

Victoria's Holiday

City Council Draft a Preliminary Programme of Sports Last Night.

Naval and Military Demonstration to Be the Chief Event.

For perhaps the first time in the history of Queen's birthday celebrations in Victoria, the initiative has this year been taken by the Mayor and City Council, instead of by a large public meeting.

A rough programme was drafted, and after being revised and possibly altered somewhat at a fuller meeting of the council on Saturday evening will be submitted to a citizens' meeting to be held possibly on Wednesday night.

There was a very small attendance of the aldermen last night, a fact which prompted Ald. Stewart to remark that some of them were not earning their "dollar a day." Ald. Kinsman also had "dollar a day" sarcasms to pass on the absence of "bleeding" aldermen, adding that it was strange that the statesmen and members of the council should allow "small fry" to do the business.

The Mayor briefly explained, in opening, the reasons which had prompted him to submit the matter first to the City Council in preference to a public meeting. In the latter case there were so many interests to be considered that the committee was exceptionally large and the expense was considerable. He thought no objection could be taken to the council assuming the initiative, as they were a representative body and the city was perhaps the best contributor to the celebration fund.

A letter was read from A. J. Dallin, secretary of the J.B.A.A., expressing the willingness of that club to participate in the demonstration in any way which might be deemed best, after which the following interesting proposal was read:

Gentlemen:—We herewith beg to submit to your worshipful body the enclosed programme for a fireworks display, which we venture to think would be a fitting termination of the outdoor festivities in connection with the approaching celebration of Her Majesty's birthday.

- 1. Triple detonating shell, exploding aloft and announcing commencement of display.
- 2. Ascent of balloon with magnesium light, producing beautiful effect.
- 3. Ascent of balloon with magnificent trailing colored lights.
- 4. Ascent of balloon with novel pyrotechnic effects and jewels.
- 5. Discharge of shell battery, producing huge clouds of burnished gold descending as stars.
- 6. Salvo of rockets, fired continuously, and emitting stars of every hue and color.
- 7. Device. Triple detonating shell, being signal for grand illumination of surrounding scenery; during which twelve batteries of Roman candles will be fired, throwing up continuous streams of colored stars.
- 8. Discharge of shell, with patriotic colors, red, white and blue.
- 9. Flight of rockets, with floating magnesium asteroids.
- 10. Explosion of mine of fiery serpents.
- 11. Device. "The Mystic Expanding Fountain"; an entirely new design by Hitt Bros.
- 12. Discharge of shell, with shooting stars.
- 13. Discharge of shell, with rubies and emeralds.
- 14. Bouquet of rockets, with floating colored asteroids.
- 15. Flight of whistling rockets, one of the most laughable effects.
- 16. Discharge of mine of serpents.
- 17. Salvo of tourbillons, fired continuously.
- 18. Mine of grasshoppers.
- 19. Aerialite shell, producing surprising effect.
- 20. Flight of rockets, emeralds and rubies.
- 21. Bouquet of rockets, violets and primroses.
- 22. Device. "The Fountain and Tumbling Globe"; a most beautiful piece, with peculiar oblique motion, better seen than described.
- 23. Shell discharge, streamers with colored heads.
- 24. Shell discharge, flashing tadpoles.
- 25. Flight of rockets, peacock's plume and shooting stars.
- 26. Battery discharge, producing huge glistening "electric coeurs."
- 27. Device. Gigantic Prince of Wales plumes, suddenly changing from gold to pure electric fire.
- 28. Mine of fiery serpents.
- 29. Shell of shells; a beautiful result.
- 30. Shell discharge; warring gold rains.
- 31. Shell; brilliant meteor streamers and bright stars.
- 32. Flight of special dragon-fly rockets.
- 33. Rockets, with colored streamers and bright stars.
- 34. Flight of special magnesium-headed rockets.
- 35. Flight of rockets; tourbillon serpents and bright streamers.
- 36. Three large devices. Fired simultaneously, producing expanding chromotrope suns, with dissolving colored scroll-work centres of flying colors.
- 37. Mine of turning snakes.
- 38. Salvo of large tourbillons, forming graceful canopy of gold.
- 39. Flight of rockets, with changing colored stars.
- 40. Flight of rockets; gold rains and serpents.

- 42. Shell; Italian streamers and sapphires.
- 43. Shell; chameleon stars.
- 44. Laburnum cloud, with golden blossoms.
- 45. Flight of electric rain rockets.
- 46. Trailing meteor rockets.
- 47. Colored electric rain rockets.
- 48. Rockets, with Italian streamers.
- 49. Shell; cornflowers and poppies.
- 50. Shower of violets and primroses.
- 51. Shower of tailed meteors.
- 52. Patriotic device. Huge map of South Africa, with special design and showing English and American flags.
- 53. N.B. This is only a suggestion, and any suitable design or portrait desired will be furnished.
- 54. Niagara of fire. An old favorite, being an immense torrent of molten gold, covering an area of hundreds of feet.
- 55-67-8. Large mines of serpents, giranoles of rockets, exploding gears, etc., terminating with brilliant magnesium shell, illuminating the whole district with flood of magnesium light.

The reading of this communication led to inquiries being instituted in regard to the writers of the letter. It was learned that they propose to manufacture fireworks here and that the old powder magazine at the foot of Mary street, Victoria West, has been secured for that purpose. The aldermen present expressed themselves as anxious to encourage a home industry, all the more so as the price mentioned was little more than half of that paid last year to Halls, of Hamilton.

The Mayor felt that the celebration should be centralized more than in former years, Beacon Hill was an ideal spot for many of the events, but for families which had to take children out there from the other side of the city, it was too far away. He thought the lots between the Iron church would be a good place, while several aldermen suggested upper Pandora street, or Church Hill. In each of these the difficulty of seating the people had to be considered, as compared with Beacon Hill, where there was plenty of sward. Ald. Cooley, too, thought much of the pleasure of the fireworks display in the delightful illumination of the lakes at the park by lanterns.

Continuing, his worship suggested making a naval and military display the principal feature of the celebration. He had no doubt that the authorities would co-operate readily in this matter. The Admiral was expected back on the 9th, but in the meantime he would see the senior officer of the station.

He further suggested a monster parade, in which the secret societies and school children could take part; the illumination and decoration of the town on an extensive scale by citizens; fireworks in the centre of the city; a regatta on the Gorge, in which more attention should be paid to amusing events, and possibly a choral fete and battle of flowers.

Ald. Stewart thought the celebration should be kept down to two days, and it was pointed out that often the events spread over three days could have been easily covered in two. A general disposition was displayed to have all the events free and not to give over any portion of the time allotted for public demonstrations to societies bringing on events for which an admission was to be charged. A good lacrosse match at the hill for which a trophy would be awarded, would bring good clubs into the competition should be offered, was generally endorsed.

Ald. Cameron emphasized the necessity of providing ample music in the way of bands. Instead of engaging one band for two afternoons, he would like to see several bands engaged for the entire series of events. Too often the forenoons were barren of events, this could be partially made up by having music both forenoon and afternoon. Visitors were ready to attend as early as 9 o'clock in the morning.

The same alderman favored a competition for floral decoration of bicycles, while Ald. Stewart mentioned the enjoyable nature of the drill competition of the school children last year, and urged that it be repeated. The Mayor said that if so it should be carried out at a more central part than last year, as it tired the children too much to march, say from North Ward school to Cathedral Park.

Ald. Stewart suggested a band competition, but Ald. Cameron believed better musical results could be secured by hiring bands than by means of a competition.

Finally it was decided to adjourn until Saturday night, the Mayor in the meantime to see the authorities at Esquimalt and ascertain what arrangements could be made with them.

Those present were the Mayor and Ald. Stewart, Cameron, Kinsman and Cooley.

Attendance Falling Off

Great Decrease in School Attendance Threatens to Cause a Shortage of Funds.

Committee Thinks Chinese Children Have Equal Rights With Others.

If the average non-attendance at the public schools of the city grows from month to month for the remaining part of the year as has done for the past three months, the city council will be called upon to face a shortage in school funds. The matter was brought to the attention of the board of school trustees at their monthly meeting held last night by a special report by Frank H. Eaton, city superintendent, which read as follows:

Ladies and Gentlemen:—For the month of January the number of enrolled children daily absent from school averaged 340; for February 300; and for March, 600. How seriously so large an amount of absenteeism demoralizes the school work upon the teacher can realize. Its effect upon the city treasury is clear enough; it has lessened the government grant available during the three months by \$1,250.

The most serious feature of this irregularity of attendance is that a considerable percentage of it is due to the easy-going indifference of parents, who permit their children to stay at home without sufficient reason.

During the past quarter whooping cough has been epidemic in some of the schools. I am satisfied that many parents do not regard this disease as seriously as they should; therefore the spread of the infection when it appears could be checked by a more rigid system of school quarantine I do not know.

During the past two months also, and particularly during the month of March, the attendance has been very seriously affected by the order issued by the provincial health board, that teachers should require all pupils to produce a certificate of vaccination.

Whatever has been gained by the community at large by the execution of this order, it has involved a very serious loss to the schools.

Trustee McCandless said that this falling off of attendance was really a serious matter for the city council. If there was a shortage of \$1,250 in three months there would be a great shortage of funds before long.

Trustee Brown inquired if this shortage would affect the estimates of the board.

Chairman Hall explained that the city council would have to bear the loss. The report was received and filed, and on the motion of Trustee Belyea, the secretary was instructed to send a copy to the city council.

The committee of management submitted a report on the matter of the non-attendance of Mr. J. A. Grant's child to the Hillside avenue school. It was established, the committee said, that the child was not of age until several weeks after the school term began. That a falling off occurred in October allowing of the enrolling of new pupils. Four pupils were admitted from other schools and four Chinese, who had never attended a public school. The committee found that no law for the non-admission of Mr. Clarke's child attached to the superintendent or any of the teachers of the school, nor was any other case dealt with in other than an impartial manner. As to the admission of Chinese, the committee begged to point out that Chinese children were upon an equal footing with all others as to public school privileges and rights.

The report was adopted by a vote of 10 to 2. The buildings and grounds committee reported that two lots belonging to Mrs. McMunn, next to Victoria West school, were desirable for use as a playground for the children attending that school. The lots could be obtained for a rental of one dollar per month.

The contract for flagpoles was awarded to Thomas Catterall at a cost of \$250. It was found that an additional pole was necessary at a cost of \$22. For the Girls' Central school, the pole there being condemned was adopted. An estimate of \$184 was submitted for a covered playground at the Hillside avenue. The playground could be extended to any length at \$2.28 per additional lineal foot.

serious menace to health. Many of the water taps, too, were faulty and needed attention. This was referred to the buildings and grounds committee.

H. H. Bailey, janitor of the Hillside avenue school, chafed at the delay of the board in considering his application for an increase. He wrote "with reference to my application for an increase of salary, which has been pending some time. I shall thank you for settlement of same." This was referred to the committee of management.

Wellington J. Dowler, C. M. C., notified the board that the city council had granted their request for the use of the upper room in the city hall, formerly occupied by the staff of the fire department. Received and filed.

Trustee Brown told of the receipt of two letters by him offering flags to the school board, one from R. Hall, ex-M. P. P., and one from A. E. McPhillips, ex-M. P. P. These offers were accepted with thanks.

It was announced that two small flags would be hoisted on the Boys' Central school, the tower not being sufficiently strong enough to carry a pole.

Trustee McCandless said such a tower which was not strong enough to carry a flag was dangerous, and should be pulled down.

Chairman Hall asked what the supply committee had done regarding their typewriters, and Trustee Drury said he was not in a position to discuss this matter with the chairman of the committee absent.

There being no further business before them, the board then rose. There were present at the meeting Chairman Dr. Hall, and Trustees Belyea, McCandless, Mrs. Helen Grant, Drury and Brown.

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Bodies of Dead Sailors

Seen Floating Just Above the Golden Gate by Men of the Arethusa.

Warspite Not to Return Home From the South—Insurgents Successful.

If indeed the recent heavy southwest gales which lashed the seas into a fury off the coast from San Diego to Alaska did not cause the loss of some one of the many vessels plying about this part of the Pacific, certain it is that it brought death to some of the seamen who sail those waters. H.M.S. Arethusa, which, as chronicled yesterday, tied up to her mooring buoys in Esquimalt harbor about 4 p.m., passed the bodies of no less than three men, plainly sailors, floating in the ocean with their oilskins and rubber boots still on and their sou'westers strapped under their chins, which goes to show that if they were not drowned in the breakery of their vessel, by the gale, they were swept into the ocean while engaged in the endeavor to "outrage God Almighty's storm." Beyond the fact that little wreckage was sighted a couple of small spars and a few pieces of lumber, evidently part of the cargo of a lumber carrier, the sighting of the floating corpses of the sailors were the only evidences of disaster.

It was on April 7th that the ghastly flotam was seen sweeping from wave to wave. The warship had just passed the Golden Gate and was tossing and rolling in the teeth of the gale then prevailing. The Arethusa was seen at 5:45 p.m. and at 7:30 p.m. the cruiser was about to raise Point Reyes when Able Seaman Prews ran to the signalman and called his attention to a black object that was being rapidly carried down towards the vessel. Together they watched it, for the daylight was still good. It was a man that they plainly saw. As it came nearer, they saw that it was floating face downward with the legs and feet encased in rubber boots in air. The waves brought the body nearer and as it swept by the cruiser's hull, almost striking it, turned over, showing the face. It was a rough-looking fellow, plainly that of a sailor. The oilskins were torn a little by the sea, but not much, in fact, everything pointed to the fact that the body had not been long in the water.

The other two bodies were also attired in the storm garb of the sea. They were not passed for nearly an hour after the first corpse had been seen, and one of those passed very close to the cruiser. The daylight had passed, but the moon sent its silvery rays on to the waters, and the objects were plainly distinguishable. They, too, were floating face downward.

So fierce was the gale then raging that it was impossible to lower a boat to investigate; in fact, had one of the sailors or the cruiser fallen from the deck it would have been useless to endeavor to pick him up. The gale was driving in the face of the ship and so heavy was the storm that the engines had been slowed down and the vessel was all but stranded.

During the storm other objects were afterwards passed at too great a distance to make out, which may have been other bodies. Then too many tree trunks were seen floating, perhaps torn from the shores by the storm. Of course the finding of the bodies may point to the loss of a vessel, but it is considered more likely that they were washed from their vessel in the storm.

The storm encountered by the Arethusa off the California coast was not the only one in which the cruiser was tossed. Soon after leaving Montevideo on her way down to the Straits of Magellan she carried away her bowsprit in a heavy gale, and came in yesterday minus her frontal gear. The other more severe blow was encountered in Sebastian Viscaino bay, off Lower California. This was a very nasty storm.

The Arethusa has been five months on the way out from England to this station. She left Plymouth on November 25th and arrived at Lost Palms on December 2nd. Coal was taken on board and she left again on the 8th. Pernambuco was reached on December 17th and she sailed the same day. Bahia was the next point of call, where the steamer anchored on the 19th. She sailed again on the 23rd. Here the officers were entertained, the British residents giving an afternoon reception in their honor. Christmas day was spent at sea, and five days later Montevideo was reached. Here the bunkers were again replenished and she steamed out of port on January 3rd. Soon after she cleared the harbor there was a heavy gale, which lashed her about considerably and tore away her bowsprit and its gear. Five days after leaving the Uruguayan capital she arrived at Sandy Point. Here she remained four days, and while the vessel was at anchor there a number of the officers went ashore and visited the graves of the victims of the sad tragedy which occurred near there about a quarter of a century ago, when H.M.S. Doterrell blew up. The unfortunate who lost their lives in the disaster were buried at Sandy Point, and here, as in other out of the world places on the world's contour, their monuments are left to mark the boundaries of empire, and when others of the race happen that way the graves of the dead Britons are never forgotten.

She sailed from Sandy Point on January 3rd and came up through the Patagonian channel. Valparaiso, the next calling place, was reached on January 21st, and after a stay of one day she went to Coquimbo, where she anchored on January 23rd, and where a lengthy stop was made. After coaling the ship was cleaned and repairs were begun. The flagship Warspite was met there and the officers of either vessel inter-

changed courtesies. Assistant Clerk Ernest H. Cox was there transferred from the Arethusa to the flagship. As to the report that the boilers of the Warspite were in bad condition and she was to return, that is stamped as a false report by the Arethusa's officers. The flagship is all right, they say, and there is no intention of her returning home before the expiration of her commission.

At the Chillan port the crew had their usual firing exercises. From the British consul the officers learned that the insurgents were getting the better of the government troops in the periodical revolution now going on in Columbia. There was considerable fighting, and the loss of life on either side is heavy. At Coquimbo five weeks were spent in attending receptions, etc., and on February 28th the Arethusa resumed her voyage. Callao was reached on March 8th, and after talking on coal she left the Peruvian capital behind her on the following day. Eight days' steaming up the southern coast brought her to Panama, where three days were spent in talking in coal. She put to sea again on the 20th, and on the 29th arrived at Acapulco. She left next days and had good weather until she ran into the gale off Sebastian Viscaino bay. There she ran into the other gale which lasted from Montevideo to Cape Mendocino and it was while she was making slow progress against this storm that the bodies were seen.

Off Cape Blanco she sighted a fleet of about six sailing schooners, a vessel of the Amphion. Her tonnage is exactly the same, 4,300 tons. She is a twin screw cruiser of the second class, and carries about the same armament as did the Amphion.

WEEKLY WEATHER SYNOPSIS.

Victoria Meteorological Office.

April 4th to 10th, 1900.

The barometric pressure over the province has varied during the week in thorough April fashion, ranging from 29.38 at Kamloops on the 4th, to 30.42 at Vancouver on the 10th. During the first half of the week a series of low areas traversed the country, from the Pacific to the Great Lakes, these were succeeded by a system of high areas, the week closing with indications of another ocean low approaching Vancouver Island.

At Victoria the rainfall was .58 inch; the highest temperature, 62.7 on the 10th; lowest, 35.2 on the 8th. Frost occurred on the 7th, 9th and 10th; hail fell on the 8th, being heavy in the vicinity of the city. Snow fell on Sooke hills on the 7th, the fall being reported as heavy on the heights between Shawnigan and Victoria. No damage reported by frosts. On the evening of the 10th a partial Paragella (sun-dog) was observed here. The sunshine recorder registered during the week 33 hours of bright sunshine, the 4th being almost completely clouded and the 5th entirely so.

The Westminister reports 3.06 inches rainfall; highest temperature, 62 on the 10th; lowest, 30 on the 9th; frost on 9th and 10th. Barkerville—Highest temperature, 50 on the 10th; lowest, 10 on the 9th. Kamloops—Highest temperature, 62 on the 4th and 6th; lowest, 32 on the 8th. In the Northwest Territories the week opened with a high area, covering the greater portion of the region. This was succeeded by a low of considerable energy, which was again replaced by a vast area of very high pressure covering the whole of the Territories at the close of the week. The weather has been generally remarkably fine and mild, with abnormally high temperatures ranging from 20 at Port Arthur on the 4th to 60 at Medicine Hat on the 5th. The precipitation was very light, and only at a few points.

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Her list of officers are given in these columns yesterday, with the exception of Lieut. England, who left the vessel en route to return home and the assistant clerk, who was transferred to the Warspite. A number of the officers and men of the 302 on board—she is six short of her full complement—have been at Esquimalt before.

CANADIAN NEWS. (Associated Press.) Toronto, April 12.—Rev. Dr. Ward, general secretary of Presbyterian missions, says subscriptions are coming into him very rapidly for the relief of the Indian sufferers. Over \$20,000 has already been sent to that country for relief.

Bowmanville, April 12.—David Fisher, formerly general manager of the Ontario Bank, and one of the oldest residents of this place, is dead, aged 79 years.

Hamilton, April 12.—Quebec, Hamilton & Port William Navigation Company will call one of its steamers after Lord Strathcona.

Paisley, April 12.—The Liberals of North Bruce have chosen J. E. Campbell as a candidate for the next general election. Speaking at a meeting of the Liberals who nominated Mr. Campbell yesterday, D. C. Fraser, M. P. for Guysborough, N. S., espoused the cause of the Liberal party, declaring that the party should be sustained at the polls for the manner in which it had settled the tariff and Manitoba school questions.

Ottawa, April 12.—The Dominion government has given instructions that Canadian exhibits at the Paris exposition be closed to the public on Sundays. The government has promised to take the matter up with the Canadian commissioners at Paris and the Imperial authorities in London.

Montreal, April 12.—Water in the St. Lawrence rose over six feet in about forty-five minutes this morning, coming within half a foot of therevetment wall. This afternoon it is receding slowly. It was due to ice.

Warrants were issued this morning for the arrest of M. Tessier, clerk of Bonaparte's market, and Lamarche, a clerk in the treasury department of the city hall. Lacroix, the building inspector who resigned, has also been served with a warrant.

Steamer City of Nanaimo is on the ways, being repaired consequent on her accident at Ladysmith. The steamer Thistle is taking her run and connecting with the Joan. The Thistle left on her run to Comox this morning.

Those unhappy persons who suffer from nervous depression and dyspepsia should use Carter's Little Liver Pills, which are made expressly for sleepless, nervous dyspeptic sufferers. Price 25 cents.

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months ago. The men wedded from fighting command of resolute men. and the captured makes it certain surrender except

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By, April 12.—A manded by Col. Canadian Artillery, artillery and many and Aus- morning. They sed orderly and

CANNON. Preparing to picture. -Jas. H. White, kinetoscope com- bly, were yester- picture of "The which they had slope of the sec- at Orange, N.J., sly hurt by the More than 200 of the number placed at the top le the others, in ed to storm the ided to increase Why it should the kinetoscope d is not clear.

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SAVED. borhood there is as been given by cholera and Diarr- has been cured of the use of that as make a point of opportunity of he the means of sale by Hender- agents, Victoria

From Cochrane, Alta. Mrs. A. Beam Sends Word That Both Herself and Her Husband Have Been Cured by the Use of Doan's Kidney Pills

There is no remedy so much appreciated by the people of this part of the country as Doan's Kidney Pills. Every one who has used them says they have no equal for curing backache, lame or weak back, gravel, rheumatism, puffiness under the eyes, dizziness, urinary difficulties or derangements in young or old, that weak and tired feeling so prevalent in the Spring, and all troubles due to kidney inaction.

Mrs. A. Beam, a well known and highly respected lady of Cochrane, Alberta, recently wrote the following as her experience with these pills: "I took Doan's medicine for backache and kidney trouble and receiving no benefit I started using Doan's Kidney Pills. After two days' treatment I was surprised to find myself beginning to improve and the improvement continued so rapidly that by the time the box was finished the pain was entirely gone and has never returned."

"My husband is now taking the pills for kidney complaint and says he is deriving great benefit from them."

"We both think there is no medicine equal to Doan's Kidney Pills."

Doan's Kidney Pills are 50 cents a box at all dealers. Do not accept a substitute or imitation. The Doan Kidney Pill Co., Toronto, Ont.

Glad Spring Tidings Paine's Celery Compound Makes Sick People Well The Great Banisher of All Troubles Brought on by Careless Living.

The cities and towns of Canada in spring-time are full of people who are in a thoroughly worn, "unstrung" nervous condition, brought on by careless and heedless living. Sleeplessness, irritability and despondency help to make the cup of wretchedness more complete.

This army of broken-down men and women should know that new and vigorous health depends on purified blood, regulated nerves, sound sleep and perfect digestion.

These happy conditions come only by the use of Paine's Celery Compound. If any have thus far failed to get rid of nervous diseases, impure blood, kidney and liver troubles and dyspepsia, it is because they have not used Paine's Celery Compound.

The past testimony of clergymen, lawyers, physicians, merchants and people of responsible positions who have been made well by Paine's Celery Compound, should induce every ailing man and woman to carry home a bottle of nature's life-giver, so that they may test it for their own satisfaction.

Do not allow any dealer to offer you a substitute. Insist upon getting "Paine's," the kind that "makes sick people well."