

COUNCIL MEETS

Special Session is Held Here Saturday Evening.

REMONSTRANCES HEARD BY COUNCIL

Majority of Objections are Denied—John Hunter Accuses Forner Administrator With "Standing In" With S. P. Co'py

At a special meeting of the Roseburg City Council held last Saturday evening reports were received from the street committee dealing with the payment of assessments resulting from the improvement of streets within the boundaries of the municipality. In most instances the assessments were allowed to stand as originally compiled, and were so adopted by the council.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Napoleon Rice, who in the brief address informed the spectators that the special session was held for the purpose of reaching a satisfactory agreement between the city and those who had remonstrated against the street improvement assessments. Mayor Rice explained that the improvements had been made and notwithstanding that some of the assessments appeared high, it was up to the taxpayers of the city to defray the bills. Mayor Rice defended the city engineer when he stated that although some technical errors had been made by that official, they were not intentional, nor had they been made with a view of burdening any particular taxpayer. Mayor Rice used those present to express themselves freely, and thereby placed the council in a position to act intelligently in the several matters at hand.

The first report submitted by the street committee pertained to the remonstrances filed by John Hunter and James Hildeburn against the assessments resulting from the improvement of Sheridan street. Councilman Walter Hamilton, who reported on these remonstrances, said the street committee had decided to disallow the remonstrance of John Hunter and allow the objection of Mr. Hildeburn. According to the report Mr. Hildeburn's assessment will be reduced about \$40. This amount will be added to the assessment of Mr. Hunter. Mr. Hildeburn remonstrated against the assessment for the reason that considerable money was spent in moving and otherwise improving the Southern Pacific sidetrack on Sheridan street, while the said track was of no benefit to his property. The street improvement committee reported that they found Mr. Hildeburn's complaint just, and consequently a reduction of the assessment was authorized.

John Hunter, who was present at the meeting, notified the council that he would refuse to pay the assessment until such time as the contention of the city had been sustained by the courts. Hunter intimated that the work of removing the sidetrack was done without his permission or consent and at a cost of several hundred dollars. Hunter said he notified the Southern Pacific company in writing that they would be obliged to pay the expense of moving the track in the event such was necessary. Briefly, Mr. Hunter accused a former administration of the city with standing in with the Southern Pacific railroad company to the detriment of the property owners on Sheridan street.

The remonstrances of Mrs. E. L. Giles, et al, and Mrs. Lucy Engles, in which they objected to the assessments levied against the property abutting Spring street, were denied without prolonged discussion.

The remonstrance of Mrs. Margaret L. Estep, protesting against the assessment of her property on Burke street, was denied. Mrs. Estep claimed her husband was an invalid, and that she would be unable to pay the assessment levied against her property.

A remonstrance filed by G. V. Wimberly et al, in which the remonstrance protested against the assessments levied against the property abutting Glenn street, was settled prior to last evening's meeting of the

council and was so reported. Mr. Wimberly, who was present at the meeting, said A. J. Lawrence and Roberta Howard, property owners on Glenn street, had agreed to pay \$103 for additional tiling authorized after the original plans and specifications for the improvement of the street had been adopted. The council voted to reassess the property involved, after charging \$103 which was the bone of contention in the remonstrance, against Mr. Howard and Mr. Lawrence.

Reporting on the remonstrances filed against the assessments on Reservoir Avenue, the street committee said they had decided to eliminate the assessment charge against a single lot owned by Dr. A. F. Sether, and disallow the other objections. Dr. Sether remonstrated against the assessments levied against two of his lots, on the grounds that his property was damaged, rather than benefited by the improvement. Other property owners objected to the assessments on the grounds that the cost of the grading was excessive. After eliminating the assessment levied against a single lot owned by Dr. A. F. Sether, and disallow the other objections, Dr. Sether remonstrated against the assessments levied against two of his lots, on the grounds that the cost of the grading was excessive. After eliminating the assessment levied against one of the lots owned by Dr. Sether, the council decided to reassess the property benefited.

The remonstrance of Mrs. Beyers, of Portland, who objected to the assessment levied against her property on Pine street, was denied without ceremony.

A remonstrance filed by Mrs. L. A. Patterson, protesting against the assessment levied against her property on Mill street, was denied. Councilman Hamilton said he realized that the assessment against Mrs. Patterson's property was high, but that it could not be remedied at this time. A remonstrance of Fred Clark, who asked that his front footage on Mill street be reduced from 80 to 76 feet, was disallowed. The additional four feet charged against Mr. Clark's property will be added to the assessment of Mrs. Mary O'Neal.

Mr. Patterson was present at the meeting and asked the council for information as to why the assessment against his property on Mill street exceeded the assessment levied against his property on Mill street. While not desiring to complain, Mr. Patterson said he considered the Mill street assessment excessive and out of reason.

The remonstrance of Charles Wilson, who protested to paying \$700 for paving abutting his property on Orest street, was denied without a prolonged discussion.

Councilman Fullerton said he was opposed to further street improvements in the city for the reason that the property owners were at present overburdened with taxes. "Much of the property in Roseburg is bonded for more than its actual value," said Councilman Fullerton, "and I, for one, am opposed to further improvements. Of course, the improvements already made have been paid for by the city, and I cannot see how the property owners can escape their liability. In the future, however, I hope that we will not be confronted with a problem as faces us here tonight."

Councilman Fullerton also spoke of the procedure of the street committee in levying the assessments against the property involved in the several improvements. Councilman Fullerton said the committee was delinquent in this regard, and there was a question in his mind whether the interest accumulating against the various properties was collectable.

Councilman Walter Hamilton defended the street committee when he said he, for one, did not know that the final estimates of the improvements had been filed by the city engineer until recently. As soon as he was aware that the estimates had been filed he said the committee got busy and levied the assessments.

Edward Diller, a local merchant, and a resident of South Mill street, said he considered the street improvement assessments excessive and

NINETEEN DEAD

Nearly All the Victims Prominent Business Men.

GOVERNOR COLQUITT DENIES INVASION

Alleges Rangers Did Not Go On Expedition to Mexico—Friends Of Dead Man Recovered Body.

(Special to The Evening News.) ST. LOUIS, March 9.—Nineteen are dead and several still unaccounted for, while scores were injured in a fire which destroyed the Missouri Athletic Club Building before daylight this morning. Among the dead are John W. Rickey, of St. Paul, auditor of the Ford Motor Co.; S. F. Kessler, and James Riley. Rickey was cremated in his room, while Riley was killed in jumping from the fourth floor. It is expected that more corpses will be found when the ruins cool sufficiently for search. The heroism of N. Roe, a phone operator, saved hundreds of lives. He stuck at his post sending calls to guests until the fire disconnected the wires. Twenty or more slid down to safety on ropes hastily constructed of bed sheets. All of the victims, with the exception of two, who were club attendants, were prominent in the business world. Seven bodies have so far been recovered from the ruins.

Denies Rangers Invaded Mexico.

AUSTIN, Tex., March 9.—Governor Colquitt today positively denied that Texas Rangers invaded Mexico yesterday to recover the body of Vergara, a Texas rancher, who had

been murdered by Mexican federals. Friends of the dead man, the governor alleged, made the trip across the border, disinterred the body, and turned it over to Texan authorities.

Torreon Attacked.

MEXICO CITY, March 9.—Mexican rebel forces attacked Torreon today according to official dispatches received by the war ministry. Two hundred federal troops were sent from the capital to strengthen the garrison. News was also received here that rebel troops had dynamited a passenger train at Hornos, killing a dozen prominent people. The survivors of the wrecked train fled.

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It is understood here today that the property owners on at least two streets will refuse to pay their assessments pending such time as the courts can determine the legality of the levies.

Wife Visits Husband In Mexican Prison

Affair Be Fully Investigated—Body of Texan Identified By Son—

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WASHINGTON, March 9.—The moment that Secretary of State Bryan reached his private office this morning he found a summons awaiting him from President Wilson, who wished to confer with him regarding the raid of Texans into Mexican territory Sunday, for the recovering of the body of Clemente Vergara, a United States citizen and a Texas rancher, who was executed by Huerta troops at Nuevo Laredo several days ago. Following Bryan's conference with the executive it was learned that the raid will be fully investigated by the state department.

WORK ON PARKS STARTS

Councilman Clark Gets North Side Parking Under Way Today

Councilman C. W. Clark this morning saw his efforts grow into a reality when work on the North Side Parking began in earnest. Graders are today at work and it is predicted that within a short time the parking between the streets will be presentable. Ever since the streets were paved parking has been an eyesore to the city.

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Secret Investigation Made

Recovery of the body was made by a force of Texans, including friends of Vergara, acting with a troop of Texas Rangers and Captain Saunders who have been investigating for Governor Colquitt the circumstances of Vergara's seizure by federals. A secret investigation, in which many Mexicans had been questioned, is understood to have produced the trip into Mexico. Leading the force was a man who said he saw both the execution and burial of Vergara. The force gathered near the Vergara ranch, not far from the spot where Vergara crossed the river to meet the Mexican federals, who promised remuneration for stolen horses. Moving silently they began the overland march of five miles to Hidalgo.

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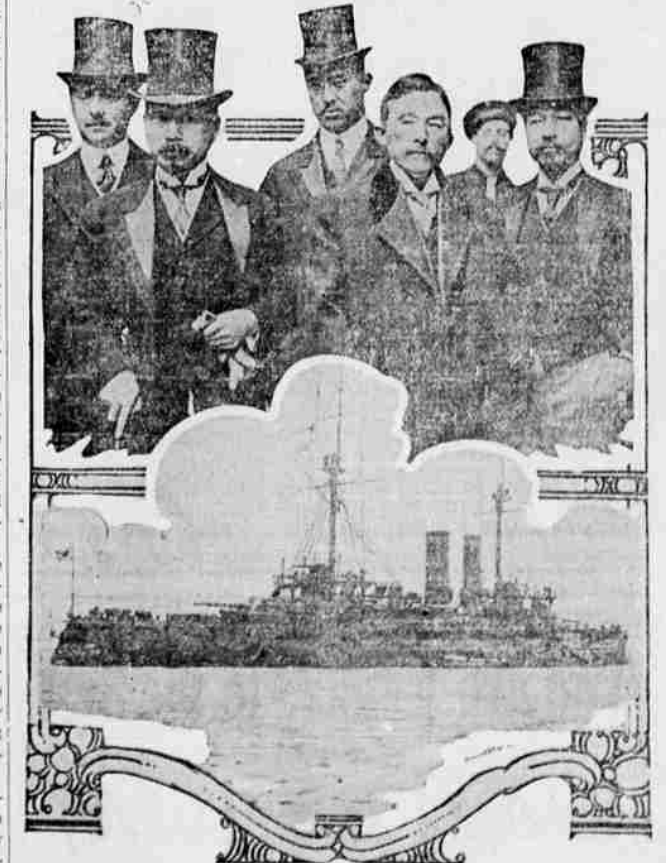
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KENDALL IS HERE TODAY

S. A. Kendall, of Pittsburg, Pa., arrived here yesterday and is today taking in the improvements made in Roseburg since his last visit about two years ago. Mr. Kendall, together with his brother, formerly owned the local water and light plant which was sold last July to A. Welsh, of Portland. The Kendalls still own large timber holdings east of Roseburg but Mr. Kendall would not state that his visit here at this time has anything to do with these timber holdings. He says that times are improving in the east. "Conditions generally are improving throughout the country. Money is easier and the passage of the currency bill has replaced confidence in business and the large manufacturers are rushed to capacity to fill orders. It is likely that the interstate commerce commission will permit Eastern railroads to raise their freight rate five per cent and with this increase it is more than probable that railroad extension work will begin again in real earnest," said Mr. Kendall.

The Douglas Creditors Association filed today an inventoried statement of account from Snyder & Co., of Glendale, Oregon, against H. S. Kinney in which they claim a balance on account of \$127.75.

These Japanese Commissioners Visited Mexico; Jap Battleship



Photos by American Press Association.

ACTIVITY on the part of the Japanese in Mexican affairs is reported to have interested the state department at Washington. While little notice is said to have been taken of the flimsy talk arising out of the sending of arms to Mexico from Japan, still it is regarded as certain that Washington is fully informed of Japan's friendly attitude toward the Huerta government. An official commission from Japan has been in Mexico investigating conditions, and a group picture of the members is here shown. The Japanese battleship Yokuma, also shown, is stationed on the western coast of Mexico. There are 3,000 Japs in Mexico.

IS HELD IN JAIL

Oakland Man Alleged to be Implicated.

SHIPMENT OF GOODS TO SETTLE

Leatherwood is in Jail—Alleged Stolen Merchandise Inventoried by Ralph Terrell Today—Valued at \$126.50.

In speaking of the arrests of those alleged to be implicated in the theft of goods from the Fleischner, Mayer & Co., store, of Portland, Oregon, the Evening Telegram says:

"The arrests were made just too late to prevent a big shipment of stolen linens, says the constable. Bob Leatherwood sent out on the Southern Pacific yesterday, according to the information of the constable, five big cases of linens, consigned to E. L. Settle, of Oakland, Ore., the goods being valued at \$2,000 or \$3,000. The bills of lading were found among his effects and today Deputy Constable James McCulloch has gone to Oakland to make the arrest of Settle and to recover the goods."

The goods were confiscated, however before they reached Settle and Leatherwood is now in jail in Portland. Leatherwood is well known in Oakland, which is his home and where he has lived for many years.

Stolen Goods Inventoried.

Ralph Terrell, of Roseburg, today inventoried the supposedly stolen goods found in the residence of Edward Settle, of Oakland, and alleged to have been stolen from Fleischner, Mayer Co., of Portland. There were 16 dozen linen sheets, of a total wholesale value of \$126.50.

The labels were removed from the most of the linen and efforts made apparently to disguise the goods as much as possible. It appears also that part of the goods were about to be sold as the name of a well known Oakland woman was on one bundle of linen.

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