

# ALDERMEN ARE IN FAVOR OF SEASIDE PARK, URGED BY THE EVENING WORLD

## Committee, After Visit to Dreamland Ruins, Decides to Advise the Purchase of Coney Island Beach by City.

The Aldermanic Committee on Parks will report in favor of the plan suggested by The Evening World to acquire the site of burned out Dreamland at Coney Island and its addition to the city's Seaside Park.

The committee made a personal inspection of the property yesterday, going to the island in three automobiles provided by Borough President Steers of Brooklyn, who is greatly interested in the Sea Side Park plan.

The members of the Parks Committee who made the journey were Aldermen Alexander S. Drescher, Walsh, Baldwin, Nugent, Brady, Hickey, Meagher, McAlister and Curran. Incidentally, Comptroller Prendergast was represented by his clever real estate expert, Charles O'Malley, who obtained surveys and measurements of the ocean front lands proposed to be taken. Mr. O'Malley declined to give a personal opinion, relative to the park plan, but will report to the Comptroller.

Alderman John J. White and Alderman Huerta were also members of the official inspection party, as was Charles H. Ward, Chief Engineer of the Topographical Bureau of Brooklyn.

To an Evening World reporter who accompanied the party several Aldermen expressed their views as follows:

**JOHN J. HICKEY**—After having seen the ground, there is no question in my mind but the site of Dreamland should be converted into a seaside park. It is time that the city reclaimed its ocean front to some degree, and here is a grand opportunity. I do not care for my part, what any of our city officials may say regarding seawall of lands. What I want to say right now is that if a million or two of dollars is in the Dreamland site for city park purposes millions will be the profit as measured by the good that such an ocean front park will do for the people.

The people want the city officers to spend the money for a park on Coney Island, and what the city officers will do is to get well to talk about more schools and such like, but what good will the schools be if the children are not given a chance to breathe fresh air? That's the point that ought to count above everything else.

Healthy bodies mean healthy minds. The site I inspected today with the other members of the Committee on Parks is most desirable. It includes every advantage. None but a short-sighted man, official or otherwise, could object to city acquisition of such a property for park purposes.

**"NOTHING COULD BE DONE OF GREATER BENEFIT."**

**THOMAS J. McALISTER**—I cannot speak too highly of the plan to convert this fire devastated section into a glorious seaside park. Here the people may really enjoy themselves and breathe the pure air. Here is a vast beach the like of which could not be duplicated anywhere on the Atlantic Coast. It is a grand opportunity. It is up to our progressive city officials now to take advantage of this grand proffer. The plan of a seaside park. The Evening World deserves the great opportunity for calling attention to this opportunity. Let it go on with the campaign. I have spoken with a number of the members of the board relative to this proposed seaside park, and all agree that nothing could be better, more sanitary nor healthful than an ocean beach for the people. Here we have beautiful beaches for bathing purposes, and with a little skill a park on the site of Dreamland could be made a recreation centre for the whole people.

I agree with Alderman Hickey that money could not more advantageously be spent by the city. I appreciate that the city finances are being watched and safeguarded, possibly too closely, by the present administration, but there must always be a leeway when the right way is pointed out. I think The Evening World has pointed out the right way in suggesting that a seaside park be established here.

**JOHN ROBERTS**—I am not a member of the Committee on Parks, but my interest in this matter because so keen through reading The Evening World that I have, after personal investigation, decided to enroll as a soldier in the ranks to support this project, to make it a success. To that end I came down here and joined with my colleagues in going over the ground. I represent a large and growing district. I have felt out my people on this project and they agree with me that I could spare no pains in trying to help establish this extension to Seaside Park. I am heartily in sympathy, therefore, with the movement. **CITY CAN RECLAIM THIRTY-FIVE ACRES; SHOULD BUY MORE.**

**ALEX. S. DRESCHER**—When the station for a municipal bathhouse at Coney Island was begun by The Evening World its opponents contended that the women and children would be deprived of the last vestige of the space owned by the city on the beach. The Comptroller and his expert, Mr. O'Malley, and myself made a careful investigation and found the city owned considerable beach front which was being

# BOWERY BLOCKED BY THOUSANDS IN PANIC AT BIG FIRE

## Tenants of Nearby Flathouses Rush to Streets With Their Belongings.

## NEW FIRM WIPED OUT.

## Loft Building Occupants Escape in Safety When Blaze Is Discovered.

The bursting of a steam pipe in a packing factory on the third floor of a loft building at the southeast corner of Hester and Baxter streets today caused a fire that wiped out a firm that had just started business there and sent several thousand tenants of the apartment houses in the neighborhood flocking in panic into the street.

The building is six stories high, with a frontage of fifty feet on Hester and 100 on Baxter street. Less than a month ago the Atlas Packing Company, of which George K. Loudon is manager and principal owner, took up quarters on the third floor. The concern manufactured asbestos flax for packing purposes and had begun to build up a good business.

Soon after today's work was started Mr. Loudon heard a dull explosion, followed by the hissing of escaping steam. It was in the rear of the loft, and when he went to investigate he met his foreman running for the stairs and yelling that the place was afire. Loudon joined in the cry, and the prompt sounding of the alarm enabled all the tenants in the building to get out by way of the stairs, without resorting to the fire escape.

Thick black smoke began to pour from every window in the building, and it seemed to the firemen when they arrived as if they would have to fight a fierce and difficult fire. But the quick use of the automobile water tower confined the flames to the third and fourth floors and prevented the fire from spreading to adjoining buildings.

But the tenants in neighboring flat houses were piling out, carrying their trunks and what chattels they could lay hands to, and in a few minutes the streets were littered with household goods and a face that expressed high intelligence, tolerance and spirituality, without asceticism. Incidentally, I hope the Bishop would mind the comparison to the Traffic Squad, for, after all, what is a bishop but one of the captains of God's police, clearing the way to heaven for life's pedestrians?

There is no odor of sanctity about my Suffragan Bishop nor about the residence of Bishop Greer—only the soft scent of the flowering shrubs in Gramercy Park sifting through the open windows. It was a fine day for discussing pessimism, anyhow.

"So cool, so calm, so bright, The light of the earth and sky." And Bishop Burch was getting ready to go to a wedding on Staten Island. The motive and the topic of our talk had been furnished by the Bishop's address to the graduating class of the General Theological Seminary the other day.

**RATHER COW THAN "M. C."**

**Nick Longworth Answers Double-Barrelled Query of Farmer.**

**WASHINGTON, June 3.**—An Ohio farmer who wrote that he owned nine cows and asked Representative Longworth to send him a Government examination for flies, will receive the following reply in due course of the mails:

"Sorry, but I, too, am in quest of the thing. I have no cows, but I have a bald head. Sometimes I wish I were a cow instead of a Congressman."

utilized by private bathing interests. In addition to the beach now under the jurisdiction of the Park Department. Also thirty-five acres, now submerged because of the lack of foresight and business judgment on the part of certain city officials, could be reclaimed by the simple method of building jetties out into the ocean.

This method is now being practiced at the Manhattan Beach Improvement Company, which is reclaiming valuable beach land for a small outlay. Now is the time to initiate a movement for a grand sea beach, the finest on the Atlantic Coast. There is no need of paying fancy prices for the land that has been devastated by fire, because we can acquire it by condemnation at a fair figure, and the owners cannot claim any more than the actual market value of the site at the present time.

# Optimism Is the True American Spirit; Away With Despair, Says Bishop Burch

## The Tendency of American Writers to Follow the Pessimistic Cult of Ibsen, Maeterlinck and Bernard Shaw Is but a Passing Fancy.

## Layman in the Church Is an Influence for Good and a Bulwark of Strength and Hopefulness, Says New York's Suffragan.

**BY NIXOLA GREELEY SMITH.**

"Do not be a pessimist. Pessimism is the religion of despair. Its priests are Ibsen, Maeterlinck, d'Annunzio, Sudermann and George Bernard Shaw."

"When we eliminate faith from the human mind we destroy hope in the human heart."

"What have these new philosophers of misery to offer mankind in place of the old truths, the codes that have made great nations?"

The Rt. Rev. Charles Burch Sumner, Suffragan Bishop of New York, paused impressively as he asked the question. Then, half turning in his revolving chair, he answered it.

"Confusion—individualism, which makes every man his own morality; a special law for each one which means a general law for no one."

"We have the influence of Ibsen with his gospel of individualism, Shaw and Sudermann with a religion of despair, d'Annunzio and his followers with a religion of passion. But in all of it no solace for disappointment and sorrow, no hope for the present, no faith in the future."

The pessimist seeks to take away from men the old truths, though it is the testimony of history that the nations and the men who have adhered to them have risen to greatness, and those who have departed from them, as Rome did in her decadence, have weakened and disintegrated."

**WHAT HAS THE PESSIMIST TO OFFER?**

"Now what," asked Bishop Burch again, "has the pessimist to offer instead?"

"There is a regrettable tendency—and it seems a strained tendency—among American writers to follow the cult of Shaw, Maeterlinck and d'Annunzio. The recent production of certain American novelists, though themselves men of high ideals and clean lives, show a strange sympathy with license, with men and women who are lawless to themselves, mental and moral nihilists. Without protesting it, they preach the religion of passion, the moral irresponsibility of the individual."

Just as it seemed to me that Bishop Burch himself was tending to a justifiable pessimism about our literature, hope reasserted itself.

"I am sure it is a passing phase," he said. "There can be no hope without faith, and optimism is the quintessence of the American spirit."

"So don't be a pessimist or an Ibsenist. Let your patriotism speak for you and choose not the quintessence of Ibsenism, but the more American quintessence of optimism prescribed by our suffragan Bishop and practiced by him."

For three hours in charge of a parade at Staten Island and the wedding—both very optimistic things to do.

**WOMEN RIDING ASTRIDE ARE "POLITELY BARRED."**

Confederate Veterans Stirred to the Point of Prohibiting Straddle Mounts in Parade.

**NASHVILLE, Tenn., June 3.**—Because several girls were mounted astride in the recent Confederate parade at the Little Rock reunion, the local bivouac of Confederate veterans has adopted this resolution: "Resolved, that no woman shall appear in the parades of the camps, the State divisions or the general association astride, and, should any so appear, she shall be treated as a woman of ill repute. The resolution requested generals not to appoint young women as staff officers."

## American Author Who Is Back, Actress Whose Praise She Sings



MARCIA VAN DRESSER, GERTRUDE ATHERTON

# EUROPE SO BUSY SHE CAN'T WRITE NEW BOOK THERE

## Gertrude Atherton Returns Declaring Man's Brain Doesn't Amount to Much.

Gertrude Atherton came back today on the America just to get a place to do some work. It is all too busy on the other side, she said, for a person to get any ideas on paper, and she was going back to San Francisco in order to find sufficient peace for toil.

She said that her new play, "A Man's Tragedy," with Mrs. Fiske in the chief role, would be put on the stage July 1. The play deals with the revolt of woman and the uplift of the sex. She is going to write a book called "Julia Francis and Her Time," in which she will elaborate the theme of her play.

"Woman of the old order had so much to do in the way of rearing large families and doing the housework that they did not have a chance to improve," she said to an Evening World reporter, "but now the doctrine of smaller families and the improvements in vogue for doing all sorts of work have emancipated her. She has time to devote to study and to taking her place in the world."

"If I could return to England fifty years from now I would find woman had come into her own and that all of her real rights had then been granted to her. I regard Mrs. Parkhurst as having the best brain I ever knew."

"The average woman's brain is better than a man's, anyway. The average man's brain doesn't amount to much."

**BOROUGH FULL OF MEASLES.**

An examination of the Brooklyn Health Department records shows there are at present 2,699 cases of measles and 1,393 cases of scarlet fever. In the latter part of May cases increased almost a hundred a day.

**FILE PLANS FOR THEATRE.**

New Apollo Will Be Erected on West Forty-sixth Street.

# TWO MEN DYING AFTER AUTO CRASH IN MIDNIGHT RIDE

## Samuel Bomzon and Frank Mengerborn Have Skulls Fractured.

## SIX OTHERS ARE HURT.

## Broken Chain Smashed Morris Levine's New Auto Against an "L" Pillar.

The snapping of a chain sent Morris Levine's brand new touring car skidding against the pillars of the "L" extension of the subway structure at Southern Boulevard and Freeman street, the Bronx, shortly after 1 o'clock today. The eight young men who were in the machine were hurled to the street and the machine turned turtle. Two of the passengers, Samuel Bomzon, twenty-three years of age, who is in the fur business with his father at No. 125 East Broadway, and Frank Mengerborn, twenty-one years old, a salesman of No. 73 Chrystie street, are dying at the Fordham Hospital, having fractured their skulls and sustained internal injuries. The doctors announced about three hours after they were brought to the hospital that they could not recover.

The two, together with Irwin Rubel, of No. 81 Harvard street, Harry Smith of No. 71 First street, Charlie Lewis of No. 1210 South street, Brooklyn; Charles Lachman and another, who refused to give his name, are members of the Aol-hawk Pleasure Club of No. 129 Henry street. About 10 o'clock they telephoned to Levine, at his garage, No. 71 First street, and engaged him to take them for a spin as far up as New Rochelle and back. He took them out in a car he had bought only a week ago with his life's savings. The trip to New Rochelle was uneventful, but on the return journey the car got into trouble with its carburetor and there was some delay. Then the car sped down the Southern Boulevard at a good speed, and Levine turned into Freeman street, bound for Intervale avenue, which is asphalted.

As he turned the corner Levine saw several people trying to cross the street and turned sharply to avoid running them down. The chain attached to the driving axle snapped and the car went skidding against the iron pillar of the "L" extension of the subway. Both rear tires exploded, the gasoline tank was shattered and the passengers hurled to the street. Then the car tumbled turtle, a complete wreck.

Foote-man Kaplan of the Tremont station telephoned for ambulances. The men were sprawled all over the roadway, all unconscious. Two ambulances were rushed to the scene, one in charge of Dr. Carsey of the Fordham Hospital and the other in charge of Dr. Cohen of Lebanon.

**DYING MEN HURRIED TO HOSPITAL IN AUTO.**

The crash of the collision was heard by John Collins, a chauffeur, of No. 31 West Fifty-fifth street, who was putting up his machine for the night at One Hundred and Sixty-seventh and Home streets. He raced over and, assisted by Postman Kaplan and two other young men in his automobile and rushed them to Fordham Hospital, passing the ambulance on the way. When Drs. Cohen and Carsey arrived the others were soon revived. Those who remained long enough to be questioned tried to give fictitious names, and even young Homestead kept our brand new car," she wailed. "So that's where our life's savings have gone. How did it happen, Morris?"

Coroner Schwannke ordered the arrest of Levine on a charge of criminal negligence, but after subjecting him to a severe cross-examination became convinced the accident was not his fault, and discharged him, just as Mrs. Levine, who had been telephoned for, arrived at the station house.

Mrs. Levine was hysterical. "Our business car, our brand new car," she wailed. "So that's where our life's savings have gone. How did it happen, Morris?"

And Morris, hoping this would quiet her, ejaculated: "I was drunk." But the police say he wasn't.

**MONEY MAILED, MAN GONE.**

Somebody in Chicago Sent Home Hoover's Thousands Mysteriously.

**KITTANNING, Pa., June 3.**—Somewhere in Chicago or on the way home to Edward Hoover, a liverman of this place, probably "broke." He went to Chicago to buy horses.

Postmaster Hooper yesterday received from the Chicago postmaster Hoover's wallet containing several thousand dollars in drafts, notes and cash. It had been found and the owner's name appearing on front cards. It contained Hoover had not arrived home last night, but the wallet was turned over to his wife.

**FILE PLANS FOR THEATRE.**

New Apollo Will Be Erected on West Forty-sixth Street.

Plans have been filed for the new Apollo Theatre, which is to be erected on the north side of Forty-sixth street, 2864 feet west of Broadway, for Edward B. Ross, as owner. It will have a frontage of 121-125 feet and a depth of 125 feet. The theatre will have accommodations for 2,000 seats.

The facade will be of brick, with limestone and terra cotta trimmings in ornamental design. It will have accommodations for 2,000 seats, and will have a balcony for the orchestra. The architect, W. H. McMillan, is at 100 N. 5th St., New York.

# ROOSTERS KEEP 'EM AWAKE.

Indignant officers residing in the west side section of Intervale N. Y. have signed a petition, which has been presented to the board of health, protesting against the growing of certain roosters. The roosters are owned by George J. Frost.

In the interim there are also 200 hens. Mr. Frost also has a kennel of six dogs, which, it is alleged, bark and howl continuously. The forty protesting neighbors say that about the time the dogs quit barking, along toward morning, the roosters begin their salutations to the dawn.



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