

# THE ST. JOHNS REVIEW

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## THE PLOT EXPOSED.

NOW let the city council of St. Johns commence to do real business! The whole animus of the present complex conditions is now so plain that none need be ignorant; and the intimations of THE REVIEW during the past few weeks can now be safely made as assertions.

The trouble in St. Johns has been fomented and encouraged by a few unprincipled people who, for ulterior purposes, desire to see this city annexed to Portland. These soulless persons have succeeded in stirring up strife and have constantly urged trouble because of two reasons: the first to "get square" for some trivial grievance; the second to aid by all possible chicanery a few Portland capitalists who were anxious to have St. Johns annexed to that city—an act which would make this community the cesspool for the offscourings of all that was filthy and vile in that balliwick.

Cannot the citizens and taxpayers of this community recognize the iron hand behind all this work—the hand that is gloved in velvet? Do they not realize what all this will lead to? Cannot the assertions here made be readily seen when careful thought is given?

There are a few people who, to do an injustice to innocent property-holders, would stoop at nothing to harm the city; and if slight differences can be fostered and encouraged till they become festering sores it would fill these few people with glee.

Let the people of St. Johns ponder over this article. These suggestions are not imaginary. They are actual conditions; and unless the differences be soon arbitrated there may be results most disastrous.

THE REVIEW urges that this matter be seriously considered—and that a trio of cool-headed, conservative men be called into an act of arbitration. Let all calumny be dropped—let the city become a unit for push and progress!

## WILL TEST CASE.

IN Pennsylvania a woman hired to scrub out the car of a railway magnate was carried thirteen miles and back while she was doing the work. When she asked for her dollar the railway official told her that as the fare for the round trip was one dollar and she had made the trip the bill was even. The woman did not so believe it, and at once attached the road for the amount with costs.

If it should be decided by the courts that the undesired ride liquidated the bill a queer precedent would be established. A ship's carpenter could be engaged for a month's work and when he asked for his wages it could be shown that he was owing the vessel a little balance for the trip. The street car conductor who makes 20 trips a day can have a dollar pulled from his daily wage because he had 20 rides over the line. The shoot-the-chute boatman at \$1.50 per day would find at the end of week that he had made 490 trips, and at 10c a trip he'd be owing the company \$37.50. And there is a multiplicity of cases of the same sort to be brought up in case the unlucky 13-mile ride squared the bill.

## NAVY, PAULINE.

CAN it be that the city council of St. Johns has heard of how the Equitable is 'fessin' up and is seeking to emulate the example?

## USUALLY.

IT pays better to build good flying machines than it does to erect castles in the air.

## OBSTINACY.

OFFICIALS have now decided that Indiana's anti-cigarette law is null and void—in other words, the crushing out of the habit of smoking the measly little things has proved a fizzle and more are now smoked than before the legislation was created. Since the law went into effect the increased use of cigarettes among children has been fully 300 per cent.

When a person is "prohibited" from committing any one act—which is not a crime—the inherent obstinacy of the American people usually is aroused—and the act is frequently committed just to show that it can be! It matters not what may be the prohibited act: American people dislike dictation. The law cannot be so construed as to make the purchase or use of any article illegal: it is the selling or dispensing of it that constitutes the wrong.

It is not unlawful (even in prohibition towns) to buy or drink liquor: merely to sell or dispense the stuff is where the wrong comes in. And it was not made unlawful in Indiana to smoke the pesky little things or to buy them: it was the selling of them that was the wrong. But this was easily evaded by the dealers—who sold the tobacco and gave away the papers through the mails.

And now the officials are anxious to rescind the law—all because people are so obstinate.

## AN OPINION.

THIS paper is not entering into the several disputes already inaugurated within the council—but it would call attention to the fact that the document signed by J. H. Black and read by Councilman Shields at the meeting Monday evening bore no weight. It was not a sworn statement of facts—but a mere presentation of rumors; and to endeavor to suspend any official upon mere gossip would not stand a test in court.

According to an evening paper of Portland it was the intention of Mr. Shields to personally make the charges—and this action, if sworn to, would have been a weighty matter. As this was not done the repeating of mere rumor could not result in the suspension of anyone. The very fact that a few moments after a trial to suspend all hostilities apparently ceased and Mayor King was allowed to govern the meeting indicated that there was no real intention to force him to abdicate his seat.

## A BOUQUET.

WITH no possible exception the Irrigon Irrigator, Irrigon, Oregon, is the best country newspaper in this state—because it fills a niche no other can fill. Its "Rabbitville Correspondence" is a splendid bit of work and its appearance each week chronicles some new and interesting bit of stuff, which no one but Alphonso Bennett could ever produce. Mr. Bennett does himself an injustice that he does not syndicate his brainrags—because he is missing a nice chunk of money each week by his neglect. His Rabbitville matter is eagerly sought by all metropolitan papers.

## NEEDLESS ALARM.

MONDAY'S dispatches stated that St. Johns, angry and disgusted with Prince Louis, of Battenberg, had given up all the proposed festivities as well as the grand ball in his honor. Our citizens need not be alarmed: it is not this St. Johns which is meant—but St. Johns, Newfoundland. Our celebration goes merrily on.

## GEE!

NOW if we could bring that darr'd old peace commission to St. Johns!

## An Old Revolver.

J. D. Hardy recently brought to THE REVIEW a little brass pistol that has evidently seen much wear and use. It has a very plain wooden grip, is a muzzle loader with a bore a little larger than a .44-calibre, is bored out 1 13-16 inches deep, and weighs five ounces.

This old firearm was thought by Mr. Hardy to be more than 150 years old—as it descended to Mrs. Hardy from her father, Leonard Rumbaugh, and has always been in the family. But, like many of these heirlooms, the age has been wrongly figured. This is apparent because the pistol is a cap-fire—and percussion caps were not invented till about 1830. Hence the age of the little weapon can be estimated at 75 years—and it certainly looks it. On the barrel is deeply imbedded a tiny star and the letters E L G or, possibly, E L C, and it seems to be of Spanish make. It is known that the Spanish were good workers in brass and this may have been from

## HELD 11 MINUTES.

Met at 7:57 and Adjourned at 8:08.

Pursuant to adjournment the city council met Tuesday evening—with Mayor King in the chair. Attorney Young was present on time—but Attorney McGarry was sidetracked one car and succeeded in being a bit late. He didn't realize the council was in a hurry.

Following roll-call Mr. Shields read resolutions favoring suspension of Mr. Peterson. Upon motion to adopt, roll-call showed Leggett, Brice, Shields and Edwards favoring; Peterson, Thompson, and Lindquist denying. Mayor King ruled that it was a tie vote, as he had declared Mr. Edwards not a member of the council. Motion was at once made by Mr. Shields to adjourn to next regular meeting; seconded by Mr. Brice; roll-call showed Messrs. Leggett, Shields, Brice and Edwards favoring adjournment; others opposed.

Adjourned: time 11 minutes. After adjournment, Attorney Young read his opinion in the Edwards matter and declared that he would risk his reputation as a lawyer upon the assertion that Edwards was not a legal member of the council. In the opinion was the statement that if the recorder persisted, in spite of the order of the mayor, in reading the name of Edwards at roll-call, he could be suspended or forced to relinquish his office—should the mayor so see fit.

"Gentlemen," said Recorder Hanks, as he slowly arose to his full height, "I took an oath to support the constitution of the United States and the state of Oregon when I assumed the duties of this office. I've read law probably more years than Mr. Young, although I don't pose as a lawyer; and I believe that up to this time Mr. Edwards has not been legally ousted from his office. I make the records precisely as they occur and make them complete; but no one faction is going to force me to break the law as I see it."

"I have tried to keep out of all this trouble," continued Mr. Hanks, "and I'm going to. I'll read Edwards' name just as I'll read Peterson's name until one or both of them shall be legally put out of office. I don't propose to do the swearing that I'll do my duty and then allow anyone to force me to do otherwise. You can put me out of office if you want to; but you can't make me do anything but what I believe is my duty."

The name of Daniel Brecht was then proposed as a successor to C. D. Edwards and received three votes. A motion was then made to adjourn to Wednesday evening, August 30, as the charter directs in case a vacancy is to be filled, and the motion prevailed.

## Try to Meet.

Wednesday evening the city council tried to have an adjourned meeting in order to comply with the terms of the charter. Mayor King has adjudged C. D. Edwards not a member of the council and the charter specifies that "when a vacancy occurs in any elective office, the council shall, at its next regular meeting proceed to elect by ballot, a person to fill such vacancy, who shall possess the qualifications of the original incumbent; provided, that if such vacancy shall not be filled within the time above limited, the council shall meet and ballot at least once each day until such vacancy shall have been filled."

Several of the council coincide with the mayor in the belief that Mr. Edwards' official career has ended—hence the desire is to meet daily and, as near as possible, comply with the charter's demands. No quorum being present an adjournment was made to Thursday evening.

Mayor King then said he would be pleased to hear from any of the half hundred present upon the conditions now existing and the remedy for the same. Several speakers made remarks—although no "sides" were taken with any vindictiveness. There is enough loyalty in St. Johns to permit every man to enjoy his own opinion and make it known; but the public decries any acts carried to an extreme. The general trend of the talks seemed toward arbitration—and that at once. Every day this warfare continues there is bound to be more bitterness shown; and before long neighbor will be arrayed against neighbor and the situation become the more unbearable.

## Ingenious Invention.

Beebe & Trimble, the machinists near the St. Johns Lumber Company's plant, are manufacturing, and will soon place on the market, an ingenious—yet very simple—contrivance that will be known as the Beebe and Trimble lift. Architects and builders who have examined it say that its use will become general by all who need a small lift for elevating wood, etc., from a basement. Circulars and other advertising matter will soon appear describing the merits of the machine.

their hands. In any event the pistol is well worth preserving for its antiquity—and Mr. Hardy highly prizes it.

## DESTRUCTION

Two Large Lumber Plants Are Now A Great Mass of Ashes.

Loss About \$80,000

Insurance Is, So Far As Estimated, Not More Than \$30,000.

Yesterday two splendid lumber mills graced the waterfront with a busy hum of machinery: today merely a huge mass of ashes, twisted rods, warped machinery and devastated debris mark the spot. Both the Oregon Fir Lumber Company and the St. Johns Lumber Company's plants are in ruins.

At 1:45 Nightwatch P. D. Holman, of the Oregon Fir Lumber Company noticed a flame close to the engine room of the Douglass mill. He blew the whistle and called the fireboat as quickly as possible. At 1:55 the fireboat started from Portland and thirty minutes later was throwing huge streams upon the flames. Five minutes later H. W. Brice saw the flames and with two others dragged the hosecart to the scene. Much trouble was found in connecting—and finally these men devoted their attention to protecting the Jobs flour mill.

Meantime citizens gathered—but all hope of saving the property of the Oregon Fir Lumber Company was gone. Like lightning the flames spread. Indeed, one man nearly lost his life. Leander Smith, who has charge of the government lamp, rushed to save the property. No flames were near him but ere he could rescue the lamp and escape he was entirely surrounded by fire. For a moment he faced death—but escaped although so badly burned that flesh is now dropping from his face, neck and breast.

When the fireboat arrived there was no hope for the Oregon Fir Company so it commenced work on the Douglass mill. By doing this the small office and the dry house were saved—together with their contents. But the other mill, together with the fine dock was a complete loss.

This is a fearful blow to St. Johns as well as a great loss to the owners of these plants. Steps will be taken, it is assured, to at once commence the work of rebuilding—as soon as insurance adjusters shall complete their business. Every person in this city sympathizes with the owners in their loss—and trusts that new works will quickly spring from the old ruins.

A. S. Douglass when questioned regarding the fire believes that the fire started on the dock from some cigar or cigarette thrown down by those watching the fireworks from that point last night. Nightwatch Whitsell, of the same plant, joins in this belief.

Loss of the Oregon Fir Lumber Company is figured at close to \$60,000—with insurance of about \$22,500. More than 1,000,000 feet of lumber was destroyed. A dozen cars of fine ties which were to have been shipped yesterday but for the negligence of the O. R. & N. Company in furnishing cars were also destroyed.

The loss of the St. Johns Lumber Company is estimated at \$18,000—with insurance amounting to \$7,500 in force. The fireboat did noble work and is much praised.

## Mr. Peterson's Statement.

Editor Review: In view of the charges preferred against me as a member of the city council of St. Johns, I deem it but just and proper to publicly make a statement. As to "dereliction to duty," I leave it to the public to judge how far J. H. Shields has uttered false statements—for which statements I shall hold him personally responsible. As to the charge of "accepting a bribe," I publicly denounce it as absolutely false and without the least semblance of truth in any and every particular. Mr. Shields has endeavored, maliciously, to blacken my character, but I believe his hypocrisy will have no weight with the intelligent citizens of this city.

This matter will not be allowed to drop, for I propose to invoke the aid of the law to the fullest extent. My business integrity has never been attacked in any community, and it bears heavier than I propose to tolerate when a man of Mr. Shield's character can attack me under cover of his official position in the council. I propose to allow this man to go the full limit, together with those who are co-conspirators, but I pledge my word that every allegation made by him shall be retracted.

P. J. PETERSON.

Some advertisers are like invalids who wait until one foot is in the grave, then consult a doctor and demand instant cure for years of folly. The time to begin to advertise a business is when it is young and active; when it's a case of "root hog or die." The time to quit advertising is when you want to quit business.—Liberty (Tex.) Vindicator.

"For Rent" and "For Sale" cards for sale at this office.

## Identify Yourself.

with the

# St. Johns Pharmacy

"Up-to-Date" Shop.

Courteous and Accommodating to All.

R. D. JACKSON, Proprietor.

## CARPETS, RUGS, Matting, Linoleum

\$1.00 DOWN PER WEEK

THE STORE WHERE YOUR CREDIT IS GOOD



See our new line of room-size and floor rugs. Our line of carpets and mattings is well selected. Remember the place

## EASTERN OUTFITTING CO.

390 Washington Street, Portland

## Portsmouth-University

Mr. Thuman is on the sick list with a bad cold. Mrs. Brandt and family have gone to the hop fields to enjoy an outing.

Mr. Parkison and family have moved back to the city—as has also Dr. Galagher, from Club Hall. Mr. and Mrs. Steele and son, from Jefferson, Oregon, stopped a week at Club Hall on a visit to the fair.

Mrs. Emerson and daughter, from Seattle, spent a couple of weeks at Club Hall, the guests of Mrs. Nate Peters.

Mrs. Brown and family start for the hop fields this week, after which they expect to come back to the Park.

Mrs. Samuels spent a couple of days with Mr. Samuels last week at a mill down the Columbia, where Mr. Samuels holds a responsible position.

The genial Mr. McKeon, who used to reside here, was a visitor last Sunday. A walk along the Boulevard and river front reminded him of old times.

We are glad to see little Mildred Dooley and Helen Storey out again. The two little girls have been down with a hard siege of malaria for some weeks.

Bob Bruns, the Dutch tinker, is in town again, and waiting for his partner, little Villey Whiteley, to come from North Bend. Then they will be ready to put in blow pipes or any old thing.

James Dinsmore, a retired farmer of Pike county, Illinois, and Clay Rush, an energetic young farmer of that section, are visiting the fair. Mr. Dinsmore is Mrs. A. W. Dickson's father, and they are having a happy time together.

Officer Sloan and a party of about half a dozen came out from the city one day last week to catch a mess of bass. From early morning till late at night the party worked industriously to tempt the wily fish and at eight o'clock four little bass were counted.

Mr. and Mrs. Kiefer and family from Grand Junction, Colorado, are here for a ten days' stay. They have a suite of apartments at Club Hall. Mr. Kiefer has made a flying visit along the coast and says that the Park and surrounding country is the grandest location of any he has seen.

The sidewalk along Fisk street has not yet been completed and people are wondering if it ever will be. The work was started first of June and could have been finished easily in one month, but there is a block on the west side beginning at Amherst street, which is a nuisance to public safety. Why should

## A LETTER FROM THE MAYOR

### To the Citizens of St. Johns.

I hereby submit a reply to the infamous insults and charges which have been preferred against my name and honesty, by irresponsible men who are endeavoring to abrogate the fundamental principle of the law given to the city of St. Johns by the act of the state legislative assembly, regular session of 1904.

Here are the facts in the case of C. D. Edwards: He sold his property for a certain consideration; the deed and mortgage were left with me in escrow, together with his resignation as councilman of the first ward—signed, but not dated. By way of explanation, I will say I did not make said sale or have anything to do with it, farther than as above stated. The day Mr. Edwards called for the mortgage he dated the resignation and left it with me to file with the city recorder, which I did—causing a vacancy of his office according to section 22 of the city charter.

As I was sworn under oath to fill the office of mayor and to uphold the city charter I could not recognize the office otherwise than vacant. Mr. Edwards asked to withdraw his resignation, which was denied him, and should it have been done, it would have been impossible to have him reinstated—as the charter distinctly states that one must be a freeholder to be eligible to hold office.

Therefore, again, I would be breaking my oath of office to allow his reinstatement. As to the charges which have been brought against me, they must be proven, and as I have recourse by the courts for slanderous libel I will only say that I have in no way, or in any manner, done anything of which I am ashamed, or which will cast reflection upon my reputation or honor, as an officer of the city of St. Johns.

As the facts are brought out I am positive that the insincerity, duplicity and underhand methods of personal spite will be laid bare.

Yours respectfully,  
W. H. KING, Mayor.

## Boards Wanted.

A few boarders who desire a nice home with good fare can be accommodated by Mrs. G. A. Flanders at her new home on Willamette Boulevard, near the water tower. Rates reasonable.

the city engineer not take it in hand at once? More graft?

## AN OFFICIAL DIRECTORY

- S. H. GREENE**  
Attorney-at-Law.  
Office: Room 9, Breeden Building, corner Third and Washington streets, Portland.  
Residence: Saint Johns
- Goodrich & Goodrich,**  
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Saint Johns and Portland, Oregon
- Lawrence M. Hensel**  
PHYSICIAN  
Office on Jersey street in Livermore house, opposite St. John Sub and Door Co. Phone Scott 1148.  
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Office next door to Elliott's drug store. Phone, Union 4062. Residence on John street, first door south of Wrinkle's residence. Phone, St. Johns, Oregon
- T. T. PARKER,**  
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- THE EASTERN HOME**  
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Meals by the day or week. Board per week, \$4.00.  
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House Mover and Repairer  
Houses moved, raised and repaired. Odd jobs of all kinds. Prompt service, reasonable charges. Ivanhoe and Catlin streets.  
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Good rooms from \$1 a week up. Corner Chicago and Ivanhoe streets  
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Clothing cleaned, pressed and mended with care and promptness. Ladies' clothes a specialty. Old Postoffice Building  
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- G. W. OVERSTREET,**  
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Columbia Boulevard and Central Avenue.  
Phone Union 285  
Saint Johns Oregon
- C. A. ROSS**  
Practical repairer of boots and shoes. First class work guaranteed at reasonable prices. Shop on Tacoma street, rear of W. J. Peddicord's office.  
Saint Johns
- Bon Ton Barber Shop**  
First class work and clean hot towels for patrons. Hair cutting a specialty.  
Agents for West Coast Laundry, Jersey street  
St. Johns
- The G. HEITKEMPER CO.**  
Watchmakers, Jewelers, Silvermiths.  
Importers and Wholesale Dealers  
286 Morrison Street, and 24th St. PORTLAND
- W. A. STORR**  
ARTISTIC  
Paper Hanger and Decorator  
Orders can be left at Couch's store  
Special Attention Given to All Orders
- THE CENTRAL HOTEL**  
Mrs. L. Tyner Proprietor  
First Class Rooms  
Cuisine Excellent  
ST. JOHNS, OREGON