

WANTS LINE INTO ROCK CREEK PARK

Thomas Blagden's Plan for Popularizing Place.

WRITES TO COMMISSIONERS

Recalls Generosity of Residents in Building Up Suburbs and Gives Assurance that No Opposition Would Be Made to the Plan—Commissioner Macfarland Dismisses Park Plan.

Thomas Blagden, a large property owner in the Blagden estate in the Argyle Terrace section, in a communication to the Commissioners points out that by connecting the street car lines of the Washington Railway and Electric Company terminating at the head of Columbia road and Mount Pleasant street, where the road turns into Rock Creek Park, and the terminus of the same line at Brightwood, the facilities for reaching and popularizing the great park reserve could be accomplished.

He says that it would not only offer great advantages in reaching the park, but would offer facilities to residents of Takoma and Brightwood, who could reach the park without crossing the city through the down-town section.

Acting Engineer Commissioner Capt. William Kelly has informed Mr. Blagden that the Engineer Commissioner is considering a "feasible extension of the Washington Railway and Electric Company's line from its present terminus to the borders of Rock Creek Park, and that his suggestions in this connection will be given careful consideration and investigation.

Mr. Blagden's communication follows: "I have noticed with pleasure through the newspapers the interest you are taking toward the extension of the street railways, so as to afford the public access to the Rock Creek Park. To this end allow me to draw your attention to a few points.

"Having been the first to suggest the old Metropolitan Railroad's extension up Columbia road to Mount Pleasant, and having been one who worked for it, I have in mind a plan I here suggest for that line.

"As you well know, the Washington Railway and Electric Company's tracks end at the corner of Mount Pleasant street and Columbia road. The same company has a road past and through Brightwood.

"I propose to allow this company to connect these two points by the plan I will outline, from Green avenue, at Brightwood, along Colorado avenue to Seventeenth street, out Argyle terrace to Eighteenth street, and out Eighteenth street through Mount Pleasant Heights to Park road, giving railroad trolley service along a wide space of the Rock Creek Park southern and eastern borders.

"Extend Eighteenth Street. "Eighteenth street has got to be extended across Pinesy Branch Valley sooner or later, and had better be done now while the present favorable conditions exist, than left for the future, when it will cost tenfold to accomplish it.

"For the extension of this railroad I am confident I can obtain the donation of any one street for a mile in extent through Argyle, my old home tract. My plan is for the railroad to proceed on Columbia road to Eighteenth street, and thence north on Eighteenth street, and over Pinesy Branch Valley by bridge to Argyle terrace, thence to Seventeenth street, thence to Colorado avenue, and from that point to the end of the existing roads.

"By this plan, said railroad would be enabled to bring passengers from Takoma and all that section to 'up-town,' which would avoid the present necessity of crossing the District.

"By this plan, also, you will observe that the railroad would go direct to the park at the proposed playgrounds to be located near the reservoir site, and would border the park for about two miles.

"The extension of this road would increase values, create homes of a more desirable character for the District, and allow for the bridging of Pinesy Branch valley.

"At the present, I am confident I can secure this right of way. Postpone it and the land may have passed into other hands, as I have already stated, at a price to the District tenfold what it would be now.

"Owners Show Interest. "I permit me also to draw your attention to the interest of owners who should be interested in this project. Please consider what business of Argyle have done in the past. They have never stood in the way of a better improvement. They have done nearly a mile of land for Sixty cents, and a foot in width, also Columbia road, at Blagden's expense. They also gave the right of way for the three-foot water main at Seventeenth street, thus allowing the water to be properly accomplished.

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BEAUTY SPOTS IN ROCK CREEK PARK—NO. 3.



to recommend to Congress a liberal consideration of this matter by making provision for obtaining available tracts of land in various parts of the city suitable for parks, either by their natural beauty of forest growth, and there are several such tracts of land that is rolling or having hills, that go so far as to add to the beauty of parks.

"I would favor the appointment of a commission composed as is the Rock Creek Park commission, made up of the Commissioners and the chief engineer in charge of the Corps of United States Engineers, and the superintendent of public buildings and grounds, or any kind of commission that Congress, in its wisdom, might see fit to appoint, charged with the duty and authorized to expend a fund not to exceed \$2,000,000 or more, for the purchase of park sites available, not necessarily to be developed at once, but secured at present market prices and developed at the pleasure of Congress, thus securing at reasonable prices lands that in future years would cost double or more.

"Attractive Purchase Prices. "There are park lands available in this city to-day that could be purchased for the sum of \$2,000,000 or less, which will, if delayed, cost the government more than double that amount.

"I have in my mind a tract of land well covered with natural forest growth, suitable for making an excellent park which, if it had been purchased by the government ten years ago, could have been obtained for \$10,000, but to-day would cost \$20,000 or more.

"I think it would be a wise policy to have such a commission appointed, or some one or more of the Commissioners, or other person or persons appointed by Congress, whose duty it would be to give the general park plan extension of the city their best thought. If under the direction of such authority a map of the available park lands in the District was made, the prices at which it was held or offered obtained and the commission authorized to expend \$2,000,000 or any part thereof as it might see fit in its judgment for additional park lands, it would be an investment that would save to the government in future years in the extension of the park system millions of dollars.

"Delay Is Costly to Government. "Every year that this matter is postponed costs the government in proportion to the limit of time it is put off.

"There is no question that the government will continue its policy of extending the park system, but I believe it should be done as I suggest, in a general, systematic way, and not by piecemeal. It has been found that where one or more bills for new parks have been presented before Congress it is to the disadvantage of all of the park projects under consideration and up for Congressional favor. With the commission plan in force this would be all eliminated, the commission having authority to consider tracts for parks and their purchase."

"Mr. Williams Approves. "William E. Williams, financial clerk of the District Supreme Court, discussing the movement to popularize Rock Creek Park, said he was heartily in favor of the idea, as it would benefit the whole community.

"A movement like the one instituted by The Washington Herald to popularize Rock Creek Park must succeed, because it affects the welfare of the great majority of people of the District. There can be no valid objection to the scheme from any point of view, not even by the transportation companies. By making the park accessible from all parts of the city a great good will have been rendered, which should have been rendered long ago."

"A. G. Buhman, assistant clerk of the District Supreme Court, fully indorses the views of Mr. Williams, and adds that particular attention should be paid to the outdoor amusement feature.

"There is nothing so health-giving as moderate outdoor exercise. There is no better place in this city where the people can assemble and enjoy themselves by participating in or witnessing baseball, tennis, golf, polo, and other games, than Rock Creek Park. By making it let the people have all the benefits which may be derived from that beautiful spot. I am especially in strong favor of band concerts in the park, say from any point of view, not even by the transportation companies. By making the park accessible from all parts of the city a great good will have been rendered, which should have been rendered long ago."

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THAW BEAT GIRLS WITH A DOG WHIP

Continued from Page One.

and young, who had sat open-mouthed during the course of the day's proceedings took the hint from the bench. The rest looked slyly at one another and stayed. Mrs. Morrill, comfortably stout and overflowing from every opening in a pink, waistless dress in ripples of pink flesh, was sworn and took the stand. Thaw looked at her in a half-started way and she gave him back his glance with a cheerful assumption of acquaintanceship.

Evelyn Nesbit Thaw, who was sitting over against the line of windows opposite the witness stand, leaned far to one side and studied the complacent features of Jerome's surprise witness.

"I first met Mr. Thaw in 1902," said she. "It was at Mrs. Gray's place, at 230 West Forty-sixth street, where I was housekeeper. It was in the spring that I first met him, when he came there as a visitor, but I didn't know him as Mr. Thaw. It was Mr. Reid that I met him. Sometimes he went under the name of Munroe, and he had some other names, too, which I have forgotten."

"When I first met him he had rooms there at Mrs. Gray's. I just saw him passing in and out. In the fall of 1903, when I left Mrs. Gray's and took up an apartment house of my own, at 241 West Forty-third street, he came along too and rented three rooms of me."

"Did he tell you why he wanted those rooms?" queried Jerome.

"Yes," she said, "he was in the theatrical business—and I was in the putting of young women on the stage—and he wanted those rooms to do business in. He said he was engaged in placing young women at good salaries. Many letters came to him addressed to Reid & Munroe. Sometimes the girls used to call him Prof. Munroe."

"When first those unexpected bits of testimony began to drop from the willing lips of the former apartment house keeper there was a stirring of greedy speculators in their seats and a focusing of eyes on the man who seeks to have his sanity established. Thaw sat with his eyes fixed on the pad in front of him. Jerome continued to ply the witness. He asked how long Thaw had kept the rooms in the Forty-third street house.

"I moved away from there in April, 1906," said Mrs. Morrill. "I took a house at 238 West Fifty-fourth street. Reid, or Thaw, moved with me; he had three rooms there also."

"Were there any occurrences of an unusual nature that happened while you occupied the apartments in Forty-third street?"

"I should say there was," the witness vociferated. "He had a great many callers—chiefly girls. He would send out for lunch, then there would be sounds from his room that sounded like sounds of quarrelling."

Jerome asked the witness to specify more explicitly. With a momentary show of reluctance, lined with maidenly confusion, the witness asked Justice Mills if she really must answer. He assured her that she really must.

"One time—and this is only one of the times—Thaw had visitors in his rooms. I heard hollering, and I went in there; I went in through the bedroom. I saw him in the act of striking a young girl with a dog whip. He was striking her on the bare flesh; there were welts on her body and legs. The girl yelled that he was trying to murder her."

"Had Whip in His Hands. "Mrs. Morrill gave indications of running along faster than her interrogator wished. Jerome stopped her and asked her specifically if she had ever seen Thaw with a whip in his hands while young girls were in his rooms. Witness said she had twice seen him with a whip in his hands, and she had seen other whips in Thaw's room. She had seen two dog whips and a riding crop.

Jerome called for the mysterious bundle which Hartridge had disgorged from his valise on the day before, and which had been marked for evidence, though not opened. He ripped off the paper and brought out a slender dog whip about three feet long, which had an ornamental ivory handle. Jerome flicked the lash sharply against the papers on his desk and then held the whip out to the witness.

"Is that one of the whips you saw Thaw use?"

"Sure, that's one of them. He had that and a crop with a leather thing on one end."

"Was Beating a Girl. "The first time he was beating the girl with the crop; the dog whip was on the parlor table. The girl had her waist open, and he was beating her on the bare skin. The second time—"

"Wait a minute. On the occasions that you saw women in Thaw's rooms, were they dressed or undressed?"

"Sometimes they were only half dressed," was the cryptic answer of the witness.

"The second time that I saw Thaw beating girls, I ran into his rooms, and there were two young girls. Thaw was in the act of beating them on their bare flesh. As soon as he saw me he dropped his whip—he was using a dog whip that time—and he ran into the dining room and stopped beating the girls."

"What did you say to Thaw when you saw that?"

"Well, I had a talk with him. I asked him what he meant by whipping those girls. He said they deserved a beating; that they were ignorant and wouldn't learn anything, and that he had to beat them to make them learn. I told him other girls had told me that he had beaten them. Then he was good for some time and he didn't beat any more girls until later. I didn't get much of a chance to talk with him about this, for every time I caught him he would run away—just put on his hat and run out of the front door."

"Did you know Miss Thomas—Ethel Thomas?" was Jerome's last query on direct examination. Witness said she did; that Thaw had met Miss Thomas in the house in West Fifty-fourth street.

"Attacks Her Character. "Morschauer rose to conduct the cross-examination with a baleful countenance.

"Did you once have a suit for damages against a man in which you charged that he was the father of your child?" was the first question which he shot at the composed Mrs. Morrill. The witness bridled and said that such was the case.

PRASE THE IRISH

Germans Make Plans for Celebration of Friendship.

TO HOLD KOMMERS IN AUGUST

President Voelckner and Secretary Bender Selected Delegates to Convention—Question of Erecting Clubhouse to Be Used by All German Societies Referred to Committee.

The relations between American citizens of German and Irish origin are the most cordial, and that they intend to continue to work together in their common cause, is conclusively shown by the action taken by the United German Societies at their regular monthly meeting at Beasler's Hall last night to celebrate toward the end of August at one of the largest halls of this city.

The United German Societies of this city, as a member of the National German-American Alliance, has for years been intimately allied with the Ancient Order of Hibernians and other Irish organizations in the defense of the principles of personal liberty and freedom and the union between the two organizations has proved of incalculable benefit to both parties in many ways.

This matter was discussed at length at last night's meeting, and there were numerous remarks on the part of the members extolling the splendid virtues of their Irish allies and calling upon every German organization to participate at the German-Irish convention.

Kurt Voelckner, the president of the United German Societies, occupied the chair, and Gustav Bender, the secretary, read the minutes of the previous meetings, which were adopted as read.

The question of erecting a "German House," as suggested by the Verein Deutscher Landsleute, a committee for investigation and report. The committee consists of Louis Schopf, Henry Hamner, John B. Dueschling, John Weber, and Adolph Hofman.

The proposition is to erect a clubhouse which should serve as a meeting place for all the German societies in Washington, and which should have all the facilities of a modern clubhouse.

The question of instructing the delegates to the annual convention of the German-American Alliance, which will take place at Cincinnati October 2 to 6, to make efforts to secure the 1911 convention for this city was postponed until the August meeting.

Delegates Selected. Kurt Voelckner, the president of the society, and Gustav Bender, its secretary, were named to represent the local organization at the next convention as delegates. The sum of \$30 for expenses was voted. It was, however, decided to permit any member to go to the convention at his own expense, in which case he would be entitled to act as a delegate of the local society.

The question of selecting a suitable place for the celebration of German Day and the naming of the date was left in the hands of the executive committee, which will report at the August meeting.

The attention of the members was called to the invitation of the Columbia Turnverein to invest in shares in their new hall, and assist in the upbuilding of the only German Turnverein in Washington. The members received the invitation with good will and signified their intention to comply with its terms.

Discuss 1911 Convention. The question of securing the 1911 convention of the German-American Alliance for this city precipitated an animated discussion.

President Voelckner, who was supported by Secretary Bender and other members, said that this city was the logical place for the convention, and that a guarantee fund of only \$2,000 was necessary to entitle the society to make a bid for this convention.

He said it would be an easy matter to raise this amount among the Germans of Washington, and that there would be sources of income from excursions, kommers, and other entertainments, diminishing the actual outlay considerably. Dr. Voelckner said it would be especially desirable at this time of prohibition agitation to have the Alliance meet at the capital of the nation as a protest against the prohibition movement.

Rudolph Saur, the honorary president of the society, opposed the idea of bringing the convention to this city, saying that it would be difficult to raise the guarantee fund. The motion to postpone the discussion of this question until the August meeting was adopted.

LOCAL BRIEFS. The election is announced of L. William Davis, William F. Thomas, and William M. Smith, all of this city, as members of the Tokyo Club of Seattle, Wash.

Clement Penhart, twelve years old, living at 938 Third street northeast, narrowly escaped death when an automobile ran him down at the intersection of Third street and I street northeast last night. He was struck by the guards. His injuries are not serious.

Funeral services for Mrs. Mary McKee (widow of H. B. Twenty-first street northeast) will be held from 2 o'clock to 3 o'clock, Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. John H. Stannum will officiate. The body will be temporarily placed in a vault.

Almost \$30 has been donated to Mrs. Ella Perry, the negro woman who last her husband and two sons several weeks ago by drowning. The donations are a friend, 30 cents; Grace, 25 cents; and Mrs. Perry, 25 cents; total, \$80.35.

Lewis Lubbert and his son, Adolph, carpenter, living at 1234 Newark street northeast, were thrown to the ground, a distance of twenty feet, and badly bruised as a result of the ground under a scaffolding giving away yesterday morning. The men were working in front of a new building at 1234 Newark street when the accident occurred.

With no marks of identification upon the body of a white man, about sixty years old, who was found about 100 yards from North Chesapeake Beach, last Sunday morning by a negro boy, the body was taken to the morgue. The coroner of Anne Arundel County was notified and held an inquest. It is believed the man either fell overboard from a passenger steamer or committed suicide. The body was buried where it was found.

The funeral of Martin E. Doonan, retired sergeant of engineers, U. S. A., will be held at 8 o'clock this morning from the Church of the Nativity, Brightwood. Interment will be at National Cemetery in Arlington. The pallbearers will be Sergts. Julius Kamper, George Winter, Edward O'Connell, Edward Keenan, Carl G. Vega, and Ashby Grant.

Five-year-old John Weeber, of 1034 Thirtieth street northeast, jumped from the rear of an automobile yesterday morning, and fell in front of a heavy delivery wagon. One of the wheels passed over his body. He was hurried to Georgetown University Hospital, where it is feared his internal injuries are serious. The negro driver, Benjamin Brooks, was locked up, pending the outcome of the boy's injuries.

Commissioner General Daniel J. Keefe, of the Immigration Service, plans to sail for Chicago into the United States by the Mexican border has decreased. The commissioner has recently returned from an inspection trip to Chicago, Vancouver, Victoria, Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, the island of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hilo, Laredo, Galveston, New Orleans, and St. Louis.

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