

THE ST. JOHN EVENING TIMES

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BIT OF ENGLAND ON THE SHORES OF THE PACIFIC.

Victoria, B. C. Bound to Become One of the Famous Tourist Resorts of the Continent—A City of Roses and Undying Summer.

(Herbert Cuthbert, in Sunset Magazine.)

On the northern and eastern shores of the great Pacific ocean, its high cliffs gently washed by the placid waters of the straits of Juan de Fuca, situated on the bold promontory that juts out from Vancouver island into the straits like the index finger of a hand, stands a beautiful city that until the past year or two was almost unknown to the rest of the world as America was before the visit of Columbus. Even the citizens themselves had not discovered it. They knew, indeed, that it was all they wished for as a city in which to make a home. They were never tired of sitting out on the cliffs, or on some sheltered beach, and watching the ever-changing light on the magnificent Olympic range of mountains, whose hoary heads rear themselves against the sky as they keep their eternal vigil over the Mediterranean-like waters of the straits. They knew that they had all the outdoor field sports for themselves and their children that their heart could wish for; and their evenings, spent in leisurely paddling their boats and canoes along the enchanting waters of the gorge, were such that they had no wish to quarrel with the fate that had caused their lot to be cast in such pleasant places. They knew, in short, that their lives followed much the same as those of their fathers in old England, but they did not know that this very fact lent an especial interest to their island city, and so it was only when the tourist came along with his field glasses and his camera and practically discovered the city, that the people of Victoria became aware of the fact that they had a city that for its charm of situation, natural scenery, temperate climate and opportunities for enjoyment was unsurpassed in the whole wide world. It is certainly English in its institutions, customs and manners. The British soldier, sailor, professional man, servant and business man are everywhere in evidence. The gardens are English, the flowers are English, and the way in which they keep every holiday and patriotic celebration is decidedly English.

to 116 degrees in the shade should spend his summer vacation, for it is not once in a dozen years that the thermometer registers over 80 degrees, although there is a daily average of seven hours of sunshine for six months every year. The winters, too, are mild, frost being, except in rare years, almost unknown. This is the land of roses. Almost every garden, whether it belongs to a cottage or a mansion, is rich in the possession of roses of all hues, shades, colors and varieties which grow in bewildering profusion, while even the residential streets and suburban drives are fringed on both sides with glorious bushes of the wild rose.

Now that the tourist has found this quaint city it will not take long for it to become one of the famous resorts of the continent. The citizens, while they have been contented to live their own life and to make no great fuss about the natural attractions of their city, have been careful to erect for themselves some magnificent public buildings. The parliament building, for the city is the capital of British Columbia, cost \$1,000,000 and is acknowledged to be one of the most stately and beautiful buildings on the continent—certainly in Canada. Another interesting thing about this favored city is that it is the most western city in the king's dominion. You cannot get any farther west, and no matter whether you go forward or back, you go east—if you go west you still go east. It is not surprising then that in this western threshold of his dominion King Edward should maintain a naval base and supply point. In fact this is the only naval station Great Britain has on the Pacific coast of America. In case of any trouble with Great Britain arising out of the present war in the East, Victoria would be one city upon which the eyes of the world would be centered. No wonder, then, that one of the most familiar sights on the streets of Victoria is a Jack tar or a soldier of the king, as there are several warships stationed here and detachments of the royal garrison artillery and royal engineers.

The warships are invariably open to the inspection of visitors, and it is an excellent way of putting in the afternoon to take an electric car to the beach, stroll through the dock yard, around the dry dock and immense coal bunkers filled with Welsh coal diamonds, and then take a launch to one of the warships and look over one of these costly fighting machines that is a part of the largest navy in the world and helps Britain to rule the waves.

This article is too short to permit reference to the splendid zoos and delightful drives that radiate from Victoria, or to the innumerable cosy and sheltered bays with sand and shingle beaches, from which you are enabled to obtain visas of ocean, mountains, islands, rocky shore-line and sky that make one long to remain there forever. Truly this city, its environments, its possibilities, and its equable and delightful climate are not discovered, but when they have been, there is no city on the Pacific coast that will attract those in search of a restful and pleasurable vacation, or a permanent home, as much as this charming city on the shores of the great Pacific.

over, it is hoped the figures will soon be normal again.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

At the New Victoria.—John Snell, Calais; David Nowell, Malda, Mass.; John Thorp, Boston; Wm. Herz, Toronto; Geo. Briercliff, New York. At the Dufferin.—James R. Weldy, Bangor; Daniel P. Murphy, Bangor; Jas. H. Cain, Orone; John F. Mooney, Bangor; H. D. McNeil, Bangor; R. J. Reilly, Bangor; M. G. Finegan, Bangor; Matt Bohan, Bath; Leo Keane, Bath; Thomas L. Callan, Portland; William Bryon, Portland; W. H. Myers, Portland; Matthew Burgess, Grand Falls; J. F. Halliday, Truro; John H. Haley, Windsor. At the Royal.—Allen J. Whelan, Montreal; H. J. McMannus, Memramcook; E. T. Gaudel, St. Joseph; W. B. Bedell, Halifax; Reed McManus, Memramcook; A. H. Fair, Halifax; G. W. Cook, Amherst.

At the Victoria.—G. C. Templeman, Boston; R. Jameson, Chatham; J. L. Chisolm, Halifax; J. G. Gunn, Fredericton; Rev. Wm. Dollard, Bath; C. A. Lowe, Sydney; J. B. Pollock, Halifax. At the Clifton.—Mr. and Mrs. James, Halifax; J. L. Carson, St. George.

BACK FROM THE WEST.

W. H. Scovill and Mrs. Scovill returned on the Atlantic express this afternoon from Calgary. Mr. Scovill's many friends will regret to learn that he is not enjoying the best of health. Mr. Scovill has been in business at Calgary for the past two years, but the state of his constitution would not permit of his remaining there any longer, hence his return home Chief Clark, Mr. Scovill's father-in-law, met his son-in-law at McAdam Junction, this morning, and accompanied him to St. John.

POLICE COURT.

At the police court this morning, John Rutledge occupied the prisoner's bench in solitary grandeur. He was charged with drunkenness, and was fined \$4. The case against Hotel Edward for selling liquor after hours, will be heard tomorrow at two o'clock.

Recent Investor—Well, if we did pay too much for the property we have a lot to be thankful for. Mrs. Recent Investor—Yes, a lot, but they ain't any houses on it.—Baltimore American.

ALDERMEN AND CONTRACTS.

The question raised by Mr. W. M. Jarvis, in the interview published elsewhere in the Times is an interesting one. He points out that an alderman cannot legally become a contractor for the city.

With regard to the application of the fact to the case of the new library building, it will of course be replied that Ald. Maxwell is not the contractor. He has done a very important part of the work, but not contract with the city. His agreement is with the man who got the contract, and it will doubtless be argued that the law does not apply in that case any more than in many others of common occurrence. For years past the city accounts have shown that firms of which aldermen were members, or in which they were financially interested, have furnished supplies or done work under contract with the city. There was a case, however, some ten years ago, where an alderman tendered for some printing, and his tender, though the lowest, was not accepted.

It is an interesting question to what extent the city council is justified in entering into an agreement with a firm with which an alderman is connected. It would be a hardship to say that it should not be done at all, but on the other hand the custom might be abused. In the present case, an alderman is placed in a position which, while it does not reflect upon him, has yet called forth more or less criticism.

The Times endeavored today to get the views of a number of legal gentlemen on the question raised by Mr. Jarvis, but they were not prepared to discuss the subject at this stage.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

Dr. Dolis is right in his view that there should be compulsory education and truant officers in St. John. The records of the police court and the conditions disclosed from time to time with regard to the girls and boys of the city furnish ample evidence of the need of this reform. It has been urged many times by superintendents of education, and advocated by others engaged in educational work. There would be, of course, great difficulty in enforcing such a law in some sections of the province, but in this city it should be adopted and could be enforced. The system has been adopted in many New England towns, and has produced excellent results. It is in the interest of the whole city that action should be taken to protect the children. Even with a compulsory law the conditions would still be such in many cases that danger would surround the little ones, but the fault would not then lie with the general public so much as it does at present. Legislation should be secured making school attendance in St. John compulsory.

THE LIBRARY.

The opening of the new public library building, which will take place tomorrow, will be a notable event. The structure is well located and is a handsome addition to the public buildings of the city.

It is regrettable, however, that the new building is not larger or that provision was not made in the plans for an enlargement in the future without destroying the architectural symmetry of the edifice. It is perfectly clear that if important additions are made to the books in the library from year to year, as should be done, the place will in a comparatively few years be too small to accommodate them and the public.

Nevertheless the citizens will welcome the library as it is at present, and if they feel that the result is not wholly commensurate with the very large expenditure, they know that the like is generally true of large contracts carried out under civic supervision.

REFORM IN MONTREAL.

In an Ontario town last week four persons were fined for spitting on the sidewalk, and the magistrate announced his determination to have the law enforced. The city council of Montreal has adopted a by-law dealing with the same nuisance. The penalty for violation of the law is forty dollars or two months. The witness asserts that among the first to observe the new by-law will have to be the aldermen and civic officials of Montreal. It says:—

"One has sometimes to see the official to whom it may be his misfortune to have to apply, spit on both sides of him before being prepared to answer a question. If the regulation is only enforced in the city hall it will accomplish a revolution much to be desired. If it is even obeyed by our aldermen it will set before the people a different example from what they now get from some of their civic fathers. The by-law would almost need a new set of police to enforce it, for those who have contributed to the beauty spots which adorn our sidewalks, and all other places which masculine humanity frequents."

TO TIMES READERS.

IF YOU ARE NOT ALREADY A REGULAR SUBSCRIBER TO THE EVENING TIMES, LOOK OVER THE PAGES OF THIS ISSUE AND CONSIDER IF SUCH A VISITOR DELIVERED DAILY AT YOUR HOUSE FOR 25 CENTS PER MONTH IS NOT WELL WORTH RECEIVING. IF SO, SUBSCRIBE TODAY.

that Montreal is not any better in this respect than St. John. Indeed it is to be hoped that none of the St. John officials has the habit of spitting all around a citizen who may chance to call. It is probably true that the by-law is not rigidly observed at city hall, and it certainly is not obeyed on the sidewalks and in public places generally.

Medical authorities agree that spitting in public places is a menace to the health—not of the expectorator, but of the public. The action of the Montreal city council is therefore commendable. Even if only the aldermen, officials and policemen are reformed it will be a good thing for the city.

NATURE'S ASSERTIVENESS.

Now and then the elements combine to remind us how helpless, after all, in some ways humanity is. St. John, yesterday, was cut off from communication by wire with the west. The afternoon papers got almost no telegraphic news, and this morning's papers fared but little better. The fact was of course more noticeable in the newspaper offices than elsewhere. Instead of the usual rush of despatches from all parts there was only the local news and the late exchanges to depend on to fill the columns of the papers. This is a rare occurrence, for if one wire is down there is generally another available, but yesterday for a time they were all down. The storm was one of exceptional and wide-spread severity.

The wires are still down in many directions. One of the unfortunate features of the case is that vessel owners are unable to get news of their vessels, some of which may have encountered trouble in the storm.

Portland indulges in the hope that the eastern section of the G. T. P. will not be built. The Express says:—"Canada's own road, which it is proposed to parallel between Montreal and Moncton with the Grand Trunk Pacific, shows a deficit. This should result in the Montreal-Moncton end not being built."

Maine has prohibition, but the Bangor authorities raided a dozen wholesale and retail stores last week and seized a large amount of whiskey and beer. The raid, it is explained, was the most extensive of the kind ever conducted in Bangor.

The completion of the new wharf for the Dominion Coal Co. is an important addition to the facilities of this port. The work was a difficult one, and has been successfully accomplished.

The Times extends congratulations to the City Cornet Band, which has been in existence for thirty years, and is still one of the leading musical organizations of the city.

OBITUARY.

A. H. Notman.

Toronto, Nov. 12.—Word was received here yesterday of the death of A. H. Notman, assistant general passenger agent of the C. P. R.

Mr. Notman was a sufferer from consumption, and two months ago left for Los Angeles, where he has a brother. His condition did not improve, and he died on the train returning to Toronto. A widow and five sons survive in Toronto. He was thirty-four years of age.

The news of Mr. Notman's death will be read with great regret and some surprise by friends who number many in this city. They knew he was very sick, but it was not thought death was so near. For a number of years Mr. Notman was in charge of the passenger business of the C. P. R. on this division and proved a most capable and popular official, his record coming in promotion to a higher place in the company's service. Latterly he had filled the responsible position of assistant general passenger agent, but a few days ago was compelled by ill health to leave work for what was intended to be several months rest and recuperation.

C. B. Foster, left here only yesterday to take Mr. Notman's place during the latter's absence; now he will in all probability be Mr. Notman's successor in office.

FUNERALS.

The funeral of Mrs. Darrell Jago took place this afternoon, at 2:30 o'clock, from the residence of her sister, Miss E. — Mills, 96 Coburg street, to St. Paul's church, where services were conducted by Rev. A. G. H. Dickor, assisted by Cannon De Veber, interment was made at Fernhill.

The funeral of Miss Mary A. Stanton, took place this afternoon, at 2:30, from the residence of F. W. Seeds, 145 Duke street, interment was made at Fernhill. Rev. Canon Richardson conducted the services.

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GOOD SHOWS LAST NIGHT.

Parish Priest at the Opera House—Vaudeville at York Theatre.

A purer, sweeter and more wholesome play than the Parish Priest, has never been produced on the St. John Opera House stage. The Dalley company appeared in it last night, and delighted a large audience, as in it they did by far the best work of their engagement here.

The Parish Priest offers a pleasing relief from the array of odorous problem plays, lurid melodramas and driving farces which have formed the menu of most of the companies touring today. It is as delicate in construction as a butterfly's wing, and as pure and sweet as a wild rose, whose petals still hold the dew. In its simplicity is its chief charm. There are no forced situations, no tawdry stage pictures, no questionable dialogue. All is natural and simple and good. It tells a story of people whose prototypes are to be met daily in real life and it abounds in atmosphere—natural atmosphere.

In fact, it is by all odds, the prettiest little play seen in St. John for many seasons, and to say that the Dalley company did full justice to it is giving them all the credit they would wish for.

Mr. Mullaney was given his first real chance last night in the character of Rev. John Whalen "The Parish Priest." He looked the part and acted it well, being at all times quietly effective. Next to his, probably the best part in the play was the character of Michael, admirably taken by Thomas E. O'Malley. Mr. O'Malley has mastered the secret of portraying an Irish character quietly. In the hands of a less competent actor the part might easily have been converted into a vulgar caricature. George Robinson had the part of a bluff old doctor with a quick tongue and a warm heart, and he gave every satisfaction. Albert Perry was especially good as Jim while Charles Harringer and G. Meredith Brown, made the most of parts which were not so strongly drawn.

Miss Helen Ray played the leading role among the ladies in capital style. Miss Carr was seen to advantage as Agnes and Miss Hartley did justice. The play was staged and produced with an attention to detail that was most pleasing. There was nothing to mar the general tone of the piece and the quiet atmosphere was admirably maintained throughout.

It was pleasing to note that Manager Dalley cut out the specialties between the acts, for, however, enjoyable Miss Hartley's work may be in this line, (and the little lady is a competent specialty artist), a production like the Parish Priest, is not improved by the rendition of coon songs during the waits.

AT THE YORK THEATRE.

The vaudeville performance at the York Theatre drew a crowded house last night, and every number on Mr. Hyde's feature programme was enthusiastically received. Kit Karson's fancy rifle shooting on a swinging invisible wire is one of the most remarkable vaudeville acts ever seen in St. John. He shoots in many different positions and never misses the mark. He concludes his performance by hanging head downward and shooting with the aid of a mirror.

Clarke and Temple, in "Front and the Chambermaid," elicited loud and continued applause, and were obliged to respond to several encores. The three Archies, the human bow knots are splendid contortionists. They practically tie themselves in knots.

Wally and Lottie Helston, presented a neat act in novelty dancing, which was much appreciated. Gregory and Wood, the comedy jugglers and hoop rollers, proved themselves experts. Their act is well spiced with comedy and keeps the audience in good humor. The York orchestra did some excellent work, and has improved wonderfully under Professor Brien's training.

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