month to operate them.

In view of the necessity of exercising the most rigid economy, the council agreed that the festoons should be taken down, though the Mayor expressed his regret that this was considered necessary as far as the business part of Barnard Avenue was concerned.

The War Loan

Ald. Shatford suggested that attention be given to the advisability of investing part of the city's sinking fund in the Dominion War Loan. There were some \$76,000 now bearing interest at the rate of 4 per cent, he said, and the loan would bring nearly 5 1-2 per cent. He moved that the Mayor and Ald. Costerton be appointed a committee to go into the matter with the manager of the Bank of Montreal. Ald. Smith seconded the motion which was carried.

The Mayor reported that the lease with the Graham Evaporator had been signed by both parties and was now in effect.

Arrears Coming In.

In response to a query from His Worship, the city clerk reported that up to November 29, about \$3,300 had been collected on the outstanding arrears of \$10,000 for water and light rates, and more were promised before the 15th of December. There had been \$168 collected for dog taxes and \$304 on the road tax, about \$100 of the latter coming from Chinatown.

Ald. Smith and Heggie were appointed a committee to attend the Court of Revision on the municipal voter's list on December 10.

Supplies were ordered to be purchased as per requisition of the store-keeper, and the meeting then adjourned.