

MUD MADE MONARCH

Fifty Streets in the City Left Half Done by the Slaughter of the Improvement Laws.

MANY UNFINISHED CONTRACTS

Will Furnish the Department of Public Works With All It Can Do During the Summer.

NO HOPE FOR THOSE WHO HATE PAID UP.

Nearly a Million and a Half to Be Paid if Curative Legislation Fails.

The effect of the Supreme Court decision on Pittsburgh's street laws was even more far-reaching than most people supposed.

The statement that there were over \$1,000,000 worth of contracts lying idle in account of the law was not far from the truth.

Very few people outside of those in immediate charge realized the great amount of territory covered by the streets affected and the consequently large number of people inconvenienced by their incompleteness.

It is estimated that at least one-third of the population of the city has been more or less injured by the sudden stop to these half-finished contracts, leaving streets almost impassable with mud and otherwise blockaded with stone, gravel and other paving materials.

In some sections of the city vehicles have been compelled to make wide detours in search of solid roadbeds, and in some instances pedestrians have been subject to a similar disadvantage.

The long rainy season of the past few weeks has added materially to the discomfort of turn-up thoroughfares.

Mud has reached supreme all through the winter and spring months on a large proportion of the East End streets, where much of the improvement was being done.

Other portions of the city have had their share of the trouble. People have complained, but were calmly informed that there was no relief until the Legislature acted on the new street bills.

Chief Bigelow says he is ready to get work started on these uncompleted streets, only awaiting the action of the Legislature giving him authority to proceed.

Some of the contracts were nearly finished when work was stopped last fall, and only a short time will be required to complete them.

Others were only half done, while on some of them operations had just begun. As a result, a large portion of the summer season will be required to put the finishing touches on all the work.

While all the unfinished business on hand and numerous new fields of labor in addition the Department of Public Works will have its hands full this summer.

Hereafter Chief Bigelow has positively refused to make public the list of streets affected by the Supreme Court decision, on the ground that the attorneys in charge of the new street bills advised him not to give them out.

Yesterday he consented to furnish the list.

Just What the City Is In For.

A recapitulation of the statement, as furnished by Chief Clerk Bingham, of the Department of Public Works, shows that in event of failure to secure curative legislation, or if the Supreme Court decides against such legislation, the city will have to pay \$1,311,633.

This is for work done and contracts that cannot be annulled, and means a stoppage of all work authorized by Councils under the acts of 1887 and 1889. The total is secured from the following figures:

Under act of 1887: Amount uncollected from sewers completed, \$2,309 38; Amount uncollected from sidewalks completed, \$176,640 19; Amount uncollected from boardwalks completed, \$4,338 94.

Under act of 1889: Amount uncollected from sewers completed, \$45,715 15; Amount uncollected from streets completed, \$128,839 79; Amount uncollected from boardwalks completed, \$1,484 41.

Total completed work, \$484,394 32. Work done on streets, not completed, \$250,000 00; Work done on sewers, not completed, \$202,800 00; Work done on sewers, not completed, \$1,209 00.

Total uncompleted work, \$738,250 00. Total completed work, \$484,394 32. Total uncollected, \$1,311,633 32.

The table below shows the streets left in a state of incompleteness by the Supreme Court decision with the estimated cost of each, the cost of the work already done and materials furnished, the cost of what is yet to be done, the proportion of foot frontage on each street represented on the petition to Councils for the improvement, and the share of the total cost those who petitioned will have to pay in event of curative legislation being secured:

The List of Unfinished Streets.

Under Act of 1887.

Name of Street. From To. Total Cost. Unpaid.

Biquet, Simple to Baker, \$3,300 3,300 49 1,230.

Under Act of 1889.

Name of Street. From To. Total Cost. Unpaid.

Altoona, from 1st to 2nd, \$1,000 1,000 40 1,000.

Boardwalk contracts completed under the act of 1887, with the total cost and the amount unpaid on each were as follows:

Name of Street. From To. Total Cost. Unpaid.

John Ave. from 1st to 2nd, \$1,000 1,000 40 1,000.

All the Sewer Contracts of 1887.

The sewer contracts completed under the act of 1887, with the total cost and amount uncollected on each, are as follows:

Name of Street. From To. Total Cost. Unpaid.

St. Twenty, Joseph, \$9,482 11 all paid.

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FITTED FOR FARMING.

Leading Italians Seeking a Plan to Obtain a Tract of Land, To Form an Agricultural Colony.

The Present Inhabitants of the Lanes and Alleys Would Seize The Chance to Settle in the Country.

The leading Italians of Allegheny county are about to formulate a scheme whereby land for colonizing purposes may be obtained on similar terms to those which New York capitalists hold out to Italian colonists in other sections of the State.

The idea, which has been under consideration for some time, is to give Italians an opportunity for engaging in agricultural pursuits by placing land at their disposal on easy terms, and so founding a colony.

The majority of Italians who find their way to this country are from rural districts, and they are, therefore, better adapted to a rural life than to the pursuits open to them in large cities.

It is claimed for them, by those most familiar with them, namely, their own countrymen of better parts and of more education, that the Italian is seen to disadvantage here because of his lack of capital—he is unable to branch out for himself, and is driven to dig ditches and sewers, work of a character which nearest approaches the tillage of the soil, his familiar labor.

Some Advantages of the Scheme.

The advocates of the colonization scheme have objects in view besides the material advancement of their countrymen.

They claim that with better houses, purer air, healthy occupation and the incentive to work which usually follow on the opportunity of laboring for their own particular profit, the moral tone of the Italian colonists would be raised and they would qualify more rapidly to follow on the privileges of citizenship.

It is stated that a very large proportion of the fruit raised on the Pacific slope is the result of the Italian labor, and it is held that if Pennsylvania Italians were afforded the opportunity of raising crops and fruits the cities would be soon freed of these people, who would flock to the country work as rapidly as they would flock to the city.

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FOR MEMORIAL DAY.

The Grand Army Makes Arrangements for the Celebration of May Day.

The Joint General Memorial Committee of the Pittsburgh Grand Army of the Republic met last night at City Hall to make arrangements for Decoration Day.

There was a considerable discussion among the members of the committee as to whether certain secret orders should be asked to take part. The claim was made that the Grand Army could furnish all the men for decorating graves that were needed.

A resolution offered to that effect was defeated. A resolution, however, was agreed to inviting all the school children of the city to take part in the ceremonies.

The committees announced to cover the work of the Grand Army on Memorial Day are as follows:

Finance—Colonel T. J. Hudson, Post 259; Edward Fisher, Post 2; J. C. Kennedy, Post 4; James H. Brown, Post 157; Charles G. Galloway, Post 158; and John Henry, Post 220.

Programme and Printing—A. M. Kennedy, Post 259; Albert Moore, Post 4; Edward J. Brown, Post 157; Jacob Barrett, Post 158; R. Becker, Post 220; S. S. Reese, Post 157.

Resolutions were adopted suggesting that the Grand Army be invited to join in the Decoration Day celebration.

WANTED TO QUIT SQUARE.

A Tramp Who Really Wanted to Pay Back Borrowed Money.

Inane Moser is the name of a young and rather intelligent Hebrew gait the night Captain of the Allegheny station house when he applied for a place to sleep Wednesday evening.

He was evidently an honest lad, and was very anxious to obtain a home. He said he had walked all the way from St. Louis to Pittsburgh in quest of work, and was now in a desperate straits.

While at the station house some one gave him a quarter with which to get a lunch and a drink, and he was returned to the station house and stated that he had got work, for which he received \$2. Out of that he purchased a pair of shoes, kept the balance, and was now in a desperate straits.

An Amendment She Would Make.

"I would have the Constitution read that all human beings are, or should be, born with an equal opportunity to live and labor on the earth and enjoy the fruits of their labor thereon."

After the routine business had been disposed of, a committee from the International Working People's Association was given a hearing, and they asked that some action be taken on the prospective hanging of the three men convicted of the killing of Michael Quinn.

There was an application made to the Governor on Friday for a charter for the Schultz Bridge and Iron Company of this city, a concern that is to succeed the Iron City Bridge Works Company, which made an assignment some months ago.

The incorporators of the new company are H. W. Oliver, A. L. Schultz, W. R. Thompson, E. W. ...

WILL CONTINUE THE WORKS.

Iron City Bridge Works Company's Successor Applies for a Charter.

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ONLY WANTED A CARRIAGE.

Story of a Pretty Girl Who Visited Allegheny Police Headquarters.

A bright little 5-year-old girl was brought to Allegheny police headquarters. She was a bright little thing and gave her name as Lizzie Leising.

She carried a bag of bananas, but was feeling too bad to eat them. Her father had taken her out to buy a carriage for her baby doll, but while he was in a store she had wandered off.

After a search her father was found, and when the child caught sight of him she ran clear across the room, and the first thing she said was "Pa, I want to get a carriage."

When satisfied that he had she was perfectly happy and was ready to go home.

FIGHT ON A CABLE CAR.

An Intoxicated Man Has an Exciting Time Out on Penn Avenue.

A drunken man driving along Penn avenue yesterday in a buck wagon, was struck by a cable car and knocked to the ground. He was unhurt. The owner of the wagon soon arrived and was mad at the damage done.

He undertook to punish the conductor and gripman, but the passengers interfered. Both the drunk and the wagon owner were arrested, but they refused to give names.

BY MEANS OF A RAZOR.

A Penn Avenue Nonconformist Commits Suicide While Temporarily Deranged.

John Lorison, 90 years old, residing at 1615 Penn avenue, committed suicide at his home yesterday afternoon by cutting his throat with a razor.

Mr. Lorison has been sick for some time and committed the act in a fit of despondency. The deceased well known along Penn avenue and was the father of Police-man Ross Lorison. An inquest will be held on Monday.

BIT HIS EAR OFF.

A Discussion on Nationality Has a Painful Result.

VIEW OF A WOMAN

On Some of the Leading Labor Questions of the Day.

BEFORE THE NEW TRAIN MASTERS

A New Company to Continue the Iron City Bridge Works.

GRIST OF A DAY FROM LABOR CIRCLES

The regular meeting of the Central Trades Council was of peculiar interest last evening. The second of the series of open meetings was held, and considerable interest was manifested in the proceedings.

There was a slight misunderstanding regarding the arrangements for the evening, and instead of one or two speakers were present. A committee had been appointed for the purpose of securing someone to address the Council and Miss Sara Rutan, M. D., was engaged.

Through a mistake the impression got abroad that Miss Rutan would not be present and William J. Brennan was secured. Miss Rutan, however, put in an appearance last night and Mr. Brennan gave way to her. Her address was mostly made up of Henry George ideas, with a sprinkling of women's rights thrown in.

Her subject was "What is the Over-shadowing Curse?" and she treated it in an able and interesting manner, although she at times grew rather radical against capitalists.

Referring to the question of legislation, Miss Rutan said that within the last 25 years there has not been an important bill passed in the interest of labor, with the exception of one reducing the hours in some State.

And this, she thought, is a farce. The worst enemy the workmen have are themselves, and the only way they will ever get what belongs to them will be to become a party by themselves with the Farmers' Alliance, which would give them a balance of power.

Taking up the constitutional phrase that "all men are born free and equal," Miss Rutan said: "Free, while white slavery is warring its cruel clutch and corporations are robbing the hearthstones of their fires."

Free Not while 50,000,000 of people are living on property owned by 5,000,000; not while the poor drunkard is hustled away to a work house or jail and the rich drunkard is taken to his fashionable club, where his head is spangled off.

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