

## To Exclude The Chinese

### Residents of Rock Bay Want Them Prohibited from Public School.

### Plans for New High School Building to be Called For.

A petition from a large number of residents of Rock Bay district, praying that Chinese children should be debarred from the school, formed the subject of a long discussion at last night's meeting of the board of school trustees. Another question which claimed attention was the probable action of the city council with regard to the raising of funds for the building of the proposed new High school. Considerable anxiety being manifested by the trustees as to when the council would be moved to submit the necessary by-law.

Those present were: Dr. L. Hall, chairman, and Trustees Grant, Belyea, Brown, Huggett and Superintendent Eaton.

Communications were received from several teachers acknowledging receipt of notification of increase of their salaries. Filed.

The janitors of the High school and North Ward school, asking increases of salary on account of additional work, necessitated by the establishment of the manual training classes.

City clerk, acknowledging receipt of estimates of school expenditure. Filed.

E. N. Johnson, Union Insurance Co., asking a share of business. The secretary was instructed to inform Mr. Johnson that the board was not placing any insurance at present.

A petition of residents of Rock Bay district, asking the board to withdraw the permission to Chinese children to attend the school, or to place them in a separate room of the building.

Mr. Grant would like to see the Chinese placed in a separate school.

The chairman said the board had no power to deal with the question.

Mrs. Grant said the law should be changed so that the Chinese would have a separate school.

Mr. Brown moved that the petition be

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a separate school.

Mr. Brown moved that the petition be referred to the legislative committee.

Mr. Huggett seconded the motion.

Mr. Belyea pointed out that Chinese children, under the existing law, had the same right to free education as those of any other race, and the school board had no power and no right to take action on the petition. He would consider it an unfortunate precedent to establish, to attempt to interfere with the law, and much as he would like to meet the views of the petitioners, the board could not grant their request. He believed in educating the Chinese children, teaching them English; if our Anglo-Saxon civilization could not stand before the effects of educating a hundred or so of Chinese, it was time that the school board should be abolished. If the petitioners desired redress, they would have to apply to the legislature. If there were enough Chinese children in the city to warrant the establishment of a separate school, and if the law permitted, he would advocate such a school being opened. He opposed the motion.

Mr. Huggett saw no harm in referring the matter to the legislative committee.

Mrs. Grant asked how many Chinese children were attending the public schools.

The Superintendent said there were about 16.

Mr. Belyea said there were 108 Chinese children of school age in the city, and he would like, if it were possible, to see them all educated in a separate school, but under the present school act the board had no power. He moved in amendment that the petitioners be informed that the board had no power to separate the Chinese from other children.

Mrs. Grant seconded the amendment.

Messrs. Brown and Huggett pressed the motion.

Mr. Belyea pleaded for fair play to all races. He said the trustees in taking action on this petition, would establish a precedent which struck at the vital principle of the common schools, in which children of all races and creeds have equal rights. Whatever opinions he might have on the merits of the petition, it was quite clear that while the law remained as it is, the board had no power to deal with the question.

The amendment was then carried by the chairman's vote.

The finance committee reported accounts aggregating \$1,929.57, which were ordered to be paid.

With regard to the amount claimed by the contractor for the Rock Bay improvements, Mr. Belyea informed the board that the buildings and ground committee had agreed to pay \$10 in settlement. The amount was ordered to be paid.

The buildings and ground committee recommended the employment of an architect to examine and report on the condition of the buildings from time to time, and to supervise the work of re-

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pair. Report adopted, and the committee was asked to recommend an architect to the board.

Mr. Belyea, on behalf of the legislative committee, reported that the committee had had a consultation with the Minister of Education, and had urged upon him the desirability of clearly defining the standing of the school board and the city council with respect to finances. The committee asked that the board be placed in a position to call upon the city for funds in cases of emergency. The question of Chinese children attending the public schools was also discussed, and might result in something being done in that direction at the coming session.

At the suggestion of Mr. Belyea it was decided that the buildings and grounds committee should ask for competitive plans and specifications for the new High school, such plans to be prepared with the understanding that the acceptance of any of them should be contingent upon the building being gone on with. It was also decided to write to the city council, asking a reply to the board's communication regarding the extraordinary expenditure necessitated by the proposed new High school.

On motion of Mr. Belyea, seconded by Mr. Brown, the hearty thanks of the board were tendered to Rev. E. S. Rowe and the trustees of Metropolitan Methodist church for their kindness in giving the use of the church for the children's memorial service, and for their kindly assistance in securing the success of the service.

The board then adjourned.

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Mr. Grant [Trustee] would like to see the Chinese placed in a separate school. The chairman said the board had no power to deal with the question.

Mrs. Grant said the law should be changed so that the Chinese would have a separate school.

Mr. Brown [Trustee] moved that the petition be referred to the legislative committee.

Mr. Huggett [Trustee] seconded the motion.

Mr. Belyea [Trustee] pointed out that Chinese children, under the existing law, had the same right to free education as those of any other race, and the school board had no power and no right to take action on the petition. He would consider it an unfortunate precedent to establish, to attempt to interfere with the law, and much as he would like to meet the views of the petitioners, the board could not grant their request. He believed in educating the Chinese children, teaching them English; if our Anglo-Saxon civilization could not stand before the effects of educating a hundred or so of Chinese, it was time that the school board should be abolished. If the petitioners desired redress, they would have to apply to the legislature. If there were enough Chinese children in the city to warrant the establishment of a separate school, and if the law permitted, he would advocate such a school being opened. He opposed the motion...

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