

PROGRESS.

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SENTENCES OF CRIMINALS.

Does the Punishment Fit the Crime—Some Lately Delivered Decisions.

St. John has been much interested lately over its crimes and criminals and the public have had several topics of more or less importance under discussion. As a rule the city has been quit free of serious crimes, but it was hardly to be expected that the good times would always last. It so happened that not long since, three young men have been asked to plead to charges of a very serious nature, these charges being no less than criminal assault on innocent young girls. There, was a general feeling, and quite properly so, that if the accusations proved true the fullest justice should be meted out, for to the individual mind there is perhaps no crime more revolting and calls more for condemnation, than that of assault on young girls.

The three parties charged with the hideous offence bore the names of Mushrall, Rourke, and Manson. The two former pleaded not guilty and selected to be tried by twelve of their countrymen. These gentlemen came to the conclusion that they were guilty and the presiding judge sentenced the condemned men to two years in the Dorchester Penitentiary and also to a course of whipping. There was little fault to be found with the sentence, for to use a common expression nothing seems too severe in such a case. That Mushrall and Rourke were guilty must be taken for granted for though juries may sometimes make a mistake, it is part of British law and justice that they are the ones to decide on the facts and their finding is taken as final. Still there are always some who disagree with a jury's verdict in every case but it is right that their opinion should have no weight as it would injure the mode of trial by jury. If there are a few who yet believe Mushrall and Rourke innocent they certainly can be none as regards Manson, for he pleaded guilty of his own free will. Manson also received his sentence. It was not two years accompanied with whipping, but it took another form. He was given ten days in which to leave town, quite a difference in the mode of punishment and it is this difference in the two sentences that has given so much rise to talk. Judges presiding in criminal cases under the criminal code have a large latitude in most cases as to the severity or lightness of a sentence and that Judge Forbes, in coming to the conclusion that two individuals should work in the Penitentiary for two years and at the same time have their blood kept warm by putting them at the whipping post while the third should go free, must have good grounds for drawing such a distinction in the way of punishment, but still the punishment differs so much in degree that a criticizing public is apt to talk. It has been alleged that a doctors certificate to the effect that Manson was not wholly responsible for his actions as his mind was affected through successive cigarette smoking had considerable to do with the smallness of his sentence. But such an allegation cannot be taken as having any force. There are not a few who think that instead of cigarette smoking being an excuse for crime, it should in itself be punished. Beside why should the cigarette be any more an excuse for a man's action than liquor. The latter, it is known is liable to make a man irresponsible for his acts, but if every man can go free who smokes the poisonous cigarette why the drunkard is held liable, is not justice. It could not have been this that induced the judge to arrive at his conclusions. It is not told how Manson received the Mushrall and Rourke sentences. His blood could not have been frozen in his body with fear and trembling. In fact he must almost have had a gift of mind reading, as he came forward and pleaded guilty and the surprise at his sentence did not seem to strike one as being very great. It is not every prisoner who has such a logical turn of mind, that when he sees his fellow criminals severely sentenced turns around and pleads guilty.

If Manson's sentence at the time seemed light, it has not as yet proved fully satisfactory to him. The great republic to the south objected to Judge Forbes sentence, and when Mr. Manson attempted to enter the domain of the United States, that

country objected to being made a dumping ground for criminals and Manson was returned to St. John, where he has been again rearrested on a charge similar to the one he was first taken up on, so the sentence so far has proved inoperative. If it was British Justice to send Manson away, it might have gone a little further and provided a better means of helping him out. Manson has done all he could to carry out his sentence, but he has been interfered with. The land of the free draws a line at its freedom, and yet it is right that a line should be drawn sometimes.

THE CENSUS RETURNS.

Reports are Numerous—Very few Canadians Are Said to live in Canada.

It is interesting to read the papers these days regarding the census returns or the reported returns are almost daily published, with the result that the chief census enumerator finds it necessary every few days to give it out that there has been nothing made known as yet. This is probably correct, but it does not keep the enterprising journal from thinking it knows or trying to make the public believe it knows. There have been so many reports published that people soon became so sceptical that they will not know when official announcement is made.

From some things which are stated about the census it is likely to show that the matter of nationality Canada has patchwork population, with very few Canadians. At least such will be the result if the enumerators in all the Provinces have done as those in British Columbia. The Victoria Colonist tells what happened on the Pacific coast. A. B. was born in Canada, but his father was born in the United States. A. B. is entered in the census of the United States origin. C. D. has a French name, but is English to the core, C. D. is reported as of French origin. E. F. is English, but does not know his ancestry. He is counted as English; but his brother has heard that his great-grandfather came from Austria. The brother goes on record as of Austrian origin. Another citizen who can trace himself back six generations, when an ancestor lived in Switzerland, is reported as Swiss. This is all nonsense. Why not put all these people in as Canadians. It would at least be pleasant to know that there are a few Canadians in the country.

St. John May be Honored.

The report has again gained currency that H. R. H. the Duke of Cornwall is to knight the mayors of the different Canadian cities he visits. His worship Sir John W. Daniel sounds very well. It will be Sir John. Perhaps the City Fathers may persuade His Highness to extend his favors and take in the City Council and some others. We have some fine names that would make quite a list. Sir John Bibbington Macaulay Baxter, Sir John McGoldrick, Sir John R. Armstrong, Sir Robert Maxwell and so on. The council meetings would be distinguished then. Sir George Robertson and Sir William Walker Clarke may be added. There is no telling what distinguished honors are yet in store for the city of the loyalists. There are some Counts but the number of Sires in this community are quite scarce.

Extending the Line.

The news that the Saint John Street Railway Company have under consideration the extension of the line to Rockwood Park and the Suspension Bridge, is very pleasant to hear. These extensions cannot be built a bit too soon. The park has become a great resort in spite of the distance one has to travel to reach it, but there are hundreds who have to deny themselves the pleasure often of spending many hours in this beautiful spot on account of the inconvenience and time spent in reaching it. During the summer months the railway to the park would be handsomely patronized, and not only stockholders but many others would be greatly delighted in having the line a reality. It is in the interest of the park that a railway be built and the park management should do all in their power to

bring about this end. The great traffic of Douglas avenue assures the railway of good patronage is the line is built to the bridge. As far as the company and the city coming to an understanding regarding certain rights, there should be no difficulty, for it is to all parties interests that the matter be settled. The St. John street railway will not be complete until these extensions are made and as the men at the head of the railway are of the right kind it is hoped that the public will not be kept long waiting in seeing the proposed extensions built.

HELD ON A SERIOUS CHARGE.

Robert Nixon Arrested This Week For Alleged Attempt to Entice a Girl from Home. Robert Nixon of Boston has been in the city for some days and during that time it is claimed made the acquaintance of a Miss Pike, a niece of Mr. George Pike. Miss Pike is a domestic and has been hired for five years with a well known family in this city.

How she made the acquaintance of Nixon is not known, but they seem to have been well enough known to each other for her to promise to become his wife in the fall. In the meantime, however, she was to go to Boston with him on Wednesday last.

How this was discovered is told by a friend of the family, who saw Nixon waiting with a team a few days ago, outside of the residence where she worked. Upon learning the nature of his errand it is said he advised him to go away.

Nixon did so and the young man informed the girls employees that Nixon was a married man. Inquiry revealed the information that Miss Pike had promised to accompany him to Boston on Wednesday also that she expected to become his wife in the fall when he secured his divorce.

This roused the anger of the girl and she swore out the serious charge that Nixon was enticing the girl away with the intention of placing her in a house of ill repute. He was arrested on that warrant and remanded until Friday. The result of his examination cannot be obtained in time for this issue.

It is only fair to say that Nixon and his friends vigorously deny the charge and are confident that he can clear himself.

Speakers to the Point.

"A reader of PROGRESS" asks the question whether there has been a lady assistant policeman appointed for duty in the North end and bases the query upon the fact that one of the patrolmen is accompanied frequently on his rounds by a woman. The writer says he does not think it right for a guardian of the peace paid by the city to be running around the back streets with women while on duty.

The Fever is Here.

The baseball fever is now in town and is becoming every day more contagious with the games on the Athletic and Shamrock grounds and the Barrack green, the young and old, rich and poor, male and female all alike have begun to find much enjoyment. How long the excitement will last depends on the people who play ball.

POLICE AND THEIR PAY.

The Council Adopts the Unique Scheme of Providing for the City's Protection.

The long deferred special meeting of the city council to take into consideration the report of the safety board, submitted very early in the spring, was held on Wednesday and the whole matter thrashed out very probably to the satisfaction of a small majority of the council but not altogether to the satisfaction of the police force. However it is a well-known fact that the feelings of the patrolmen are not always taken into consideration by the aldermen who see in the force a splendid subject at times for fault finding and who do not hesitate to air their eloquence on this always timely topic.

The recommendation of the Safety Board rather changes the standing of the chief officials of the force. The head of it, Chief of police is not disturbed in his title, but where there were two captains now there is one deputy chief of police and four sergeants and the chief has power to appoint his deputy. So under this section one of the captains will be reduced to the rank of Sergeant while the other will probably be appointed deputy. The deputy is to receive \$200 per day while the sergeant is to get \$175. These will be first, second and third class policemen. An officer shall rank as a third class man until he has been three years on the force and get only \$140 per day for his services. The next three years he will get \$150 per day and be called a second class man while after he has served six years he becomes a first class man and receives 10 cents a day more. There are a good many sergeants on the force now and it is not intended to change their rate of pay but only four of them can be called sergeant while the others will rank as supernumeraries. After a man becomes 60 years of age if he is a sergeant he goes into the supernumerary list and his pay is reduced from \$175 to the sum they are receiving at present namely \$165.

While those who join the ranks after this, no matter whether they shall obtain the first class or rank as sergeant shall after they reach the age of sixty be reduced to \$140 a day. If they remain on the force five years longer they come down to a dollar a day.

This is a very wonderful report and it took a lot of the members of the council a considerable time to digest it, and to arrive at a suitable conclusion regarding it. But after several hours of discussion the sections were generally adopted.

THEIR PROGRAMME.

The Duke and Duchess Have Their Way Mapped Out.

The places in Canada to be visited by the Duke and Duchess of York are announced. There is to be a grand state welcome at Quebec on September 16th. The Royal party will proceed to Montreal, where they are to be the guests of Lord Strathcona. On Friday, the 20th they will arrive in Ottawa, and remain until Tuesday, the 24th, on which day they will leave for the Pacific coast. The journey will have to be a rapid one, and the steps of the Royal party in the prairie section will be confined to Winnipeg, Brandon, Regina, and Calgary. The programme contemplates a two days' visit to Victoria, and one at Vancouver. The Royal party will travel in a magnificently equipped train. The Duke and Duchess will occupy a car which the government is having constructed specially for the Royal visit. The members of the household and staff will be accommodated in cars which the C. P. R. is having constructed, so that the Royal train will be new throughout. Returning from the coast one week will be spent in Ontario, the tour including a visit to the Niagara Falls, and probably a trip through the Thousand Islands. From Montreal the party will take the short line to St. John and Halifax. Halifax will say good-bye for Canada to the Royal visitors on October 15th. They will arrive at St. John's, Nfld., according to the schedule, on October 17th, and after a few hours spent there, the Uphir will start for England.

Summer Once Again.

Summer has come. It arrived last week, that is summer weather put in its first

real appearance, straw hats and white waists and muslin dresses have come out in force and the streets the last few days have worn a gay and brighter appearance. It has not been too warm, just good regular St. John weather, and what more need be asked, all are satisfied.

NOT IN THE BEST OF SHAPE.

The Trouble a Fire Makes in a Printing Office Shown in Progress Building.

It is not an easy matter to get a printing office in shape after a fire and this must be our excuse to the readers of PROGRESS for the delay in publication and any defect in this issue. It was almost impossible to publish last week but fortunately some of the type set up was not pried and the task of issuing half a paper was much easier than to print sixteen this Saturday.

With a somewhat delapidated building, and with windows out, floors torn up, with type strewn in all directions, one font mixed with another, publication for a considerable time seemed well nigh impossible. Engravings in use and in stock were so soaked with water that they were made useless by reason of warping. Presses were rusted almost beyond recognition. Stitches and cutters shared the same fate, and the cleaning and repairing necessary will be a matter of weeks.

Mr. A. Dodge has the contract of repairing the building and will no doubt have it in suitable condition in a short time.

The appraisers on PROGRESS plant were Mr. Lawson, former of the Globe job printing office, acting for the insurance companies and Mr. James Barnes of Messrs. Barnes and Co., acting for PROGRESS. Their work was done in a painstaking way and they spent much time in making up the award.

Those customers who are inconvenienced by the delay incident to the present disordered condition of the office will kindly make such allowances for the company as are possible.

Robtsey College Closing.

A neat little programme from the Robtsey college announces June 21st as the closing day and gives the programme for the day. The annual service will be held on College Sunday and the sermon will be preached by Rev. W. O. Raymond. The sports, military drill and the closing exercises including the presentation of prizes will occupy the rest of the afternoon and the old boys dinner will be held in the evening. Neat cards of invitation have been issued and the attendance will no doubt be as large as usual.

A New Horse Shoe.

James Watters, the well known and skilful shoer of horses, has invented a new shoe and he says it is giving splendid satisfaction. The shoe has a groove in it nearly the entire width, and this is filled with rubber which acts as a buffer and makes travelling much easier for the horse to say nothing of the absence of noise. If a driver had these shoes on his horse and a rubber tired wagon, he would need a gong after dark to warn others that he was on the road.

The Press Refused.

The press will not agree with the action of the St. John School board in their refusal to open their meetings to the news papers. This body is about the only organization in this enlightened age that has the spending of public money that feel it necessary to conduct their business in secret.

There can be really no satisfactory explanation for such a course and the trustees in time will have to give way to public sentiment. The people must rule though it takes some quite a time to find this out.

To Meet at St. Stephen's.

The Grand Lodge of the Masonic Order meets at St. Stephen this year on the 24th of the month. On the Sunday preceding, the order are to attend service at the Methodist church in that town when Rev. Mr. Marshall is to preach. These annual meetings are generally well attended and a large number will go from St. John.

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