

A Final Day of Glory for Last of Aberdeen Road 'Veterans' Trams Go To A Fantastic Farewell 70,000 Jam Streets For Historic Drive

THERE were fantastic scenes as Aberdeen bade farewell to its last trams at the week-end. Waving and cheering and laughing crowds, estimated at between 60,000 and 70,000, lined the "funeral" route from Bridge of Dee to the King Street depot. It was a turn-out fit for royalty—and the end of an era.

Union Street was a solid mass of people. Vehicles travelling westwards were forced to a standstill as the crowds spilled on to the middle of the road. The traffic jam stretched from Crown Street to Castle Street.

Bus Switch Warning: 'In For A Bad Time'

The mouths of streets leading off Union Street were closed by six-deep ranks of spectators eager to witness the historic procession. Biggest crush was outside the town house where the cavalcade of four modern double-decker trams and two of the older type—led by a sixty-year-old horse-drawn veteran—halted to allow the official guests to alight.

Men, women and children swarmed on to the roadway in an attempt to enter the empty vehicles so that they could complete the journey to the depot. The horse-drawn tram, guided by two policemen and a transport inspector, was surrounded by curious eyes.

She Took Risk

Police had to clear the way before the trams could move off again on the last stage of their journey. Hundreds followed them on foot along King Street, and Tib and Bloom, the two white mares from Newton of Durris, Crathes, who had hauled the leading tram from Queen's Cross several times had to be stopped and rested.

A Milestone

"I have never had any sorrow in the passing of the tram," declared Mr Fitcher. "I think the buses are so very outstanding in their operation that there should not be any hesitation in changing over."

'Stowaways'

The trams that made the trip were Nos. 108 and 135, of the rigid-track type, and Nos. 32, 33, 37 and 36 which are the modern, double-decker kind. No. 36 was Aberdeen's very last tramcar. In it were Lord Provost George Stephen, Mr Hector Hughes, M.P., members of the town council and corporation officials, with wives and friends.

OIL HEATER FIRE SCARE

WHEN Mr and Mrs D. S. Mitchell returned to their home at 89 Arnaque Drive, Mastick, Aberdeen, yesterday, after an outing they discovered they had visitors—fumes, who had removed an oil heater from their living-room.

Exciting

And, despite the milling crowds and the wild excitement of the occasion, Bloom and Tib never turned a hair. They might have been hauling trams down Union Street all their lives.

Remarkably little damage was done to the trams by souvenir hunters. Two men tried to steal a seat from one vehicle, but failed miserably in their attempt to prove it. Others picked up, or unscrewed, little mementoes.

People have been writing into the transport department asking for all manner of items. These include bells, indicator screens, control handles, numbers and picture frames. If the bits wanted could be removed without difficulty, then the department would do what they could to oblige, said Mr F. Y. Fraser, transport manager, yesterday.

While the procession was in progress, one of the trams being moved into the depot went off the rails and collided with a lamppost, but was cleared in time for the procession's arrival. Bloom and Tib were unharnessed and led into a horsebox. The old tram was pushed inside by a more modern one and the clock started slowly. Their glory-day was over.



Lex Gives Out Tips at Audition

THE society is contemplating the appointment of a woman home worker. "Our woman home worker," says the report, "will, if our society's funds permit, be able to make those elementary purchases which are necessary to make even a humble household function smoothly."

Common Problem

It points out that the home worker will be used only in homes where the chance of success is good, and "will apply her effort to the whole range of responsibilities which fall to competent parents."

British Habits

The report contradicts the assumption that improved standards of living have brought about less cruelty. "If there is less physical cruelty, there is more ill-treatment of another kind—British social habits, inadequate nourishment, insufficient clothing, lack of sleeping accommodation, that makes the roughest pretence to comfort, and a lack of cleanliness and elementary hygiene."

DEESIDE DOCTOR DIES

DR John Farquhar MacLeod, of Three, Ramsay Road, Banchory, who has died at Glen Dea Sanatorium, was medical practitioner in Peterculter for twenty-three years and retired to Banchory because of ill health in 1933.

Dance For Kirk

Pupils of Miss Christine Donald raised £30 with a dancing display in aid of Banff St Andrew's Episcopal Church.

Lad Stole For His Wedding — 'It's All Off'

THERE will be no wedding at present for eighteen-year-old James Gill, the non-smoking Aberdeen cellar boy, who in Aberdeen Sheriff Court on Saturday admitted stealing 10,000 cigarettes from the restaurant where he worked so that he might have some money to get married next Saturday. Sheriff Akeman Smith ordered Gill to be remanded in custody until Tuesday so that he could think about the case, but whatever his decision the wedding is off.

The youth's father, Mr J. Gill, said at his home, 108 Polwarth Road, Aberdeen, yesterday: "It's all off." Asked if that meant permanently or just for the present, he replied: "I've nothing more to say." Miss Ivy Ross, the eighteen-year-old machinist who was to have been Gill's bride at the Registrar's Office on Saturday morning, spent the week-end at the Gill home, according to her grandmother with whom she lives at St Andrew Street. A relative said: "She collected some of her clothes just after court on Saturday to get married. She was surprised to see Gill in court, but she was getting desperate for money. Mr Nixon said that the police had recovered £40/15/- out of a total value of £75. Gill, he said, was placed on probation for two years last December."

Needing Money

Mr H. J. G. Connochie, solicitor, said Gill had acted on the spur of the moment. He was needing money to buy furniture because he was getting married. Mr D. Slesor, probation officer, told the sheriff he was surprised to see Gill in court, as he had been reporting to his department regularly every week. His wage was a small one, but he was anxious to get married. "He does not smoke, or drink, and this has come as something out of the blue. The cause is the lack of money, and he is so anxious to get married," said Mr Slesor.

ABERDEEN M.P. ON SIDE OF BUSMEN

THE Government was yesterday accused by Mr Hector Hughes, M.P. for North Aberdeen, of trying to split the bus workers, as a step towards dividing the workers of the country as a whole. Mr Hughes was speaking at a May Day demonstration in Aberdeen market square. On a cold, bleak afternoon, with the threat of rain, fewer than one hundred people attended.

'Perfectly Justified'

"Why? asked Mr Hughes. "To split the bus workers and if they succeed in beating the workers in this strike, they will do the same thing in other industries, in order to split the workers of the country as a whole." "It is a doctrine of 'divide and conquer,' and I am perfectly satisfied that the busmen are perfectly justified. This dispute is an indication of what may be expected if the Government has its way."

Puzzling Feature

Mr Andrew Foley, manager of the Tivoli, was happy after the auditions. "The standard was quite high and there should be very keen competition for the spots on the show," he observed. "One puzzling feature is the absence of instrumentalists, however. I know there are many good instrumentalists in this area, particularly accordionists. 'Where were they? They may turn out at next week's audition, of course.'"

Field Club at Kingcausie

THE line of Lords of Kingcausie seems not only among the earliest of the vassals of the Knights of St John, but is probably the only family which has come down to the present day, uninterrupted holding on a title deed progress as vassals of that Order. This opinion was expressed by Sir Thomas Innes of Learney, Lord Lyon King of Arms, in a letter to Deeside Field Club when they held their first outing of the season to Kingcausie near Culter, on the invitation of Colonel and Mrs Archer Irvine-Fortescue of Kingcausie.

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S.P.C.C. Have Plan to Appoint Home Worker

Stand-in-Mum would Put Home on Rails

A STAND-IN Mum may be sent to live with problem families by Aberdeen City and County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. She would make a prolonged stay and by example and guidance show them how to achieve a better standard of living.

Ruthrieston Wedding



Leading Ruthrieston South Church, Aberdeen, after their wedding on Saturday are Miss Margaret R. King, 5 Garthdee, and Mr William Henderson, 9 Powis Circle, Aberdeen. The couple were attended by Mrs Margaret Annal, Miss Marcelle King, Miss L. King, Mr Alex. Forsyth and Master James Nelson.

Four Caught After Mearns Chase

BOYS FLEE CAR IN POLICE NET

EXCITEMENT ran high in the Stonehaven Harbour area on Saturday night when an expensive-looking car screeched to a halt on the shore-head and four boys, aged about fourteen, jumped out and scattered over dykes, through back gardens and up side streets.

Shipping News

Arrived—Olive, Rotterdam, master: St Clair, Liverpool, general and passenger; Rolf Busman, Rotterdam, general.

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Beechgrove Cubs Win 'Totem'

Wolf Cubs of Beechgrove Church the 25th Pack won the annual Wolf-Cub totem pole competition at Aberdeen on Saturday. Fourteen packs participated and the examiners were Miss Hazel Farmer and Miss Ann Luke, Edinburgh.



Well, there it is! Proud members of Aberdeen St Peter's R.C. School primary choir hold the Challenge Shield they won in the senior division of the Primary School Chorus Class at the Aberdeen Music Festival on Saturday. (Festival story and results on Page 7.)