

## COMMISSION GOVERNMENT DESERVES TO BE DEFEATED

### Just One Foolish Man Under Commission Form Is Menace to All Advancement.

Voters who will, in the near future, be given an opportunity to express an opinion upon the advisability of adopting the commission form of government in Portland, may obtain some interesting data upon the practical workings of the plan by reviewing recent events in the municipal fire commission's affairs.

Particularly will they find illumination in the manner in which contracts for the purchase of automobile fire apparatus were disposed of.

Portland's fire department, like some other branches of the city's business, is managed by a commission composed of certain members of the executive board. Next to the police commission, this is probably the most important commission in the city; and it has directly and indirectly in its hands the safety of the men, women and children whose homes lie within the city limits. This responsibility alone should be sufficient to banish all personalities from the deliberations of the commission.

**Just One Example.**  
Upon this fire commission, as among others, is one Dr. Henry C. Fixott. Dr. Fixott is a man who ranks as a good citizen. He is a professional man, he is a director in a charitable enterprise of considerable merit, he is a prominent resident of the Sellwood district, a leading member of one of the Sellwood churches, and a man who has, by his own effort, attained remarkable success since he first came to Portland. In short, he is just such a man as the average voter might pick for a member of a commission which would rule the city if the commission form of government were adopted.

When it comes down to his actual accomplishments on behalf of the city, however, Dr. Fixott does not loom in quite so favorable a light. His official actions on matters that have come before the sewer committee of the exe-

cutive board have surprised many people, and have delayed considerable sewer work that ought to be rushed to completion. Dr. Fixott presumably has acted as he thought correct in his votes upon sewer construction, but the fact remains that he has caused delay to much needed sewer work.

**Theory Versus Practice.**  
But sewer work is not the topic in view. What has Dr. Fixott done to better Portland's fire department, and to make it more efficient and better able to protect the lives and property of Portland's citizens?

Sometime before the fire apparatus contracts were taken up, Dr. Fixott was one of a party of Portland officials who visited Denver and other cities to inspect other fire departments, and to attend a convention of fire fighters. At the convention, various kinds of fire apparatus were on display. Dr. Fixott viewed these displays in common with other members of the party. But while all the others regarded the different apparatus from the viewpoint of technical efficiency, Dr. Fixott seemed to be interested in but one thing—cost.

The group of Portland officials returned. The chief of the fire department, who was one of the group, turned in a report, recommending that a certain variety of fire apparatus be purchased. He, and the other members, thought this apparatus the best for a number of reasons. It seemed practical, it was manufactured by a reputable firm, it was standard apparatus, its parts were carried in stock by a Portland agency, so that repairs could be easily made—in short, it was regarded as the most efficient.

**Matter of Price.**  
And Dr. Fixott? Dr. Fixott did not agree with the others. He, without technical training or practical experience, differed with the views of the chief of the department. He believed that a cheaper

variety of apparatus was just as good. The fact that this other apparatus was practically unknown in the Northwest, that it was not carried by Northwestern firms, that it had no standard reputation—made no difference to him. It was cheap, that was the main thing. And because it was cheap, Dr. Fixott thought it was good enough for Portland. Because it was cheap he was willing to risk the safety of property and people upon its unproved efficiency.

In other words, without technical judgment, Dr. Fixott wanted this apparatus just because it was cheap. Fortunately for Portland, Dr. Fixott didn't get what he wanted. The ideas of the majority were accepted, and standard apparatus was accepted.

Now, suppose Dr. Fixott had been a commissioner in full charge, under commission rule, of the fire department: While act-

ing presumably with the best of motives, he would have made it impossible for Portland to acquire a large amount of cheap fire apparatus—which is the poorest kind of economy.

Do Portland citizens want such things possible? Do they want commission rule, when the word of one man will have so much weight? Do they want this when the mistakes of a perfectly honest man may do as much harm as the deliberate wrong-doing of a crook? Probably not.

The commission form of government is dangerous because it places too much power in the hands of a few men.

#### COMMERCIAL CLUB BORN.

Portsmouth Residents Get Together to Advance Community.

The Portsmouth Commercial Club was formally organized last week at a banquet held in the Oddfellows' Hall in University Park, about 60 residents of that district interested in the general uplift of their community being present to contribute to the success of the movement.

## ANOTHER INDUSTRY FOR THE EAST SIDE

### Johnson-Bradford Safe Company Will Erect Large Factory in Near If Present Plans Materialize.

#### TO BUILD FIRST BURGLAR-PROOF AND MARINE SAFE

A Wonderful Oregon Invention That Will Have a World-Wide Market—Demand Already is Greater Than Supply.

The Johnson-Bradford Safe Co. have secured large quarters on the East Side, exact location to be announced as soon as legal documents are signed, and will establish their assembly shops here.

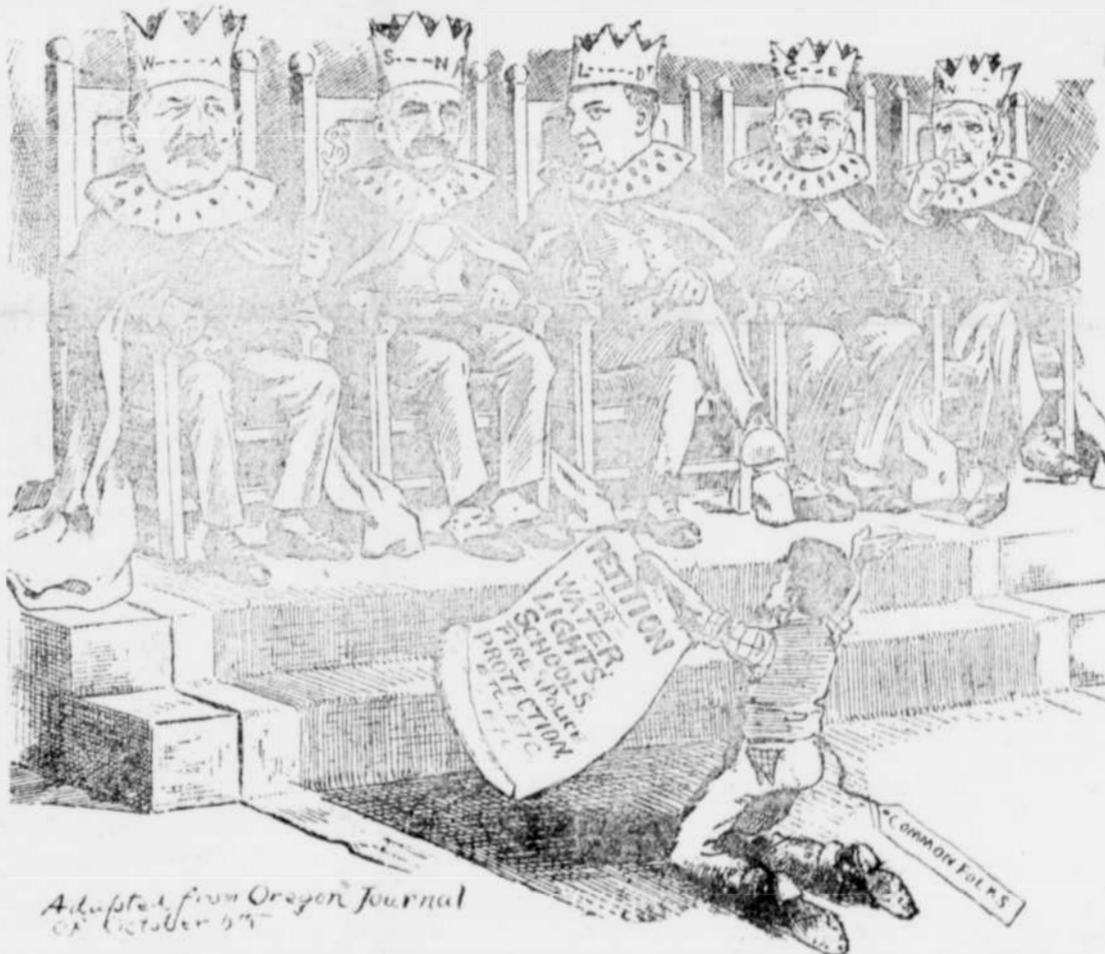
At an early date, a large factory will be erected at some point in the East Side section of the city. At the present time, the castings of their safes are made in Chicago. The East Side factory will be utilized as the assembling point for the different parts and the finished product will be shipped hence to the different Pacific Coast salesrooms, and the Orient.

This new industry will employ common labor as well as expert machinists, and when the factory proper is established, thousands of dollars will be added to the payroll of the East Side. There is no question as to the success of this enterprise, as the demand already exceeds the supply, and orders are booked for one year ahead.

The public has heard very little of this Oregon invention—the first

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## RULE OF FIVE "COMMISSION CHARTER" KINGS



DO YOU WANT TO GO BACK TO THIS, MR. VOTER?

## DETERMINED OPPOSITION TO STREET CAR MONOPOLY

### NEW RAILWAY FOR EAST PORTLAND

Peninsula People Aid Heusner Interurban to Reach Heart of City.

Members of the North Albina Push Club are heartily in favor of the Heusner franchise, and are determined to put up a hard fight against the efforts of the Portland Railway, Light & Power Co. to block the entrance of the competing line to Portland.

J. H. Nolte, president of the club, and an ardent booster always for the East Side, is leading the fight against the opponents of the new line, and has called a mass meeting of North Portland citizens to make formal protest against the methods pursued by the local street railway trust.

It is already charged by Mr. Nolte that the Portland Railway people have started to lay an extra track on Maryland avenue solely for the purpose of blocking the entrance of the new line from the Peninsula district. Mr. Nolte declares that the street car company has no intention of using this Maryland avenue track for regular car service, and believes that the city should not permit it to continue with this

work unless it gets a franchise with a common-user clause attached.

The Heusner franchise is for an interurban line, designed ultimately to connect this city with Vancouver, Wash., and with other cities in Southeastern Washington. Portland, through its Commercial Club, has long been seeking the trade of Southwestern Washington, and at each meeting of the Southwestern Washington Development League, this city has sent delegations whose aim it has been to better business relations with this section of the neighboring state. Action of the Portland Railway Company in blocking the new line is regarded as a direct slap, not only at the East Side, but at the entire city as well. The East Side feels that the new line will be bound to give an impetus to its many industries, and as the proposed road will tap the manufacturing district of the peninsula and upper Albina, it is desired all the more by the North Portlanders.

Opposition, more or less inspired, has already appeared to the road from certain Seventh Street property owners, who declare that they do not wish the line to reach the heart of the city over the new Broadway bridge and this down town thoroughfare. They have filed remonstrances against the franchise with the city

council, but so far have done nothing but delay the granting of the franchise.

East Siders are not much concerned about this Seventh Street opposition, however, as they feel assured that if the road cannot make its passenger terminal on

Seventh Street, it will seek property in the Central East Side for this purpose, and so better the entire district lying to the east of the river. But violent opposition will be made to all efforts of the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company to prevent the

line from coming south of Killingsworth Avenue.

The purpose of the local street car trust in doing this is twofold: First, to keep out a competing line as regards local business; and, secondly, to force the in-

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## TADPOLE SWALLOWED BY WOMAN TURNS INTO FROG AND NEARLY STRANGLES HER

Washington D. C.—A live frog that crawled and clawed and croaked, lived for nearly a year in the stomach of Mrs. L. V. King of Dean Wood. After clawing away at the lining of the woman's stomach until it was raw with pain, almost strangling her as it climbed into her throat and fairly reducing her to a living skeleton, it was finally extracted by physicians of the Emergency Hospital. They used a large pump. The frog is now preserved in alcohol.

It is a weak, colorless, wrinkled, shapeless specimen, and bears a faint resemblance to the normal frog. Its legs are long and thin as toothpicks. It measures, all told, about seven inches. Just as it was breaking out of the egg the tadpole was swallowed by Mrs. King in well water last August. Weeks passed before the wo-

man realized there was some living animal in her stomach. She consulted doctors, but they all laughed at her. Last spring, the frog, now reaching its full growth, began to climb into her throat and nearly suffocated her. It clawed away at the membrane until she

#### TIGHT CORSETS KILL.

San Francisco, Calif.—Mrs. Julia R. Brandon, wife of a physical culture expert and a friend of Mayor Rolph, died from wearing tight corsets.

This is the first case of the kind on record. She had never before had on corsets. She was 38 year old and of beautiful figure. She put on the corsets, laced them tight and caused peritonitis.

several times fainted with pain.

Still the doctors, when she told them of her fears, laughed. Two months ago, the frog, declares Mrs. King, began to croak. She distinctly heard it many times, and her relatives bear her out. That determined her to leave the physicians of Dean Wood severely alone, and consult city doctors.

She did so. She went to the Emergency Hospital and the frog was pumped out of its hiding place. The frog lived ten minutes in a tub of water. It croaked and sang just like any regular frog. Then it died. According to the physicians this is the first time on record that any animal of the proportions of a frog has ever lived in a human stomach, at least for the period of 11 months. It is a most remarkable case.

## HATES WOMEN; HIDES IN A CAVE

Cannot Bear Sight of Them, Says Man Found in Woods Near Danbury, Conn.

Danbury, Conn.—Hating women and everything feminine, a man of 35 years, known as Danfield, has cut himself off from civilization. He was found by policemen in a mountain cave, about 12 miles from here, following a complaint that a wild man frightened women who were viewing the scenery.

The cave dweller said he had lived in the mountains three years and had frightened the women away because he could not bear the sight of them.

## COW GIVES BIRTH TO FOUR CALVES

Mother Is Black Cow, Five Years Old—Had Two Calves Before She Became Mother of Quads.

Iowa City, Iowa.—Born, to a Hereford cow, on the Arthur Russell farm, four calves; all alive and kicking.

The remarkable contribution to the live stock of a prominent Johnson County farmer, is believed to be without parallel in this State. There are two black and two red calves. One of each color has a white face.

The mother cow recognized the whole quartette as her own, but the task of feeding them was too much for her and two of them will be put with other cows.

The mother is a black cow, 5 years old, and had had two calves before she became mother to the quadruplets, but they came singly. There have been instances where three calves have been born to a cow, but they have generally been unhealthy. These four are as active and healthy looking as any that can be found.

## BOY MUST SALUTE FLAG OR QUIT PUBLIC SCHOOL

Will be Dismissed by New Jersey Board if He Refuses to Obey the Rule.

Cedar Grove, N. J.—Because Leofric Temple, 17 years old, refused to salute the American flag and to pledge allegiance to it in the exercises at the public school in Cedar Grove, a special meet-

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