

THE ST. JOHNS REVIEW
Published Every Friday Evening

CRONE & GARTER, Editors and Publishers

Subscription rates, \$1.00 per year in advance. Advertising rates, \$1.00 per inch per month. All advertising bills payable first of each month.

Job Printing executed in first-class style. Bills for Job Printing cash on delivery.

All communications should be addressed to The Review, St. Johns, Oregon.

Official Newspaper of the City of St. Johns.

FRIDAY EVENING, January 27, 1905.

THE WHARF QUESTION.

St. Johns is beginning to feel more than ever the necessity of proper wharf facilities. In fact, the future development depends largely upon adequate provision being made for the handling of both local and ocean freight at our docks. Whether this important matter has been overlooked purposely or otherwise, it matters little, the vital question now is, shall ample docking facilities be longer neglected? As at present, the wharves which have been built are only fitted for loading lumber and other heavy goods. They do not meet the requirements, however. What is wanted are wharves to accommodate all classes of water traffic, the small as well as the larger craft, the light as well as the heavier freight, also suitable for passenger landings. With proper facilities to meet all these requirements our water traffic would soon be increased an hundred fold. This matter is worthy of serious consideration without further delay.

THE CITY'S FINANCES.

The finances of St. Johns, from one standpoint, are in good shape, better than any city of its size and age that we know of. The total cash assets, assuming that the taxes now being collected are included, is about \$2000, while the total indebtedness is ONLY FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS, thus leaving a balance on the credit side of the ledger of SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS. Not a great amount, to be sure, but it is on the right side. True, the city has not got a great deal to show for the indebtedness, but the indebtedness isn't much. The city starts off under the new charter a little ahead and little alarm is felt that any lavish expenditures will be indulged in.

The school district is in equally good circumstances, if not better. The total indebtedness of this district is only \$2000, and it has secured property to the approximate value of \$2000, and the taxes for 1905 yet to be paid in.

NOW WHAT?

The much talked-of new charter is now law, and the city of St. Johns is at the present time amenable to its provisions. The lack of street and other improvements has during the past been accredited to the imperfections of the "old charter." This much abused and maligned old organic law has been relegated to the archives, a new charter is now in force, and the city council is clothed with authority to do any and all things necessary in the way of public improvements which the convenience and comfort of the people of our city may demand or require. The only thing now wanting is action on the part of our city legislature.

That this condition should exist is a matter of congratulation on the part of every citizen of St. Johns. We believe, we know, that the adoption of the new charter meets the hearty approval of every resident who has the well being of the city at heart, who wants to see it grow and assume the position its importance demands. If the city is not given a general overhauling it can no longer be offered as an excuse that the powers that be have not authority. Will it be done? Will the city, by throwing off the old and donning the new reap the benefits of the change? Will the streets and sidewalks, which should be our first solicitude, after fire protection, be improved or, rather, made? Let us hope so, and let the work commence at the earliest practical moment. It has been questioned whether the present council should inaugurate these needed improvements, or wait for the new council, which will come in the second Monday in April, and let them commence the work. We know of no good reason why there should be any delay whatever. As the matter is generally understood, and there is no doubt about it being correct, the present council has the same authority as the next council will have, and, while it may be early, on account of climatic conditions, to begin street work, yet matters will be materially advanced if the present council should go ahead with the preliminaries and have things in readiness when the new regime does take hold. This view of the question is shared alike by all who feel

interested in the early betterment of the city thoroughfares.

In this connection we would direct attention to a communication from his honor, Mayor Cook, in which he deals with the past, present and future in a most clear and logical manner. It has the right ring, and every citizen may with profit read and digest.

FIRE PROTECTION.

The present council made excellent progress, when the matter was up for consideration, toward securing the necessary equipment for fire protection, but for a few weeks past but little has been heard of the matter. As a matter of course, it requires some time to perfect all the necessary arrangements, but The Review urges that the utmost haste be exercised, and that too much time be not wasted in preliminaries. The business portion of the city is assuming such proportions and compactness that a single day's delay, more than is absolutely necessary, is dangerous, most decidedly dangerous. It was not necessary that we be compelled to wait for the new charter, but now that we have it, let us apply business methods, and act promptly as the demands of prudence and safety demand. A site for a fire hall and other necessary city buildings, should be secured at once, and equipped with such apparatus as will afford some measure of protection, if not all complete, at once. Gentlemen of the council, this question is of more than passing importance; it is pressing, imperatively so, and the property owners are in no mood to look any further unnecessary delay. You have had new and greater responsibilities thrust upon you and the people expect prompt and decisive action, and from the assurances given by the mayor, we feel that you will meet them in the proper manner.

THROUGH CAR SERVICE.

The matter of through car service, while it has always been a much needed concession on the part of the street railway company, is just now attracting more attention than at any time in the past. The reason for this is plain. The peninsula is being rapidly developed and is gaining at a pace hitherto unknown. The natural resources which have so long lain dormant are now being appreciated and taken advantage of. The low price of excellent manufacturing sites, and the desirability of the location for choice residence sites, all combine to make a strong reason for this satisfactory condition of things. Yet, with all this progress and development of this district, and that is the unsatisfactory street car service. The passenger traffic on the street car line has increased more than ten fold since the supplanting of the steam motor line by electricity, yet beyond the fact that a more frequent service has been given, and the cars made more comfortable, old conditions still prevail. The transfer system which was necessary under the old order of things, is still maintained, much to the annoyance and great detriment to the growth and prosperity of the entire peninsula district. While it is experiencing the advancement referred to, still, if the transportation matter was as the citizens here generally believe, it should and ought to be this growth would be still greater.

The peninsula and St. Johns are faced with the most important problem of Portland, yet no other locality is compelled to undergo the inconveniences in street-car service that this district suffers from. The people have shown a just and noble mood in regard to this matter, but the time has arrived and conditions have arisen when a good hard, result producing protest is in order. While the people of this district do not assume to control or dictate the affairs of the street-car company, yet there is no apparent logical reason why they should be denied this concession which would contribute so much to their comfort and convenience and if the company has any desire to consider the interest and welfare of the people of the peninsula, they will not insist on continuing this condition, if at all possible to remedy it.

RICHMOND STREET VACATION.

This Thoroughfare Is a County Road—The Council Helpless.

The committee appointed by the Commercial Association to investigate the possibility of granting the use of the foot of Richmond street to the Portland Steel Shipbuilding Company, have gone into the matter thoroughly and find that the city has no jurisdiction over this thoroughfare, for the reason that it is a county road. Hence the council's action was of no force. It is certainly unfortunate that the street cannot be used by the above company, as it is of the utmost importance that this particular industry should be fostered and given every encouragement possible. The president of the company informs us that the prospects for securing one or more steel vessels to build were excellent, but that the company is helpless with its present small space to do the work. It does seem that some plan should be worked out by which the promoters of this impor-

tant industry could be furnished water front privileges. It would be a calamity to lose them, but to prevent this result it is highly important something should be done in the premises without delay. The construction of a single steel vessel here means the expenditure of anywhere from \$100,000 to double that amount. It is too important a matter to be allowed to pass without further effort.

A Mild Criticism.

The entertainment given by the Evangelical Church Aid Society, Monday evening, was a most creditable success, yet there were a couple of features which we take the liberty of criticising, or rather suggest be given attention at future entertainments. The first and most annoying was the noise and cat-calls of the small boys. This was bad and should have been summarily stopped. Another thing was the failure of the audience to rise while "America," so dear to all of us, was being sung. We believe the spirit of patriotism and love of the Stars and Stripes would be greatly strengthened by paying this tribute of respect to that glorious old song. This is The Review's idea of the appropriateness of things, that's all.

Last week The Review changed its form and instead of eight five-column pages, it is now seven columns to the page and four pages. There is about the same amount of reading matter in the new form as in the old, and it is far more convenient from a mechanical standpoint. Many of our patrons have expressed themselves as much pleased with the change.

Last Lake has disappeared. Next week it will have its sight.

VIEWS OF THE MAYOR.

Mayor Cook Gives His Views of the Old and the New.

His Honor, Mayor Cook, hands The Review the following timely and concise statement of his views of the old and the new, and what he regards as the duty of the people.

"Now that the much needed new charter for the City of St. Johns has become a fact let us look calmly upon the condition of things as they have been and are to a great extent at present, then at what we have before us.

"To begin with the incorporation nearly two years ago, St. Johns had at that time, owing to the small population, but a limited number of citizens upon whom it could draw in the selection of its city officers, councilmen, etc. This fund of eligibles was heavily drawn upon in making up the ticket which manipulated the charter proposition of that day, and when the second ticket was drawn up it became necessary to include the names of some who, while they were of our most esteemed, honorable and desirable citizens, were, owing to their advanced age, not of the kind that make things hum in a young and growing city like St. Johns.

"The second ticket which was selected to a man, I may add was necessarily hurried and had to be signed upon and printed between a late Saturday afternoon and the following Monday, the date set for the election. The printing of the tickets at that late hour was only made possible by the jumping into the breach of one of St. John's most staunch and firm friends, Mr. Seneca C. Beach, of Portland, at the earnest solicitation of a member of our present city government; very many thanks to both of them.

"The charter under which this took place and under which St. Johns has since operated consisted of but seven pages of loosely constructed matter, and was soon found to be inadequate even to the modest needs of that time, and in reality granted but little power to the city officials, and there was a doubt even about that little, and owing to that very fact the present city officials rather than run into a maze of entanglements were obliged to remain inactive on many vital questions, were in reality bound hand and foot. Even in the matter of street improvement, so essential to a growing community where the traffic over the streets which was comfortably carried on top of the soil in previous years, had become a city affliction, that the work of progress will not lag. Water front facilities for shipping should and will be provided, streets improved, municipal land procured for the city's needs in way of site for city hall, fire apparatus, pound, etc., and park, which latter, though some so heavy as to cut the streets up into the consistency of a mortar bed, was a matter that could not be touched, owing to there being no provisions in the old charter for the collection of costs, method of procedure, etc., etc.

"This condition of things could not endure, and in due season a committee was appointed by the mayor to draft a new charter. Their efforts have been crowned with success and the result now lies before you in a form under which improvements may go on and keep pace with our daily growing needs, and you may rest assured that during the time that remains of the present council and under the auspices of the next set of city officers, which it is hoped will be the best and most not so essential and has been the bone of much contention, still is

desirable; a fire department and proper police protection.

"But, dear reader, don't expect them all at once. The most needed must come first and so on. The taxpayer cannot stand too big a load all at once.

"All of the above things are made possible by this new charter, which I must emphasize was not devised for the emolument of any individual or set of individuals, corporation or company, nor was it devised for the detriment, hindrance or injury to any, but it is the result of what, in the best judgment of its framers and revisers, was best suited to the needs and requirements of the city of St. Johns.

"Now, citizens, to the charter committee from the council, to Mr. Devlin who framed, to the members of the Commercial Club who assisted in revising and to the delegation who fought the new charter through the legislature, let us extend a vote of thanks and say 'Well done!' Let us all work together with a will and bury the old animosities, let the kickers subside or go into oblivion.

"No matter who our next city officials may be, do give them your earnest support and encouragement. They will need it. And we can then make St. Johns what it so richly deserves to be, 'A great city.'"

C. A. COOK.

W. J. Peddicord REAL ESTATE

- \$270—Lot 50x126, near car line, close in.
 - \$275—Lot 60x100, two blocks from school house, corner.
 - \$375—Lot 50x100, near woolen mills.
 - \$600—Lot 98x126, on car line, close in.
 - \$1265—8-room house, lot 50x100, in business center.
 - \$1150—7-room house, lot 60x100, on the boulevard; half cash.
 - \$1075—5-room house, lot 50x100, overlooking river.
 - \$1800—5-room house, lot 105x182, other improvements.
 - \$3500—Lot 50x100, corner, building 21x70, two stories, 14 rooms above, two store rooms below, new, central.
- Lots on Installment, \$100, Five Dollars down and Five Dollars per month.
- Other Lots, both Business and Residence

INSURANCE, LOANS, RENTALS
W. J. PEDDICORD
ST. JOHNS, OREGON
Telephone Union 4069

OUR FAITH

ST. JOHNS

Is best expressed by our guaranty of 20 per cent increase in value of property during the coming year

This guaranty provides that in case the property you purchase does not increase in value at least

20 per Cent

20 per cent during one year from date of purchase we will refund your money with 6 per cent interest

This same guaranty we have been offering since we first undertook to get industries at St. Johns, something over three years back and up to date no one has ever asked for his money back.

Lots and Acreage on Installment Payments

Hartman, Thompson & Powers

3 Chamber of Commerce, Portland, Or.
O. L. CHAPEL, Agent at St. Johns.

ST. JOHNS

Lots \$100 Each
\$5 Down and \$5 a Month

Title Guarantee & Trust Co.

6 and 7 Chamber of Commerce

Portland & Suburban Express Co

(Operating cars over Portland Consolidated lines)

Rates Reasonable
Prompt Service

We have made arrangements to transfer all freight in the city and at St. Johns when necessary by team at reasonable rates.

Do not move your furniture (of course you are going to St. Johns to live, Portland is moving that way) until you get our prices.

Portland & Suburban Express Company

W. R. STEARNS, Manager

ST. JOHNS

Real Estate is the Best Asset you can have . . .

Those of you who invested in St. Johns a year or two ago have doubled and in some cases trebled your money. The opportunity to do this is still here. The town is still young and real estate is still cheap.

St. Johns is with its new charter just entering on an era of development hitherto unknown.

Within another year you will see a city of paved streets, broad sidewalks, and permanent business blocks. Then you will realize when it is too late that your opportunity for getting cheap property is past.

St. Johns Park

is the most desirable residence district in St. Johns. We still have some fine lots in this tract which we can sell you

\$5.00 Down and \$5.00 a Month

These lots are high and slightly, overlooking the river and in full view of the mountain peaks convenient to car line and factories on the water front.

Let us show you this property. Call on us or write us for full particulars. Houses built on the installment plan,

M. L. HOLBROOK L. B. CHIPMAN

St. Johns Land Co

The Pioneer Real Estate Company

St. Johns Phone Union 3104 Oregon

Houses to Rent Business Rooms to Rent Insurance Loans

A. SCOTT, President PHONE BLACK 22
E. W. CROSBY, Secretary

Portland Jobbing Co.

PLUMBING, GASFITTING
STEAMFITTING, ROOFS
GUTTERS ETC. . . .

At Reasonable Rates. Stoves, Furnaces and Tinware Repaired. Quick Service. All Work Guaranteed.
No. 7 Fifth St., Cor. Ankeny PORTLAND, OREGON

SACRIFICE SALE

ONE-PRICE CLOTHING STORE

First-class Line of BOYS' SHOES, also Men's and Ladies' Rubbers.

Must close out my present Stock of Clothing at a Sacrifice to make room for my large stock of SPRING CLOTHING which will arrive in about six weeks.

New Store, Jersey St., St. Johns

REVIEW, ST. JOHNS FOR FIRST CLASS JOB PRINTING

W. A. EDGERTON NEW STORE!

FRESH STOCK!

Family Groceries and General Merchandise

Come and see us for your Staple and Fancy Groceries
Cochran Block, Jersey St., St. Johns