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MAIN 43

THE PEOPLE'S FORUM

THE FOURTH STREET PAVING.

La Grande, Oregon, June 12.—To the Editor Observer: In Wednesday's Observer, you had a news item that the writ of review involving the alleged "improvement" on upper Fourth street had been sustained by the court, but intimated that this would only delay the matter a little while until the Commissioners could fix up the matter for the benefit of the Warren Construction company. This intimation was probably not intended, but will evidently give the public such a wrong impression, that I deem it advisable to give a brief history of this litigation.

As you are already aware, the Warren Construction company apparently had a strangle grip on the City of La Grande during 1912 so that no other company could bid on any street improvement work. Other companies offered to do the same work for a little over half what the city was paying the Warren Construction company but the city council so drafted their advertisement for bids that no other company could compete on account of Warren Brothers' patents. This grew so rank that it became an issue in the election in December 1912 and no person known to be favorable to the Warren Construction company was elected. But the old council so arranged matters with the Warren Construction Company that they were given the contracts to pave O street, Second street, Jefferson avenue, and Upper Fourth street, although all parties knew that these streets could not be paved until the following year. The plan was to tie up as many streets in contract as possible before the new council came in. A pretended contract was entered into on November 22, 1912 with the Warren Construction company for the improvement on Fourth street which contract required the work to be completed within 90 days, but there was no ordinance at the time authorizing the contract, and section 71 of the old city charter provided that "The City of La Grande shall not be bound by any contract, or in any way liable thereon, unless the same is authorized by ordinance and made in writing and by order of the council, and signed by the Mayor and Recorder." It is therefore evident that the contract was void and that neither the City of La Grande nor any abutting property owner could become liable for the payment of this contract price or any part thereof.

After the expiration of the 90 days, within which the work was to be completed, an ordinance was introduced in the City Council by Fred Haisten, which I had prepared, formally rescinding the contract as no work had yet been done on the same. It was assumed that at least one-half the councilmen and the Mayor would favor this ordinance because they had been elected on this issue and were pledged to the people to do so. But the Construction company's agents got very busy and made many dire threats against the city in case the ordinance was passed, and assured the city councilmen that the Construction company would fight it out with the people without any expense to the city, if allowed a free hand. And they succeeded in pulling the wool over the eyes of enough of the councilmen so that when the city attorney furnished a written opinion to the effect that the contract was valid, notwithstanding the charter, the proposed ordinance was defeated. The work was then done, and after it was finished under the void contract under which no liability could be incurred by the city, the City council by means of resolutions and ordinances undertook to set aside the void proceedings and enter into a new contract which they thought would bind the city and the abutting property owners; and undertook to do by indirection what they had no power to do in the first instance. This resulted in the review proceedings which have just been sustained by the court, and these efforts by the old City Council to mulct the property owners along Fourth street for the benefit of the Warren Construction company have been declared null and void. The city is not liable for anything done on this void contract; neither is any abutting property owner so liable, and I do not think that the present commissioners will so far forget their official duty as to make any attempt to bind the city by future action, or to rob the citizens by trying to hold their property liable for these alleged improvements which they did their utmost to prevent. It is a matter wholly for the courts, and the controversy is between the Warren Construction company and the property owners. The Construction company assured the old council that if it would not rescind the contract the Construction company would fight it out with the property owners without expense to the city, and the city should not now "but-in" to this trouble. The property owners are determined to fight this thing to a finish, and the next move is up to the Warren Construction company.

FOLEY HOTEL---TAXI---FOLEY HOTEL

Respectfully yours,
TURNER OLIVER.

For an Impaired Appetite.

To improve the appetite and strengthen the digestion try a few doses of Chamberlain's Tablets. Mr. J. H. Seitz, of Detroit, Mich., says: "They restored my appetite when impaired, relieved me of a bloated feeling and caused a pleasant and satisfactory movement of the bowels." For sale by all dealers.

Special Saturday Sale

of our new stock of candies. On Saturday, June 13, we are going to sell any of the bulk candies in our store for 29c a pound or a pound for 15c—Chocolates, Bon Bons, Butter Scotch, Choc Chips, Cream Carmels, etc. Every piece fresh.

Newlin Drug Co.
6-11-3t.

There is nothing worse than bad, foul smelling breath; get rid of it for your friends sake anyway. Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea, will clean and purify your stomach and bowels; your breath will be pure and sweet. 35c Tea or Tablets. Red Cross Drug Store.

Hot Weather Tonic and Health Builder.

Are you run down—Nervous—Tired? Is everything you do an effort? You are not lazy—you are sick! Your stomach, Liver, Kidneys, and whole system need a Tonic. A Tonic and Health Builder to drive out the waste matter—build you up and re-new your strength. Nothing better than Electric Bitters. Start today. Mrs. James Duncan, Haynesville, Me., writes: "Completely cured me after several doctors gave me up." 50c and \$1.00, at your Druggist.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve for Cuts.

A ROSE.

Blown in the morning, thou shalt fade ere noon.
What boots a life which in such haste forsakes thee?
Thou'rt wondrous frolic, being to die so soon
And passing proud a little color makes thee.
If thee thy brittle beauty so deceives,
Know then the thing that swells thee is thy bane.
For the same beauty doth, in bloody leaves,
The sentence of thy early death contain.
Some clown's coarse lungs will poison thy sweet flower,
If by the careless plow thou shalt be torn;
And many Herods lie in wait each hour
To murder thee as soon as thou art born—
Nay, force thy bud to blow—their tyrant breath
Anticipating life, to hasten death!
—Sir Richard Fanshawe.

IDEALS NECESSARY.

Nothing is so practical as the ideal. The ideal is the basis of the practical, the prophecy of the practical, the creator of the practical. The ideal has molded the world from barbarism to semicivilization and will mold it to a civilization worthy of the name. It is the power that molds men and women and institutions and nations as a potter molds his clay. Every book and every nation was an ideal before it was a fact and became a fact because of the creative power of the ideal.—Professor Frank Parsons.

THE HEART UNSEEN.

So many times the heart can break.
So many ways,
Yet beat along and beat along
So many ways—
A fluttering thing we never see
And only hear
When some stern doctor to our side
Presses his ear—
Strange hidden thing that beats and beats,
We know not why,
And makes us live, though we, indeed,
Would rather die—
Mysterious, fighting, loving thing,
So sad, so true,
I would my laughing eyes some day
Might look on you.
—Richard Le Gallienne.

Only One Entirely Satisfactory. "I have tried various colic and diarrhoea remedies, but the only one that has given me entire satisfaction and cured me when I was afflicted is Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. I recommend it to my friends at all times," writes S. N. Galloway, Stewart, S. C. for sale by all dealers.

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on farm lands in Grande Ronde, free from overflow, for 3 or 5 years with re-payment privileges.

Fruit Land Barred.

Applications acted upon immediately.

NETHERLANDS AMERICAN MORTGAGE BANK.

FRANK R. ATKINS, Representative.

Pendleton, Oregon.

ROOMS ARE WANTED.

All those having rooms available to house delegates to the Merchants' convention are requested to notify C. A. Small at once. This is imperative, announces the committee. Also such auto owners as have promised machines for that convention are urged to keep the dates in mind.

MONEY-

I have plenty of money to loan on improved farm lands. My rates are reasonable—in fact, lower than many agents ask—See me when you want money.

J. R. OLIVER

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THIS GOSSARD CORSET IS PRICED AT \$2.00

Young women who have mentally decided on a Gossard Corset each season, and then put it off because of price, will appreciate the New Gossard Model here shown at \$2.00.



Come for a trial fitting, it does not oblige you or I will call or you, by appointment in your own home. A complete line of all models on hand. Prices at from \$2.00 to \$8.50.

Mrs. Robt. Pattison
Corseiere.

Phone Red 3221 or Res. 1702, Cor. Spring and Oak.

SEWING MACHINES

for sale and rent. I buy and sell all makes of machines, supplies & repairs for machines. Prices \$2.00 to \$15.00.

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Furniture on Easy Payments

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By furnishing quick service in communication multiplies a man's capacity makes it possible for the business man to transact more business.

EVERY TELEPHONE A LONG DISTANCE STATION

HOME INDEPENDENT TELEPHONE SYSTEM

"We Own Our Own Home"

That expression never fails to create envy in those who constantly donate to the landlord. Yet many could own their own homes just as easily as they pay rent, if they would investigate some of Geo. H. Curry's listings.

DO THE FOLLOWING INTEREST YOU? WE HAVE OTHERS. CALL AND INVESTIGATE.

New 5 Room Bungalow

Full basement, paved street, sewer connected, cement walks, lot 50x110, good soil in yard, house new. House well located on Washington Avenue. \$200 down and \$30 per month including interest.

A Choice Property

Large House, Small Payments. Well built house, modern, 8 rooms, close enough in to rent rooms, large lot 80 by 95, \$200 cash and \$30 per month including interest will buy it. Investigate.

Must be Sold in a Few Days

This property has been lowered \$500. It is a good seven room house, four rooms just papered, with bath. Cement walk in and paid for. Good barn, which could be made into small house. This house in a good location, 1301 Madison Ave., and is arranged to accommodate two families if desired. This is excellent rental property and is in good repair. The owner is a non-resident and wishes to sell during the next few days. The price is only \$1400. Terms \$200 down and \$25 per month including interest. If interested call at once.

Low Prices, Easy Terms

Six room house and 4 lots on South Fifth Street. Some furniture, barn and chicken house. This property is priced to sell and the owner will give terms to suit purchaser. Let us show you this.

A Paying Home

One Acre Tract on Spruce Ave. with good house and barn at \$1,300. Small payment down to the right party with monthly payments on balance. We have several other similar properties on good terms.

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