

WATER CARNIVAL TO BE A FEATURE

ILLUMINATIONS AND MUSIC AT THE GORGE

Victoria Day Committee and Tramway Company Arranging Event—Other Preparations.

The water carnival to be held at the Gorge on the evening of the 25th in connection with the Victoria Day celebration promises to be one of the pleasantest and prettiest features of the season. Very little is known of the arrangements for this affair, the committee in charge having been working quietly and in conjunction with the local officials of the tramway company in order to prepare a creditable programme. The latter now is practically complete and it is possible to make a definite announcement.

An evening illumination carried out in a proper manner is always beautiful and generally enjoyed by the public. For this reason, the executive have given the matter special attention. Instead of the usual militia demonstration and the expenditure of a considerable sum of money in bringing the Vancouver and New Westminster corps here to participate the funds formerly appropriated for that purpose have been utilized for a splendid display of the night of the 24th at Beacon Hill. Now comes the announcement that on the following evening the upper part of the Gorge, that upon which the tramway park is located, will be lighted up with the brilliancy of mid-day. Now comes the announcement that on the following evening the upper part of the Gorge, that upon which the tramway park is located, will be lighted up with the brilliancy of mid-day. Now comes the announcement that on the following evening the upper part of the Gorge, that upon which the tramway park is located, will be lighted up with the brilliancy of mid-day.

The fact that this is being arranged by the tramway company is sufficient guarantee that no expense or trouble will be spared in the effort to make it one of the most attractive features of the celebration. In addition to the illumination there will be music, the Fifth Regiment band rendering a lengthy and appropriate programme of rousing selections. A special car service will be operated to and from the popular resort, so that all who wish may attend without inconvenience.

In order to add to the general beauty of the effect the Victoria Day committee have in hand a "water" carnival. It is hoped all citizens will co-operate in making this the success desired. The ambition of those interested is to have all the available small craft, the row-boats, canoes, etc., upon the Gorge on the night in question. Lanterns and other decorative material will be issued by the celebration management upon application so that there will be no excuse for pleasure parties and boats going up without proper adornment. Secretary Smart states that he is endeavoring to arrange to have a large number of boats taken from the city and placed at convenient spots upon the arm for rental. This will make it possible for all desiring, to witness the pyrotechnic display from the water.

In regard to the 24th of May regatta it may be gratifying to know that the committee intend bringing out the different races in a much more satisfactory manner than heretofore. There will be no unnecessary delays between contests, and the whole programme will be followed out according to schedule and completed at a reasonable hour. The fact that there will be no sailors' races, which, although always appreciated, were sometimes long and often became tedious will assist them in charge materially. The J. B. A. A. club competitions and the increased number of Indian tests should make this as satisfying a piece of resistance of the festivities.

As announced yesterday in these columns, J. North has returned after making a tour of the Mainland and Sound points in the interests of the celebration. While away he did a considerable amount of advertising and incidentally ascertained that much interest is being evinced in the affair everywhere. His excursion routes from Vancouver, New Westminster, Seaside and Bellingham would, he said, bring large numbers, while the same would be the case all along the E. & N. line. In fact Mr. North states that the number attending "will only be limited by the extent of the transportation facilities."

Looking at it from all viewpoints it appears that the forthcoming Victoria Day carnival, providing that the weather conditions are propitious, will prove one of the most successful in the annals of the city.

BULKLEY VALLEY.

Interesting Record of Weather Conditions Sent to Bureau of Information.

The provincial board of information has received from the Bulkley valley a very interesting and useful record relative to weather conditions, etc., extending over the seasons 1905 and 1906. The record was made by Fred G. Heal, Jr., of the Aldermere ranch, situated in the valley. In his communication Mr. Heal says:

The average summer temperature for the past year was, highest 72, lowest 44, mean 58 degrees. During last summer only on one occasion was the frost severe enough to touch the potatoes slightly, although the potatoes at Hazelton and Stuart's lake were cut rather badly. The yield of potatoes here in the valley was good, one ton to the sack of seed.

The highest temperature was 92 degrees on July 25th, lowest 29 below zero on the 31st January. During the winter the highest in January was 47, lowest 23. In February, highest 45, lowest 3. In March, highest 54, lowest 4. On the three coldest days in winter the average temperature was 12 degrees below. On the 3 warmest days in winter the average temperature was 49 degrees.

To give an idea of the beautiful days experienced here, I will give the hours

of sunshine per month: January, 100 hours; February, 160; March, 170 hours. These days were cool enough to be pleasant.

Snow came earlier last year, 4 inches on September 22nd, but disappeared the next day. After that the weather was experienced until about the middle of October, when quite a number of degrees of frost were registered. From that time until November 25th there was no snow to speak of, when 6 inches fell; a cold spell (16 below) was then experienced, after which the snow disappeared, a warm wind came, and it remained mild with no snow until after Christmas, when 2 inches fell for New Year's day.

On January 13th there was 3 inches of snow on the ground, and so on throughout the winter, the snow came and went. Of course in the shade and in the timber most of it remained all winter, but the greatest depth at one time was 8 inches in the open.

I inclose seasonal notes for past two years, for comparison:

First snow—1905, November 16th, 1906, September 22nd.

Swans going south—1906, November 20th.

Thyee lake frozen up—1905, December 3rd; 1906, December 10th.

Spiders about—1906, February 19th.

Bulkeley frozen in places—1905, January 3rd; 1906, February 21st.

Swans appeared and went south again—1906, March 8th.

Robins arrived—1905, March 10th; 1906, March 23rd.

Duckley ice jams gone out—1905, April 6th; 1906, March 30th.

Ants at work—1905, April 3rd; 1906, March 24th.

Butterflies—1906, April 2nd; 1906, March 25th.

Bluebirds—1905, March 10th; 1906, March 26th.

Grouse drumming—1905, March 29th; 1906, March 26th.

Thyee lake opening—1905, April 9th; 1906, March 28th.

Snowbirds—1905, April 6th; 1906, March 28th.

Violets bloom—1906, March 29th.

Ducks arrive—1905, April 9th; 1906, March 30th.

Loons—1905, April 16th; 1906, April 16th.

Swans again—1905, April 19th; 1906, April 18th.

Snakes and frogs seen—1906, April 20th.

Bats seen—1905, April 21st.

Shilpe—1905, April 22nd; 1906, April 24th.

DUVAL INQUEST.

Evidence Given Resulting in Manufacture of Steadman's Soothing Powders Being Exonerated.

The inquest into the cause of death of May Duval, infant daughter of William and Mrs. Duval of North Park, concluded on Monday, was of more than ordinary interest. The hearing commenced on January 12th, but adjournments have been had from time to time for the purpose of ascertaining if the fact that the child was given Steadman's soothing powders shortly before had anything to do with its death.

Dr. J. Pagan, secretary to the provincial board of health, was the first witness examined Monday, and deplored to making a post mortem examination on deceased, removing the contents of the stomach for purposes of analysis. The analysis had been performed, as well as that of specimens of the medicine in question he had received from the police. As a result he was prepared to state that the child was not poisoned by the contents of the stomach nor were any of the ordinary poisonous substances found in the medicine. He had, therefore, after hearing the evidence, come to the conclusion that the child's death had been caused by analysis. It was certainly not due to the giving of Steadman's soothing powders.

D. Rogers, who acted for the company making the medicine, read a lengthy affidavit made in London by Frederick Arthur Crisp and John Arthur South, manufacturers of the medicine. The affidavits swore that while away he did a considerable amount of advertising and incidentally ascertained that much interest is being evinced in the affair everywhere. His excursion routes from Vancouver, New Westminster, Seaside and Bellingham would, he said, bring large numbers, while the same would be the case all along the E. & N. line. In fact Mr. North states that the number attending "will only be limited by the extent of the transportation facilities."

It was further shown that Dr. H. Whitehead and J. Keir Colwell, public analysts for Holborn, Finsbury and Bedford, had reported that no poison existed in the soothing powders and that the only cause in which injury had been suspected had resulted in the exhumation of the child's body and its preparation from all blame.

As stated in Monday's issue, the jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes, finding a rider that Steadman's Soothing Powders had no connection with the cause of death. Frank Higgins appeared for the child's parents.

—The death occurred Thursday of Kenneth McKenzie, formerly book-keeper at the naval station, Esquimalt. He was sixty years of age and unmarried. He passed away at Lake Hill farm, Lake district. Deceased was a native of Haddingtonshire, Scotland. He was the son of Kenneth McKenzie, who in the early history of the province was in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company as manager of the land held by the subsidiary organization, the Puget Sound Land Company at Craigflower. Two brothers and two sisters survive the deceased. The funeral will take place at 2 o'clock to-morrow afternoon from the Lake Hill farm for St. John's church. Services will be held at the church at 3 o'clock.

Japan's 251 match factories last year produced \$5,500,000 worth of matches. The large proportion of \$5,250,000 worth was exported.

ANOTHER SHIPMENT.

Supplies Will Be Forwarded to San Francisco This Evening by Steamer Umatilla.

The balance of the fund subscribed in Victoria for the relief of the many rendered destitute as a result of the San Francisco earthquake and fire, has been expended here on supplies of which, it is considered, will be exceedingly useful in view of the present conditions in the Bay City. They consist principally of clothing for men, women and children, and cooking utensils. Upwards of \$2,000 was spent upon these goods, being, according to Mayor Morley, the last of the fund up to date. A detailed statement will be published in the press in the course of a few days.

The shipment will be made by the steamer Umatilla, which will leave for California this evening. In compliance with the request of the Women's Council, did the purchasing, a committee consisting of Messrs. Justin Gilbert and J. McGregor personally supervising the work. It is Mayor Morley's desire that thanks be extended to the Women's Council for their valuable assistance in this matter and also that the appreciation of the citizens' committee for the help given by Simon Leiser be publicly expressed.

DEPUTATION WAITS ON GOVERNMENT

An important delegation from the Methodist conference interviewed the provincial government on Monday to lay before it the views of the conference regarding the establishment of a provincial university. The delegation consisted of Rev. Drs. John Potts, W. J. Sippell, J. H. White and Rev. John F. Betts, representing the clergy, and the following laymen: T. R. Pearson, New Westminster; R. W. Harris, K. C. Vancouver; David Spencer, Victoria; Mayor George Bell, Enderby, and W. Manson, M. P. P. Nainimo.

Dr. Potts, educational secretary of the Methodist church in Canada, represented the views of that organization on education. He stated that they were fully cognizant of the importance of the highest educational advantages being secured by the rising generation, but considered such should be provided by the province. The Methodist body was committed to the idea of a provincial university, and deprecated any suggestion that tended towards a university having the body no educational institution being considered at the head of higher education facilities. McGill university had created some unrest in the matter, and he would be glad if the government would state specifically what was intended to be done.

On behalf of the Methodists he was prepared to say they would fall into line with the government, and decided upon, and wished to impress upon the premier the importance of a definite line of action being made public before the meeting of the general assembly of the conference, which would be held during September of this year.

On behalf of the laity, R. W. Harris, K. C., pointed out the good work that had been done by the Methodist church in British Columbia. These were Rev. E. Evans, Rev. E. White and Rev. A. Brown.

Three days after arrival in the city the first service was held. There was no church for the purpose, but instead the small congregation which gathered worshipped in the old court house. The first field to which Dr. Robson was assigned was designated as "The Gold Mines of Fraser River." The circuit, however, was not circumscribed within narrow limits. With all the fire of youth and the zeal which had prompted him to volunteer for the work, he entered at once with enthusiasm into the service. He went up to the scene of his labors in the historic steamer, the Beaver, which by a strange coincidence had been built the very year of Rev. Mr. Robson's birth. Hope was selected as his headquarters, and entering upon his duties he preached to all who would hear him wherever he found them, whether in the towns or on the bars between Murderer's Bar and Port Yale.

It required in those days a person of resource to carry on the work. The method of travelling from place to place adopted by the missionary was a dug-out canoe, in which he travelled alone, generally literally "padding" his own canoe. In addition to providing the means of locomotion, Rev. Mr. Robson cooked his own food and washed his own clothes.

But Dr. Robson has no word of complaint to offer in consequence of these experiences. He was young and had a fervent conviction. The miners to whom he ministered were living a similar life, and he was prepared to share with them in their manner of living. The experience, with the many adventures, including risks of life, were really enjoyed by the young missionary who entered into the spirit of the rough life which he was forced to live.

The Trade Union Bank of Chicago, the first institution of its kind in this country, is to open its doors for business to-day. The bank is to draw its support from the 671 labor unions of Chicago and their individual members. The bank has a capital of \$500,000, and was chartered under the laws of Arizona.

PREACHER FOR HALF A CENTURY

JUBILEE OF REV. DR. ROBSON CELEBRATED
LAST EVENING.

The history of Methodism in the province of British Columbia is inseparably connected with the labors of Rev. Ebenezer Robson, D. D., who this year celebrated his jubilee of service in the ministry of that denomination.

In consequence of the conference marking the fiftieth year of his ministry, Dr. Robson becomes a central figure in the gathering of clergy and laymen who assembled in Victoria this week. Throughout the length and breadth of the province Dr. Robson is honored and respected for the untiring service he has rendered the cause of religion in the province.

Dr. Robson was born near the town of Perth, Ont., Jan. 17th, 1835. He has thus had to adapt himself to the needs of a new country, and during his ministry at Nanaimo Rev. Dr. Robson almost wholly with his own hands erected a school chapel for the work among the Indians at that point. The children were taught and divine service held for all. The station required him to travel about in a canoe or small boat for the most part. The adventures and hairbreadth escapes incident to this ministry were many.

His next field of labor was at Yale, where his work was largely devoted to those engaged in building the trunk road to Cariboo. His mission required him to travel the territory as far as Clinton, and in the opposite way to Lillooet to Douglas. He spent about a year in this work.

In 1864 he removed to New Westminster. His field then extended from the Gulf of Georgia to Spuzzum, above Yale, and included all intermediate points. It was during his stay there that the first of his many churches, St. James' Methodist church, was founded at that place.

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On August 16th of the year 1859 he was married in Victoria to Miss Ellen M. Hall, of Brockville, Ont. Mrs. Robson is still alive.

While at Hope was undertaken the first missionary work among the Indians of the province by the Methodist church. Rev. Mr. Hall and his wife taught and preached to the Indians on week days and Sundays, sowing good seed among the natives, and the results of these efforts are still to be found.

Early in 1859 Rev. Mr. Robson was transferred to Nanaimo, and for three years he ministered to the people of that centre. While stationed there Ebenezer church was built, the architects being Wright & Saunders, of Victoria. The mission over which he had charge at Nanaimo extended as far as Cowichan and Comox at the other extreme, taking in all intermediate points. Salt Spring Island was included in this.

The duties of a clergyman in those days were not confined to the work in the pulpit. He had to adapt himself to the needs of a new country, and during his ministry at Nanaimo Rev. Dr. Robson almost wholly with his own hands erected a school chapel for the work among the Indians at that point. The children were taught and divine service held for all. The station required him to travel about in a canoe or small boat for the most part. The adventures and hairbreadth escapes incident to this ministry were many.

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also from another authority, who, when asked what his creed was, said: "Hell behind, heaven before, but run, boys."

The speaker went on to say that the text indicated a largeness in God's love. People are growing broader in these days. He was glad that a union was coming, otherwise he was not sure but what he himself might be charged with heresy.

He held that there is no heaven anywhere for a bad man and no hell possible for a good man. Our ministry is to testify of the infinite love of God. Our work was to testify, to witness, to show up the gospel, he emphasized. This involves backing our words with personal character. Preaching is of little worth without this. It was this personal experience which made men willing to leave big charges for small ones if need be. They only did so when they were filled with the Holy Ghost. He had only known two men otherwise willing to run away from good city appointments. One man was Jonah, who ran away from Nineveh, and the other was himself. Both suffered for it.

The next point he emphasized was that the ministry was received. If we fill up this ministry it matters little what becomes of us personally. Life may be short or long, but the real test of our endurance lies in the fidelity with which we fill up this ministry.

Dr. Robson went on to draw parallels between the ministry of St. Paul, which, after Christ, was the dominant ideal of the Christian ministry, and the ministry preachers nowadays are called upon to perform in British Columbia. This led him to refer more particularly to the experiences of the pioneers in this province. He mentioned Dr. Evans and Edward White crossing the Gulf in a canoe in the early sixties, when a man said to him: "Why did you not arrest those crazy fellows instead of allowing them to risk their lives in that fashion?" Brother Crosby had had equally risky experiences.

It often was a test to the pioneers whether they valued their own life more than the service they were to perform. Dr. Robson then spoke of his own career. He had many things to be thankful for. He was thankful for good Presbyterian parents who had brought him up on the Westminster catechism, and for the place for being led to God in a Methodist church, and in the third place for the privilege of attending Victoria College. He believed that the general board of missions in British Columbia, both as a general board and as a local board, addressed the conference briefly. Mrs. Dakin, of Armstrong, and Mrs. Rogers, of Seattle, were also introduced.

Rev. G. K. B. Adams, Japanese missionary in Vancouver, told something of the work there, which is in a very prosperous condition at present. A splendid work is being carried on among the Japanese people. This year the general board of missions is building a well equipped mission church and school in Vancouver.

Three memorials were received asking for more assistance, one for a mission to work among the Indians of the Lower Fraser, and another for the Coqualeetza Institute, and