

THE ST. JOHNS REVIEW

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J. G. OGDEN, Editor and Publisher
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FRIDAY EVENING, March 10, 1905

A WORTHY FINALE.

As promised by the mayor, in a communication published in The Review some weeks ago, the city council is marking its closing days with some good, practical work. The council has evidently awakened to the pressing demands of the city, and is doing the things which are so necessary. That this course has not been pursued before, let us attribute to the limited powers granted by the old charter. It was certainly a most vague document, uncertain and doubtful. Under the new charter the powers of the legislative body of the city are broad and liberal enough to permit of all necessary public improvements, and provides a plan for ways and means to meet the cost of such work.

The order for the improvement of Jersey street, the purchase of property for city building purposes, and last, but not most important of all, the ordering of a dock to be built at the foot of Richmond street, in addition to the purchase of fire fighting apparatus a few weeks ago, make up a record of the waning days of the present council which goes a long way to atone for any inactivity of the past. That these acts meet the approval of the whole city need not be stated here. The people are unanimous in their expressions of approval, and whatever ill may have been said about the council "doing nothing" will be forgotten, and the present incumbents, both mayor and aldermen, can turn over the reins of government to their successors and point with pardonable pride to their work of the last few weeks.

PRIMARY ELECTION LAWS.

The question was raised in this city as to whether the primary election law would effect the manner of choosing candidates for city officers in this city. It does not, and will not unless the election should be carried along political party lines. A political party is described in the act as an affiliation of electors representing a political party or organization which at the next general election proceeding for candidate for Representative in Congress received at least 25 per cent of the vote cast for that office in the state.

The Republican and Democrat parties are the only parties that polled such a percentage of votes at the last Congressional election, and consequently are the only parties to which the direct primary laws apply.

These facts are shown by the recent decision of the four circuit court judges who decided the case in Portland last week. The charter provisions will prevail in this city, as found in sections 31 and 32 as follows:

Sec. 31. No person shall be entitled to vote at any municipal election, in the city who is not a qualified voter of the State of Oregon, and who has not been a residence of the city of St. Johns for three months next preceding the date of said election, or who shall have neglected to pay any fine imposed upon him by authority of law in said city.

Section 32 relates to qualification of voters, reads as follows:

Sec. 32. All persons to be voted for at any city election shall, not less than ten days before such election, file with the recorder of said city a certificate of nomination, made by some political or mass convention, or a nomination signed by not less than twenty-five legal voters of said city, together with the candidate's written acceptance of said nomination; and there upon, the recorder shall enter the names of all such candidates upon the ticket to be voted for at the next following election, and at the same time, the recorder shall cause a sufficient number of proper tickets to be printed and distributed prior to the opening of the polls on the day of election. The expense of printing such tickets shall be paid by the city.

The result of the agitation in favor of building a dock has been most satisfactory, and The Review feels that its efforts for the past few weeks have not been in vain. The Commercial Association may congratulate itself on the result, for this organization has been a great factor in bringing this important matter to a successful issue. The prompt action of the mayor and city council is most commendable, and endorsed by every citizen who has the well-being of the city at heart. The real work is now up to the committee of the council, Messrs. Hurlbert, Edwards and Monahan, and on these gentlemen depends entirely the full realization of this highly important improvement. Mayor Cook, supported by the entire council, instructed the committee to act forthwith and push the work to completion without any unnecessary delay. The wisdom of this latter step is apparent, and the public hopes that immediate action will be taken, and this public utility supplied as early as the work can be accomplished. The benefits which will accrue to the "industrial and business interests of St. Johns will amply repay the outlay, and we believe will work amazing changes for the good of the whole people.

"THE LOWING KINE."

Remarkable Affection for the Cow, as Shown by Her Treatment in St. Johns.

The female quadruped with horns and cloven hoofs, the patient, but predatory, domestic creature that supplies us with a richly creamy lacteal fluid, without which life would scarcely be worth its troubles, in St. Johns or elsewhere, is a most happily privileged beast in this vicinity. Notwithstanding the fact that she is an audacious brute, poets write sweet songs about her in such volume and with such volubility as to suggest that writers of pleasing verse probably receive their inspiration through the medium of skin-milk. She is permitted to enjoy the liberty of our municipal highways and byways, our gardens and our lawns without so much as being rebuffed for her presumption, even by the city's astute, austere and frequently severe legislative body. With the exception of water and sodapop, milk is the only drink that we are permitted to sip to quench an ever-recurring thirst. So rich is the quality of this stimulating fluid in St. Johns that young men (and some older ones) with bibulous tendencies refuse even to allow their dealers to put a "stick" in it occasionally. Whether or not it is because the milk would destroy the flavor of the "stick," or the "stick" would spoil the milk, has not been announced, but the fact remains that St. Johnsmen have taboed the "stick," preferring to take the lacteal fluid straight.

But why should they desire to mix a vile substance with so rich a product as the milk of the St. Johns cow? Has it not the enchanting flavor of roses, chrysanthemums and sweet violets? Does she not glut her ever-hungry paunch in the flower gardens and the tender grasses of her neighbors' lawns? Has she not free and unrestrained access to the vegetable gardens of the city? Does she not frequently have to endure the hardship of having to tear down her neighbor's new fence in order to reach the rich and palatable edibles within the inclosure? Why does the city council permit the people of St. Johns to fence in their lawns and gardens, anyway? The ever kind and docile cow should not be compelled to confront such difficulties when she manifests such a willingness to make her own way, even to the swill-barrel at the kitchen door? Therefore, is it not cruelty to animals to fence in your attractive garden plot and pretty lawn when you know that the hungry kine so much enjoys the sweet and tender products of your dooryards? Does she not return to you every day a bucketful of cream in payment therefor? To inclose your residence with a barb-wire fence is only to create extra work and additional expense. What does this predatory brute care for barbed wires and fence posts?

Now, since the city council has so far refused or neglected to pass an ordinance restricting the liberties of the St. Johns cow, we submit in all candor that it ought to perfect its record in that matter by enacting a law prohibiting the construction of fences of any kind or for any purpose within the town limits of the city. If the much-beloved cow is to enjoy the freedom of the city forever, let her have it without let or hindrance. Tear down your fences, cultivate your gardens and lawns with increased diligence, but do not, we pray thee, disturb the paunch, manching, glutinous cox. Should the theory of certain progressive scientists be correct, how do you know that you may not, some time in the bright and blissful hereafter, be a cow yourself! And if you should be permitted to reach such a beatific state of future existence, it is dollars to doughnuts that you would hastily return to St. Johns, make your most complaisant bow to the city council and straightway proceed to enjoy the products of your former neighbors' gardens.

PREPARING THE GARDEN.

Much Thrift Shown by St. Johnsmen in Providing for Crop of Garden "Bass."

The weather during the past month has been very similar to that of early summer. At no time at this season of the year since 1902 have we been blessed with such enchantingly sunny days and balmy atmosphere. One of the many pleasing effects of such delightful weather is seen in the early preparation of the "garden patch." The work of putting the ground in readiness for garden seed and, in the more extensive acreages, for grain was begun earlier than usual, and it is believed by weather seers that no severe thermometer conditions will disturb the crops as the tender plants peep through the ground. Nor is it feared that frosts will come to injure fruits that are budding so early in response to the warm rays of a summer sun in the winter and spring season.

Acreage tracts and residence lots, as well, present a most promising scene at this time. Men, women and children are busy with plow, hoe and rake in the task of preparing the soil for the crops of the season. In many instances every available foot of ground is being utilized for some good purpose. The flower garden is by no means being overlooked. And it is a most encouraging indication to observe that the people of this district, which is rich in soil, in location, in excellent water and in everything that goes to make it a most desirable place to live, are esthetic as well as practical; in fact, they could not

be wholly practical without being esthetic also.

The soil of the entire peninsula between the two rivers is a rich, sandy loam, admirably adapted to the production of fruits, vegetables, flowers and grain.

A view of the work already accomplished in this direction is indeed enchanting, as well as encouraging; and it suggests that St. Johns and neighbor townlets are destined to become the most attractive and picturesque district in the vicinity of Portland.

Nominate a Ticket.

A meeting was held Tuesday evening, under the auspices of the Good Government League, when the following candidates were named for city offices:

Mayor, W. V. Jobs; Recorder, J. W. Hank; Treasurer, Fredrick Vallentine; City Attorney, S. H. Green; Councilmen—First ward, Charles Lindquist and C. D. Edwards; Second ward—H. W. Brice and J. H. Sheild. Councilmen at large—C. E. Thompson, B. T. Leggett and E. C. Thurston.

The following platform was adopted:

"The Good Government League of the city of St. Johns, desiring the good and safe government of our municipal affairs, submits to the consideration of our fellow-citizens the following platform:

"We desire the people, instead of nonresident corporations, to have the benefit of St. Johns' natural advantages; we seek the advancement of the city of St. Johns by all honorable methods; we desire to see St. Johns progressive, but want that progress regulated by common sense and business methods; we want a clean, healthful and beautiful city, well lighted, well drained and well paved; we want the officials as well as the people to be honest, just and intelligent; we want a city where vice and crime can obtain no favors, and where corporations will be obliged to treat the public fairly; we want plenty of pure water, good business facilities and moderate taxes; we wish to make the city of St. Johns so attractive that there will be steady increase in its population, and in the demand for wage-earners; and we especially desire a pure, energetic and efficient government—one that will guard the people's interests with care, wisdom and fidelity, one with which the people can cooperate for the general good and prosperity of our young and growing city."

LODGE NOTICES.

United Artisans, Willumbia Assembly No. 209, meet at Bickner Hall every Friday evening. A. E. Wilson, Sec.; E. O. Magoon, Master Artisan.

Royal Neighbors, Cedar Camp No. 3544, meets every Thursday evening at Bickner Hall. Mrs. E. L. Churchill, Recorder; Mrs. Ada Pennington, Oracle.

Modern Woodmen of America, St. Johns Camp 7546, meet at Bickner Hall every Tuesday evening. H. E. Knight, Consul; G. I. Thompson, Clerk.

Notice of City Election.

Notice is hereby given that an election will be held on Monday, April third, 1905, for the purpose of electing the following officers to serve for the ensuing year: the following have been designated as polling places: First ward—at the council chamber. Second ward—P. W. Hinman's store, corner Chicago and Ivanho streets.

The polls will be opened at 9 o'clock A. M. and close at 7 o'clock P. M.

First—Mayor.
Second—Three councilmen for the city at large.
Third—Two councilmen for the first ward.
Fourth—Two councilmen for the second ward.
Fifth—One Recorder.
Sixth—One Treasurer.

By order of the council,
L. F. CLARK
Recorder.

Notice of Improvement of Jersey Street.

Notice is hereby given that at the meeting of the Council of the City of St. Johns, held on the sixth day of March, 1905, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Council of the City of St. Johns, Oregon, deems it expedient and proposes to improve Jersey street from the south side of Catlin street in Chipman's addition, to the south side of Richmond street, in the following manner to-wit:

First—By grading the street full width.
Second—By constructing wooden sidewalks.
Third—By constructing wooden cross-walks.
Fourth—By constructing suitable drains.

Fifth—By graveling the street from Fessenden to Richmond street.

The above improvement shall be classed as a dirt improvement between Catlin street and Fessenden street, and a gravel improvement between Fessenden and Richmond street.

Said improvement to be made according to the charter and ordinances of the City of St. Johns, and the plans and specifications of the City Engineer on file in the office of the City Recorder. The cost of said improvement to be assessed as provided by the charter upon the property fronting on said Jersey street.

The Engineer's estimate of the probable total cost for the improvement of said Jersey street is \$7,871.88.

The plans, specifications and estimates of the city engineer for the improvement of said Jersey street are hereby adopted. Remonstrances against the above improvement may be filed in writing with the undersigned within 30 days from the date of the first publication of this notice.

By order of the Council
L. F. CLARK,
Recorder of the City of St. Johns,
St. Johns, Oregon, March 10, 1905.

WE THINK NOT.

Editor Review: Is it the correct thing for any body of citizens to use the city hall for political purposes? I understand this has been done, and that the meetings have been held with doors locked. If it is right for city buildings to be used for these purposes, why not say so, in order that all political parties may avail themselves of the privilege.

A. CITIZEN.

The Review is not aware of any serious harm that could be done the building, unless the politicians should get enthused to such an extent that they would damage the fresco work on the ceiling and other decorative designs which adorn the walls. Should they go this far, we believe they should be made seek other places of rendezvous. Then, too, some political parties may have good and sufficient cause to lock the doors. They don't want to be disturbed, or maybe are not seeking publicity; kind of a "star chamber" proceeding. Oh, no, "Mr. Citizen," let the boys have the hall; they enjoy it.—Editor.

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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.

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