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Keep Your Eye on St. Johns

ALL BLOODSHED AVERTED

City Council Peace Session Seems To Have A Very Exhilarating Result On All.

There was a nice peaceful session of the city council Monday evening where the olive-oil of contentment and the fig-paste of unanimity stood out like a pink rag on a white thumb. And all the world seemed happier and merrier—until one thought of those kegs of giant powder under the house—and the short fuse!

There was a full house when Mayor King called the council to order at seven-forty. Rollcall was followed by reading the minutes and approving the same.

Three petitions were then read praying that grades be established on sections of Thompson, Catlin and Lively streets. The petitioners desire the streets graded as is the county road, and, as they were all owners of the abutting property, there was no reason why the petitions should not be granted.

Moved by Mr. Edwards and seconded by Mr. Shields that the petitions be granted.

Mayor King said in substance: "Gentlemen, this places me in a very critical position. These people have petitioned for this improvement in good faith; it is very necessary that it should be promptly done—and done right. In all fairness I ask that someone else make this motion in order that there be no question of the legality of the work. If it should be decided that Mr. Edwards was not a legal member of the council it might make a lot of trouble on this improvement. I wish someone else would make this motion."

Mr. Shields insisted the motion be put. It was in order, had been seconded, and it should be put to vote.

Mr. Edwards said that this quibbling was mere child's play; he was a member of the council until he had been legally put out; and should he be declared out all work he had taken part in would certainly be legal.

Mayor King said that he would put the motion—although he made these objections. The motion was unanimously carried.

Moved by Mr. Brice (seconded by Mr. Peterson) that the city engineer be at once ordered to establish the grades asked. Carried.

Communications from City Engineer W. W. Goodrich regarding bench marks at various points and the making of a fire district were read. These were given in THE REVIEW of last week. The first was ordered done—but the latter was tabled.

The matter of the difference in grade between Holbrook's block and Cochran's block was discussed and the explanation was made by the city engineer that the slope of the street would have to be fully eleven inches lower on the south side—else the sidewalk would have to be raised above the level of the

floor. Some thought an error had been made by the former engineer in establishing the grade for the Holbrook block—while others declared the engineer gave no grade. The matter was finally tabled.

It was decided to lower the brow of the hill on Philadelphia street some six feet and proportion the grade accordingly.

The Gresham street appraisers were given more time—and the appraisalment of the new street from Jersey street to Park avenue was delegated to the same committee.

T. T. Parker presented an application for a ferry franchise across the Willamette to be conducted by the "St. Johns Transportation and Development Company." It proposes a 5c fare for foot passengers with conservative prices for all conveyances, and promised to get right after business as soon as granted the franchise. Parties who put in a like application several weeks ago were present, and desired the original application considered.

Mr. Parker stated that owing to some trouble in securing a landing on the west bank his company could not specify where the landing would be; while Blumauer & Hock stated that they had secured a fine 25-foot landing at their Tavern grounds and would have a boat running inside of twenty-eight days after the franchise was guaranteed them.

Both parties desire a ten-year permit, and are willing to divert a portion of their receipts toward the city purse. Immediate action was desired by all concerned. The matter was placed in the hands of the proper committee—Messrs. Leggett, Lindquist and Shields; but as that committee was to work on the matter Tuesday Mr. Brice was substituted for Mr. Shields, who could not be present. The committee was given full authority to close any deal it might see fit.

A third party desiring a ferry franchise was present—but had nothing to say regarding the matter.

The public dock was accepted by the committee and the council and Robert Smith, the contractor, was allowed pay for his services: \$466.

A resolution to establish a sewer district was adopted. It is believed that an 18-inch sewer from Jersey street down Philadelphia street to the river—with its necessary laterals—will be about the proper thing—and the city engineer was ordered to prepare plans and estimates.

Attorneys Vaughn and McGarry were present at the meeting but were stricken with a strange dumbness early in the game. Aside from a withdrawal from the executive body for a few moments (just to see a man) they were as mute as a bivalve.

Council adjourned to the call of the mayor—or to the next regular meeting.

Had a Time.

The farewell reception given, by the Methodists, on Friday evening of last week, for Rev. C. H. Campbell and his wife, was certainly the event of the season. There was a plenteousness of sociability and abundance of refreshments, besides the following well-rendered program: Organ voluntary, Miss Amy Rowland; prayer, "Father" Maple; address to pastor, Mr. Thurston; "Coronation," choir and audience; reading, Miss Bessie Phillips; solo, Miss Mae Perkins; reading, Miss Lillian Perkins; remarks by Rev. C. H. Campbell and an anthem by the choir. Several guests, outside the pale of Methodism, also much enjoyed the exercises.

A Prize Baby.

The baby who won prize at the baby show for its beautiful eyes at the exposition on Saturday last has for her godfather and godmother, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Valentine, of our city. The babe is but six months old, and her father is captain of the fire boat. Her name is Alice Clark Smith. Mrs. Valentine made the costume in which the child was dressed when entered for the prize.

Keep Your Eye On St. Johns.

QUO WARRANTO.

John Haggarty Filed Proceedings Monday In Circuit Court.

It now seems that matters are close to a show-down. The fact in dispute is whether or not C. D. Edwards is a member of the council of the city of St. Johns. If he is a legal member THE REVIEW insists that he be allowed to participate in deliberations of the council until such a time as he may see fit to withdraw—or till his term of office shall end. If, to the contrary, it shall be found that he is not a member his successor should be promptly chosen and the work of making a "Greater St. Johns" go on without any abatement.

John Haggarty has filed quo warranto charges against C. D. Edwards, and asks a temporary injunction against his acting in an official capacity in the deliberations of the council. Haggarty's charges are based on the records of the meetings and the decision of the circuit judge should forever settle this much-mooted question of councilmanship.

Messrs. Vaughn and Young are attorneys for Haggarty.

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