THE ST. JOHNS REVIEW

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MUST HELP.

JUST now the people of Portland are crying for the establishment of a line of steamers to ply between that city and Alaska in order to secure the greater portion of the trade now going to the sound cities. In theory thus far the scheme is first-rate: but do the Portlandites consider for a moment that in order to get the Alaska trade it will be necessary to buy what Alaska has to sell?

Alaska ships vast quantities of ore—and her vessels are not going to send the ore to one port and buy her goods at another. That is a certainty. Portland cannot take that ore at the present time because there is no nearby smelter where it can be treated.

There is a plan on foot now to erect a smelter in St. Johns—but it will have to be done in a greater part by Portland money—because that city would receive nine-tenths (and even more than that) of the benefits accruing from the enterprise. The laden vessels from Alaska would dispose of their vast loads of wealth here at St. Johns—but it would be the merchants of Portland who would furnish the return loads.

There would be a certain amount of prestige in this city's possessing a public smelter, fully equipped for gold, copper and silver, because it would furnish work for some of our people: but the actual benefits would accrue to Portland. It should require no time at all to sell the necessary amount of stock ($100,000) in this enterprise among the wealthy business men of Portland as soon as those men get out of the confining rut which has so long held them.

We believe there are men in St. Johns who will readily put some money into the enterprise merely as a dividend-producer: but they will not feel like holding the cow while Portland men suck all the pap. As a usual thing the Portland wholesaler is the smallest thing to be found: and the majority of the retailers treat the outoftown buyer particularly shabbily: hence a suburbanite dislikes to put his money into plans to promote the welfare of that class of people.

Portland can never secure the Alaskan trade until she'll buy what Alaska has to sell: and without a nearby smelter it would be a fool's work to buy ore and stand and hold it! And if Portland desires a smelter she'll have to get a move on and "let down" for some stock.

REVIEW AHEAD.

WHEN this paper declared that the street railway would light its stations that are now dark if the city council would but insist upon it the statement was laughed at: yet THE REVIEW persisted in the declaration and adduced arguments which could not be refuted.

Councilman Leggett saw the right of this paper's pleadings and had a long talk with Manager Fuller, of the railway company. As a result, of the six arcs desired at railway points (Point View, Stewarts, Jersey, John, Mucks and Heights) the railway is to furnish four if the city supports the remaining two. This makes a saving at the present rate of $21.20 per month, or $254.40 per year, to the city of St. Johns.

This comes solely through the constant plugging of THE REVIEW. Mr. Leggett himself considered that the application would be curtly turned down—but the several marked copies of this paper sent to Manager Fuller helped in the argument, and, added to the talk of the councilman, produced the desired effect.

THE DIFFERENCE.

IN the east Christmas reigns. In Oregon Christmas rains. Possibly there isn't much difference, anyway.

NO SOFT JOB.

THOSE who have any contemplation of seeking public office in St. Johns next April will find—when elected—that they have no sinecure. Theirs will not be a bed of roses or a path strewn with lilacs. There will be conditions—not theories—confronting them: because the treasury will not be bulging out with surplus coin.

The present council has had a hard path through which to struggle—and there seems to be a desire upon the part of the present body to leave its successor a basket of roses whose thorns protrude through every opening.

The low levy made on Tuesday evening is an excellent thing—both for the city itself and those interested in it: yet it must be understood by those outside of St. Johns two-thirds or more of the amount to be received has already been expended upon public utilities and salaries. The city started business handicapped: there was no income for the first year—and there were, unfortunately, a few bits of indebtedness. Some of this was incurred by the previous council—and some by the present body: but it all had to be paid.

If the income of the city shall be but the five mills levied then this coming fiscal year will be one in which much economy must be used and great patience shown by creditors. Another year will show a smaller levy with plenty of money for every necessary improvement. The next assessment will show values coming close to the two million mark—if not passing it. Several industries are waiting commencement till after the assessor has made his rounds in order to avoid listing—but the assessment will show a vast increase in all lines.

Nevertheless, as we stated above, those who desire to have office next April will have it good and strong. They should hold up their heads and hands now—both will be drooping low by the time they've served a twelve-months in the city hall!

PROGRESSIVE.

THREE weeks after THE REVIEW printed the resolutions of respect for the late Josephine Preston, resolutions created by the teachers of the St. Johns schools, the Oregonian saw the notice of the same and made a pleasing comment. The name of THE REVIEW was, however, carefully left out of the notice. The Oregonian is progressive—and very courteous.

Boat To Portland.

For some time Captain C. J. McLean has been contemplating a boat service between Portland, St. Johns and Linnton, for freight and passenger traffic. This week he has commenced the service.

The steamer Gazelle will ply between these points twice a day—with the intention to increase the service as quickly as the patronage will justify. The landing here in St. Johns will be at the public dock.

The Gazelle will leave the Stark street dock each morning at 7:30 and each afternoon at 3:30. The boat will supply vessels along the route with stores and will reach St. Johns at about 8:00 and 5:00. From here the Gazelle goes to Linnton—returning here so as to leave for Portland at 9:00 a. m. and 6:15 p. m.

Captain McLean will make a strong bid for freight as well as passengers. A brief announcement appears elsewhere.

Baptist Church.

Sunday school at ten o'clock.
Preaching at eleven.
Evening service at seven-thirty.
Thursday evening at seven-thirty prayer meeting is held.
All are cordially invited to attend these services.
All services will be held in the new building on Chicago street, near Harriet.

E. A. LEONARD, Pastor.

For those nice "home" baked beans and brown bread go to the Boston Home Bakery, Jersey street.

Looking For A Site.

H. W. Sweetzer and J. R. Streeter, of Chicago, Illinois, were in St. Johns yesterday afternoon looking over the city with a view to putting in a plant for the manufacture of structural steel. They were shown about the city by W. W. Goodrich—and will soon be here again when B. T. Leggett will put in a full day with them.

These men desire from 14 to 20 acres—with at least 600 feet of water front if it can be secured. The site should be easily accessible to a railroad. These men apparently mean business and if suitable arrangements can be made work will commence in a few months. Many men will be employed—both in the erection of the plant and after its completion.

Our Local Grist

Good time now to make those advertising contracts for 1906.

Cheer up: it may rain in a few days and lay this infernal dust.

Swengle: harness-shop: St. Johns.

A real estate exchange is being talked of by the dealers in this city.

Better commence today to write it "'06" in order to get the habit!

Misses Bessie and Lillian McVicker came home for the Christmas holidays.

See the Peninsula Bank for fire insurance.

The city needs a plumbing ordinance in order to commence now and get things right.

Couch & Co. want to see you before you buy your holiday groceries.

Next Tuesday evening the council will learn what the immediate income of the city is to be.

A large family Christmas tree and party was held on Monday at the home of P. J. Peterson, with relatives from far and near.

With the exception of the lack of snow Monday was a typical New England Christmas: cold, raw, windy and decidedly unpleasant. It was an actual dismal day.

When you insure your property secure only reliable companies. See the Peninsula Bank about them.

The Baptist women cleaned their new church on Tuesday and tonight (Friday) there will be services conducted by a half dozen Baptist preachers from out of town.

Smoking is a pleasure if the cigars are bought at Valentine's.

The new comers from the eastern states, and they are numerous in St. Johns, were not a bit pleased with the weather on Christmas day. A drizzling rain was not at all to their liking.

Try the "Par Excellence": the champion 5c cigar: made in St. Johns.

Frank Lashbaugh is hugely pleased over his "little farm" on the Heights. He has four lots—and believes he has a spot whereon he can build a nice home—and he'll do it, too

Eating and winter apples—also good potatoes—for sale. See C. N. Braasch about them.

Jesse Galbraith, who has been one of the loom fixers at the woolen mills, has resigned his position and expects to move to Valley in a short time. Mr. Little, of Salem, has secured the position Mr. Galbraith resigned.

The rush of the heating stove trade is past. Get our special prices before you buy. Potter & Goold.

After all, the school district of St. Johns isn't so small. With a valuation of over one and one fourth millions it runs far above the total valuation of the whole of Lincoln county—which is something over $900,000.

Manhattan Horse Food—the great life builder: for sale at the harness shop. Now is the time to use it.

One of the kindest Christmas acts noticed in St. Johns was a gift of fruit from a woman who is a comparative stranger in our town to another whom the giver knew was also homesick for her eastern home. The motive, in a case like this, not the mere gift, is what helps make Christmas blessed.

Poff & Carey have genuine Rock Springs and Cumberland, Wyoming, coal. Try it. It burns up clean. No clinkers, no soot, and very little ash.

During the past week it has been a difficult task to keep any track of the owners of real estate. In every direction property has changed hands right and left. To illustrate the rapidity in which sales were made: last Tuesday a prominent real estate dealer was seen trying to sell a man his own property at a price $300 above what he asked for it.

The freshest of filberts, English walnuts, etc., for Christmas and New Years at Couch & Co.'s.

We wish to warn the party who has been making sundry visits in search of fuel to certain woodsheds on south John street. Certain sticks of wood and pieces of coal in these store houses have been loaded, and if the right piece of combustion is carried away a minister will probably be called upon to to say something soothing and comforting over the mangled remains of one of the members of the family of a low down ornery wood-shed thief.

For first class and reliable fire insurance companies see the list at the Peninsula Bank.

The way the Portland merchants ran up the price of Christmas turkeys on the tardy buyers last Saturday afternoon and evening was a display of avarice and greed that would gladden the heart of any of the sure-thing men. Only a few birds were displayed in some of the markets, and these were exhibited to the prospective customer with the remark "Here's all we have!" A purchase being made, another bird was hung up. On top of this deception the price was run up to 27 and 30 cents per pound. These Portland philanthropists are a wise lot when it comes to getting rid of cold storage turkeys held since Thanksgiving.

EIGHT GOT HURT

Brand New Pianos to Go at a Discount of $118 on Each.

During the tremendous holiday rush, when we handled sometimes as many as three and even four carloads of instruments a day, and the large number of sales necessitated much shifting of stock, seven pianos and one orchestrelle were more or less marred.

Of course, we could send these to our shop and put them in such shape that the slight damage would hardly be discernible. But this is not our way of doing business. Instead, we will sell these seven brand-new pianos and the one orchestrelle at a reduction of $1000 on the lot.

You'll save $118 on each one of these pianos, and a clean $174 on the orchestrelle.

A beautiful mahogany Pease, the very latest style, in fact was only taken out of the car two days ago, at a reduction of $118. Pay $8 per month.

A genuine mahogany case Chickering baby grand at a reduction of $118. Pay $12 a month.

A fine mahogany-cased Clarendon, beautiful design, marred, but very slightly, at a reduction of $118. Pay $6 a month.

A very choice genuine rosewood cased Weber "baby" upright at a reduction of $118. Pay $10 a month.

A massive oak-cased Story & Clark, most striking design and a good reminder of our glorious World's Fair (Forestry building), at a reduction of $118. Terms, $10 a month.

A superb art style Kimball, a special design, at a reduction of $118. Terms $12 a month.

Fanciest style mahogany Steck, extremely beautiful case, with elegant carvings, at a reduction of $118. Terms $10 a month.

An $850 Orchestrelle in perfect order, but mars quite noticeable, at a reduction of $174. Terms, $15 a month.

This is the opportunity to turn Christmas cash into a most profitable investment. Remember, all the instruments are brand new, fully warranted and in the very latest designs and most costly styles, at bona fide reductions at $118 each. Call or phone Eilers Piano House, 351 Washington street, corner Park.

"I notice that Poff & Carey have another car load of that good coal. Say! but they do sell coal—and its fine, too!"

Condemn The Gully.

At a meeting of the city council Tuesday evening, at the suggestion of W. M. Killingsworth, the following condemnatory resolutions unanimously adopted:

"RESOLVED: That it is the sense of this council that such cut as seems to be contemplated by the Northern Pacific railway between the Columbia and Willamette rivers will be exceedingly detrimental to the material interests of the city of St. Johns, and that all honorable efforts should be made by the city and its citizens to prevent its construction; and be it farther

RESOLVED: That copies of these resolutions be furnished the papers for publication, and that a copy be forwarded to the proper officials of said railway."

Can You Afford

To carry the risk of total loss on your buildings when a small amount will insure you against loss? It does not pay to do it. See the Peninsula Bank about rates.

Electric Road Coming.

Three months ago THE REVIEW stated that arrangements were being made for another electric line through this city—and that the line would come in from the west, crossing the Willamette here at St. Johns and run direct to Vancouver. There was considerable laughter over this assertion—but now those who smiled are sitting up and taking notice.

The St. Helens Public Service Company is now doing business—and more than 150 miles of the route has been surveyed and staked out. Most of the rights-of-way, also, have been secured. The line will reach the coast and will even strike down as far as Tillamook—and is backed by the Hill interests.

From the west the line will reach St. Johns over the Northern Pacific bridge—and will be really a better thing for this city than to have the Northern Pacific road here. There is to be a capital of four million dollars behind the enterprise.

It is reported that the surveyors will be in this vicinity next week to drive stakes and look after rights-of-way. It will be a good thing to push along. We need it in our business.

Large Panes.

There are three windows in the new store of Holbrook's brick—the corner to be occupied by the St. Johns Grocery Company—that are of extra size. One of them is 160 inches wide—while the other two are each 168 inches wide. Each of the three are 62 inches high. They were set without mishap.

A CLEVER SCHEME.

Northern Pacific Lays Grade To Which O. R. and N. Must Come.

By a nice bit of over-work on Sunday and Christmas the Northern Pacific won a point over its adversary. Both roads are anxious to get to St. Johns but the the surveys cross each other five times between the Vancouver bridge and this city. The road first securing its grade can force all other crossing roads to come to its grade: and the O. R. & N. was slow in its work.

There have been, it is true, a number of purchases of property on the Heights, said to be in favor of the Northern Pacific road. Among them are properties of Messrs. Moe, Harris, Marcy and McLeod—for which more than $6000 have been paid. At the same time this does not preclude the possibility of the skirt road around the city.

Whatever may be the outcome—and whatever may be the route chosen—it is evident that the O. R. & N. was nicely played by strategy. Until the matter is adjudicated by the court it is probable no farther steps will be taken at that point: work, however, will progress all along the line with as much rapidity as possible.

Go By Boat.

For Portland and way points take steamer Gazelle at public dock. Leaves St. Johns at 9:15 a. m. and 6:15 p. m.; arrive Portland (Stark street dock) at 10:00 a. m. and 7:00 p. m.

Bidding On Its Own Work.

To become an active bidder for work to which it has invited competition, is a decided novelty in the domain of contracting, yet this is being done by the municipality of Toronto, Ontario. Not that only, but, from all reports, it has worked admirably, resulting in lower prices and first class work. When sewer and paving work is to be let the city engineer makes a bid, in exactly the same way as other competitors. If any responsible contractor bids under the engineer, he secures the contract, but if the engineer's bid proves to be the lowest, and he cannot induce some contractor to take the job off his hands at the same figure, the city proceeds to do the work with day labor.

During the past year forty-three concrete sidewalks, seventeen paving contracts, one grading contract, and twelve sewer contracts were executed in this way with a net saving to the city.

This mode of procedure might well attract the careful consideration of other municipalities. The weak point of the plan seems to rest in the circumstance that a corrupt city engineer might, through collusion with contractors, indulge in graft methods, but this would not be possible in a large city where many contractors were bidding. Using proper judgment and always allowing a reasonable and fair margin of profit on his bids, the engineer could so place them as to do away with excessive prices. But, though the city so placed its bids as to secure but little work on its own account, its action would have a pronounced effect upon the character of the work done by those who secure contracts, since that done by the by the city would serve as a model that must be followed. The plan of a city doing its own work by hired labor has not proved very satisfactory where tried, but this modification might well be expected to work well.

Evangelical Church.

Order of exercises at the Evangelical church for next week:

Sunday school at 10 a. m.
Preaching—11 a. m.
Junior K. L. C. E.—2:30 p. m. Mrs. McVicker, superintendent.
Senior K. L. C. E.—6:30 p. m.
Sermon—7:30 p. m.
Wednesday—7:30 p. m.: Choir practice.
Thursday—7:30 p. m.: Prayer meeting.

We extend a personal invitation to each citizen of St. Johna to participate in and enjoy the services as announced. E. E. MCVICKER, Pastor.

Couch & Co. can save you money on underwear.

Incorporation Papers Filed.

The incorporation of The St. Johns Hotel Company is now an actuality—papers having been filed on Wednesday. The company has a capital of $21,000—and those interested are J. B. Nye, Adam Mueller and E. E. Coovert. The hotel is now nicely under way—the first floor being practically completed.

For genuine maple sugar go to Couch & Co.'s

Bakery Change.

Clarence Young, one of the partners in the Enterprise Bakery, has sold his interest to Mrs. W. L. Bullis—and retired. This bakery, which is an excellent one, has built up a large trade in the short time it has been open.

HOW THE SHAH SLEEPS.

The shah of Persia never, under any circumstances, sleeps on a bedstead, and no matter where he has stayed, whether it be in royal palaces or hotels, he has either had the bedstead removed from his sleeping apartment or else has relegated it to some remote corner, so as to enable him to sleep in the exact center of the room on a couple of huge cushions or soft oriental mattresses stretched upon the floor. And just behind the cushion upon which his head rests there is always a small table, upon which are five portraits. The center one is of himself. It is flanked on either side by those of King Edward and Queen Alexandra, while beyond them on either side are the pictures of the emperor and empress of Russia. These portraits accompany him everywhere and may be said to watch over his slumbers in his own dominions as well as abroad.

Street Accidents.

Twelve per cent of all the accidents to people in cities happen on the streets. Statistics show that the average citizen, if he should meet with a hundred serious mischances on his walks abroad, would slip on the ice and fall down under other circumstances sixty-eight times; he would get hurt ten times in boarding or dismounting from cars; he would be knocked down or otherwise injured by horses and wagons six times; he would be bitten by dogs four times and he would step disastrously upon banana peels twice. The remaining mishaps would be miscellaneous and might include one or two collisions with motor cars, which have taken the place of bicycles as perils to the pedestrian.—Pearson's Magazine.

New York a City of Hotels.

It surpasses comprehension how all the new hotels in New York city find sufficient business to support them. Magnificent new structures are constantly going up, and every leading hotel appears to be full. The public has become so accustomed to the opening of new million dollar establishments that such events create hardly a comment. New York has become the first hotel city in the world, and it is the height of every landlord's ambition everywhere to become the proprietor of a successful hotel in the metropolis. It is said that there is now over $100,000,000 invested in first class hotels in New York city.—Leslie's Weekly.

Facts About Cotton.

The world's cotton production for 1904 entering commercial channels was 18,041,859 bales, with a total consumption of 15,474,980 bales. This indicates a surplus in the world's factory supply of cotton amounting to 2,566,879 bales. The total production and consumption of cotton, however, do not represent the full statistics for the world. Large quantities of cotton are grown and consumed in China, Japan, Asiatic Russia and other eastern countries and in South and Central America, which do not enter into commercial channels and cannot be estimated with any certainty.—Harper's Weekly.

Octave Thanet.

Miss Alice French chose her pen name of Octave Thanet in curious fashion. Octave was the name of one of her schoolmates and was selected because it gives no hint as to whether the person who bears it is a man or a woman. Thanet was adopted from a passing railroad car that Miss French chanced to see and is pronounced with the accent on the second syllable. Born and educated in New England, the writer has lived most of her mature life in the west and in the south, which has made her familiar with widely varying phases of American civilization. Her first magazine story was written and accepted in 1878.

"Hamlet" Minus the Ghost.

An Italian actor, Signor Fumagalli, has been creating a mild sensation in Rome by playing Shakespeare's "Hamlet" with the total suppression of the ghost. The new departure has been the subject of severe strictures in the press, and Domenico Oliva, a Shakespearean scholar, has taken Signor Fumagalli vigorously to task. "Let us remember," he says, "that Shakespeare himself assumed the part of the ghost on the stage of the Globe theater." "Hamlet" without the melancholy prince himself remains to be tried.

An Old Roman Altar.

A Roman altar four feet high and of square formation has been unearthed near Melrose, England, at the site of an ancient Roman camp. An inscription chiseled on it reads, "To the great and mighty Jupiter, Carolus, centurion of the 20th Legion, the valiant and victorious, cheerfully, willingly and deservedly paid his vow."