

TASSE SCHEME IS ENDORSED TO MAKE VICTORIA A CITY BEAUTIFUL

A. H. McCurdy Points Out Gratifying Results Obtained in Washington.

(From Saturday's Daily). The principal citizens of Victoria continue to give their hearty and unstinted approval to the Tasse scheme for the beautifying of the city, and, moreover, each prominent citizen who has been approached by the Times gives different reasons for his adherence to the project, yet one and all arrive at the same result.

A. W. McCurdy, in the course of a conversation with a representative of the Times this morning, enunciated some very cogent reasons why the scheme should be adopted without delay.

"It should be a matter of pride for every person who lives in British Columbia to see the capital of the province in which he makes his home a thing of beauty. This principle has been adopted and carried out in almost every capital throughout the Dominion. Ottawa has done it, Winnipeg has done it, Regina has done it, Edmonton will do it and the only city which has not yet made a move in this direction is Victoria.

"Why should the provincial government give a grant to the capital city? That would seem to me to be a question which it is very easy to answer. The capital of a province is the home of the people. It is the city to which every person must come to do some business or for other reasons, sooner or later. Perhaps the most notable instance of a city in which this policy of beautifying the city has been followed out on the largest and most complete scale is Washington.

"Washington, as you know, is a city of some 500,000 people. Yet 20 years ago Washington was in almost precisely the same condition as Victoria is to-day with regard to the beauty which it lacked. The matter was taken hold of in this case by congress precisely for the reason that I stated above with regard to Victoria. The people of the United States took a pride in their capital, and a large grant was made for the establishment of parks, the planting of trees, the boulevarding of the streets and, in short, for any purpose which could make the city more attractive, and what has been the result?

"To-day Washington, D. C. possesses residences which are unequalled, for size, for beauty and for elegance, for the entire American continent. Any person who climbs to the top of the Washington monument, some 560 feet in the month of May and looks over the city cannot see the roofs of the houses. All that meets his eye is a waving mass of many colored foliage. And yet in many ways Washington does not possess the beauties and advantages which have been given to Victoria. She has not got waterways, her climate is not to be compared with ours. Any tree which can be grown in Washington, D. C. can certainly be grown in Victoria. More than that, many flowering shrubs which it would be impossible to grow in Washington, can be grown in Victoria, and the account of the extremes of heat and cold which they suffer from, would furnish here like green bay trees.

"It is the duty of the government, in my opinion, to take up the matter and to take it up at once. Now is the time. If they do not take it up now they will find that within a very limited space of time the people will demand that this thing be done, and what has to be done eventually might just as well be done now when such a step would produce far superior results.

"To revert to Washington. To show the whole-hearted manner in which the commission went into this matter they prohibited the trains from passing through the city limits unless they used electric power as a means of locomotion. Moreover they issued an order to the effect that no soft coal should be used in the city. This step was taken because many of the buildings are composed of white marble and therefore it does not affect Victoria. But it is interesting as showing how important the people of the United States consider it to have a 'City Beautiful.' Already Victoria has proved that she is to be the residential city of British Columbia, and I can conceive of no step which would hasten the development of the city from this aspect than the adornment and embellishment of the city. It is of course impossible that anything can be done at this season, but the people of the city can become interested and so pave the way for the time when the request can be made.

"One word in closing. I wish to say that I thoroughly endorse every word of what Mr. Pemberton said in the Times yesterday concerning the state of the streets. This matter should be looked into at once and if no man had charge of the work exclusively the result would be more satisfactory."

ABE ATTELL VICTORIOUS. Gets Decision Over Eddie Kelly in Seventh Round of Boxing Contest.

San Francisco, Feb. 29.—Abe Attell was returned to the ring for the third time within two months, when he practically knocked out Eddie Kelly, the "Buffalo newsboy," in the seventh round, of what was to have been a 26-round fight for the featherweight championship of America.

It was a fight of willingness to mix and an ability to take punishment against a terrific boxer, and the latter won out. Attell has always been criticized as lacking a punch, but he floored Kelly four times in the seventh round before the police interfered, and put him groggy with terrific punches to jaw and body. It was Attell's fight from the start.

SIX DAY WALKING RACE.

Hoagland Still Leading by Five Miles in Kansas City Contest.

Kansas City, Feb. 29.—With one more day to compete, Hoagland still has a lead of over five miles in the six day walking match. Slater, who is second, is walking in good form, having gained a mile on Hoagland since yesterday. The score at midnight last night was: Hoagland, 239 miles, five laps; Slater, 226 miles; Messier, 222 miles, five laps; Player, 222 miles, one lap; Hartley, 215 miles; Blake, 201 miles; Lloyd 126 miles six laps.

EMPLOYMENT AT VANCOUVER.

Salvation Army Immigrants for B. C. Reach Canada.

Halifax, Feb. 29.—Of the 800 immigrants who arrived here on the Dominion Line Kensington from Liverpool under charter to the Salvation Army, 550 are to go aboard a special train for Vancouver, where it is stated employment has been secured for them.

LONG DEATH ROLL IN MINE EXPLOSION

Larosita Disaster in Mexico Accounted for Seventy-Six Lives.

Monterey, Mex., Feb. 29.—A dispatch from Masquitz to the News says: Details of the explosion in the Larosita mine near San Juan De Sabina received here indicate that it was more disastrous than at first believed, 76 men being killed.

The explosion occurred just as preparations were being made to change shifts in what is known as shaft No. 3, and in which most of the laborers were Japs.

Fire damp is believed to have been the cause.

LORD'S DAY ACT.

Winnipeg, Feb. 29.—Several more convictions have been secured against hotels, news stands, confectioners, cigar dealers and alleged restaurants under the Lord's Day Act. The fines and costs were paid.

MEDIUM WAS FINED FIFTY DOLLARS

Offered to Read Future of Policeman Who Arrested Her for 50 Cents.

Hamilton, Feb. 29.—In the police court Mrs. Hockingbottom pleaded guilty on a charge of telling fortunes, and was given the option of paying a fine of \$50 or leaving the city within a week.

Mrs. Hockingbottom denied that she was an ordinary fortune teller, and claimed to be a spiritualist medium. She did not deny, however, that when Edward Moore, it is alleged, received the plain clothes, a few days ago, she offered to read his future for 50 cents.

BROTHERS IN "CRIME."

Vancouver, Feb. 29.—One brother charged with theft and the other brother charged with having received stolen property, is the fate of Andy and Edward Moore, who live on Seventh avenue, Fairview. Andy Moore, it is alleged, stole a number of bundles of shingles as well as a few pieces of timber from G. D. Baker, Seventh avenue. Worthington, it is alleged, received the property, and had it in his possession when the police searched the premises. The men will come up for trial to-morrow.

THE PORTLAND CRIMINAL.

Vancouver, Feb. 29.—Fred Worthington, the Portland criminal, who is now serving a six month term, was brought before the police magistrate again to-day and sentenced to one year for the theft of a coat. The sentence is to run concurrently with the six months. Worthington, at the coast, had received the coat from a Japanese shop.

CHILLIWACK RAISED TO DIGNITY OF CITY

Elections for Mayor and Aldermen to Take Place on 14th March.

Chilliwack, Feb. 28.—On February the 20th Chilliwack town was proclaimed a city by letters patent issued by the provincial government, and hereafter the new municipality will be known as the "City of Chilliwack."

The proclamation, though expected, found the citizens for the moment unprepared, but meetings around street corners and caucuses in back offices show that work is being done in earnest these days in the selection of a slate for mayor and aldermen.

According to the letters patent the council shall consist of a mayor and five aldermen. The selection for mayor seems to have settled on S. A. Cawley. No other name seems to be prominent nor even mentioned for the honor. The active part and trouble Mr. Cawley has taken to prepare and push through the act to incorporate the city of Chilliwack seems to entitle him to the honor of being the first mayor, and it is expected he will be asked to take the chair unopposed. There is much talk of electing the aldermen in the same way (by acclamation) if every one can agree upon the selection, but these are questions that can only be decided on the day of nomination, which takes place on the 7th of next month. The election follows a week later, or on the 14th of March.

CHINA MAY HAVE TO APOLOGISE

SEIZING OF TATSU MARU INCENSES JAPAN

Cruiser Dispatched to Hong-kong—Insult to Flag of Rising Sun.

Tokio, Feb. 29.—The Japanese government is maintaining a determined attitude concerning the seizure of the Tatsu Maru and demands both an apology and an indemnity from China. The Chinese foreign office wants to submit the entire question to a mixed court. This is refused by the Japanese government unless the vessel has first been released and an apology made for the insult to the flag.

It appears that the Tatsu Maru was regularly cleared for Kobe with a consignment of arms and ammunition for Macao. The Portuguese minister at Pekin supports the contention of Viscount Hayaishi, the Japanese minister of foreign affairs, that the vessel was seized in Portuguese waters. It is said by Japanese officials that no ultimatum has been issued, and that the sailing of the Japanese cruiser Ideusa for Hongkong is not intended as a threat. It is evident, however, that the Japanese will resort to force unless her demands are conceded within a reasonable time.

WAS BURIED IN POTTERS' FIELD

Brother of Sir W. McDonald Dies at Portland—A Unique Character.

Portland, Feb. 29.—The body of Jas. McDonald, a brother of Sir William McDonald, of Montreal, was buried in the potter's field to-day. McDonald was one of the city's most unique characters who made a living for the last twenty years collecting bad bills.

One of his customs was to ring a bell in front of the debtor's house until payment was received; another was to assault debtors when out with friends. McDonald consequently was much hated. He was a native of Prince Edward Island, and apparently at enmity with Sir Wm. McDonald, for whom he left no death message, though asking that word be sent to his sister in Nova Scotia.

STOREKEEPER HELD UP.

W. A. Small, of Doctors Island, Released of \$300.

Vancouver, Feb. 29.—W. A. Small, owner of a store at Doctor Island, was held up and robbed of three hundred dollars in cash Tuesday by two men who came in a boat to his store.

SALT SPRING TO HAVE NEW HOTEL

Victorian Will Build \$8,000 Structure at Ganges Harbor.

Salt Spring Island, Feb. 29.—It is understood that a large \$8,000 hotel will be built at Ganges Harbor shortly by a capitalist from Victoria. The necessary land has already been procured, so it is safe to conjecture that Ganges will soon be an attractive country resort. Mrs. H. Stevens has for many years provided excellent accommodation for tourists and travellers, but during late years the number has been too great for her to manage. The gentleman who is the head of the concern intends to have it up to date in every particular.

COAL FOUND IN COMOX VALLEY

Seam Four and a Half Feet Thick Covering Thousands of Acres

Mr. Samuel Calhoun, of Comox, is staying in town for a few days at the Dominion. Mr. Calhoun reports that as the result of the boring operations which have been going on in the Comox Valley during the course of the last two months, a seam of coal has been found of about four and a half feet in width. This seam is believed to extend over about 3,500 or 4,000 acres in the Comox Valley. A certain amount of friction exists between the E. & N. and the farmers who have retained the exploitation and development of the coal lands in this part of the island, but in the near future it is hoped that things will go ahead. A company has been formed for making negotiation with the object of working the land, but here again there are complications have arrested progress to some extent. At the end of all these little difficulties, and now that a seam of so great a size has been struck the development of the country can only be a question of a very short time.

LEAD PRODUCTION.

Rosland, Feb. 27.—G. O. Buchanan, who is the designer of the lead bounty for the Dominion government, states that the total amount of lead produced by the mines of this section for the past five years was \$8,000 tons. This included the lead used in the paint. Of this domestic consumption only 35,000 tons had been supplied by the home product, more than half that coming from foreign countries. During that period however, the duty on lead in paint had been raised from five per cent. to 35 per cent. ad valorem.

FAMILY TRAGEDY IN PITTSBURG

MOTHER AND LITTLE ONES ARE CREMATED

Wife and Children Thrown From Window of Blazing House.

Pittsburg, Pa., Feb. 29.—A mother and her three children were burned to death and several persons were injured by a fire early to-day in the Bremer-ton avenue foreign district. The dead are Caroline Viacak, Stephen Viacak, Carol Viacak and Peter Viacak. A 19-year-old girl jumped from a window breaking three ribs, and John Kalinkowski, occupying an adjoining house, which was destroyed, threw his wife and four children out of the window into the arms of policemen, and all were more or less injured.

APPALLING STORY OF INHUMANITY

Wife Died While Husband Got Drunk, Instead of Summoning Doctor

Kingston, Ont., Feb. 29.—From Jackson's corner, near Tweed village, comes an appalling story of inhumanity, revealing the death of a wife through her husband's getting drunk when on his way to call a doctor to attend her. Richard Lindsay, a farmer left his home last Saturday morning to sell a cow at Bridgewater, and summon a doctor for his wife. He sold the animal and instead of calling on the doctor spent the money in liquor and went on a spree to Tweed. His wife on Monday gave birth to twins. Her young son went to neighbors for aid, but when he arrived the poor woman was dead, and also the babes.

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SUFFER SAD BEREAVEMENT.

Pinxton Creek, Feb. 29.—The profound sorrow is cast over the neighborhood by the death of Miss Helen Symonds, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Symonds. The deceased young lady was in the best of health until quite recently, when she was stricken with a brief but fatal illness. Her loss is keenly felt by her many friends, whose affection she merited by her gentle and considerate disposition. Mr. and Mrs. Symonds and family have the deepest sympathy of all in their sudden bereavement.

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