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# ST. JOHNS REVIEW

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VOL. 2

ST. JOHNS, OREGON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 1906.

NO. 11

## Shepard, Dobie & Peterson REAL ESTATE

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## COUNCIL HAD FULL HOUSE

**Sang "Mr. Nye, We Are Only Teasing You" On One Key.**

Mayor King presided at the council meeting on Monday evening and all members of the body were present. There was also a large audience of on-lookers—some coming for business and others from curiosity.

Councilman Leggett reported that the warehouse at the dock was nearly completed. He also reported that the bids on John street had been investigated and that the figures given by I. N. Tomlinson were the better of the two. It was practically agreed that Tomlinson would receive the contract—although the matter was passed to the adjourned meeting. A remonstrance signed by 49 purported taxpayers against the vacation of the three streets desired by W. C. Francis and his associates was read. By the city charter the matter of vacating the streets was forced, by this remonstrance, to lie on the table till the next regular meeting.

Mr. Francis then gave an explanation of why the vacation of these streets was desired—and assured the council that unless some way could be devised for such vacation it would be necessary to either build a much smaller plant—or abandon the plan altogether.

Councilman Leggett reported on the proposed vacation of Charleston street that he had been unable to secure any written agreement from Smith Brothers regarding the land occupied by the public dock. It was the desire of the council to do everything possible for Smith Brothers but it was not reasonable to give a sixty foot street unless some concession be made.

Mr. Smith declared that such a deal was not to be considered: he had proceeded with the construction of his plant with the understanding that Charleston street would be vacated, and it was unjust and unfair to force him to give a foot of land. As for the land whereon the dock encroached it was all right; he would not cause bother in any way; but he would not sign any agreement to that effect.

Councilman Brice believed the street desired was too valuable to give away except the city should receive a quit-claim deed to the ten-foot strip occupied by the dock—and Councilman Peterson agreed with him.

The matter—together with the

matter of the ordinances regarding the board of public works and a plumbing inspector—was laid over to the next regular meeting. The matter of Chicago street extension and the improvement of Monteith street were carried over to next meeting.

The license ordinance came forward, limping sadly and with one discolored optic, for its semi-weekly investigation. Upon careful diagnosis it was found to have four ribs overlapping. Councilman Shields declared that he could not vote for it until it was so amended as to permit no return of the license fee when the license was revoked.

Upon motion of Councilman Shields the matter was once more laid over to the next regular meeting (February 5) and amended so as to allow the full license fee to remain the property of the city if for any cause the license was revoked. On roll-call Councilmen Leggett, Lindquist, Edwards, Shields and Brice voted affirmatively; Councilmen Thompson and Peterson negatively.

A communication from Engineer W. W. Goodrich regarding a Carnegie library was read. It urged that correspondence be opened with Carnegie by our citizens to see how expensive a building could be secured, and just what were the steps necessary to be taken to secure it. Mr. Goodrich offered to donate his fees as architect for the purpose of buying encyclopedic and scientific works; also to donate the daily Oregonian, Scientific American, Harpers' Weekly, Leslie's Weekly to the institution, and Mr. Goodrich is heartily in with this movement of a free public library. It would prove a splendid advertisement for St. Johns. The communication was placed on file.

Daniel Brecht announced his readiness to pay the \$50 he promised toward the warehouse on the dock—or to turn the same amount on a lumber bill the city owed him: the latter was done.

Councilman Peterson, having tried on a pair of handcuffs and declared them the best he'd ever used, moved that the same be purchased by the city for \$5—and all voted in favor of the motion.

D. D. Woods was allowed \$8 for care of electric lights two months.

Adjourned to Wednesday evening, January 17.

## RAILWAY MAY CHANGE BRIDGE SITE

There is a big kick over the proposed bridge site at the dry dock—and if the river pilots, backed by the O. R. & N. railway, are successful with their remonstrance, it is possible that the Northern Pacific road will cross the Willamette here in St. Johns as originally planned.

It is claimed by the river men that the natural site for another bridge is not where the channel is limited as it is near the dry dock but where there is plenty of harbor room. Last week the Northern Pacific people, possibly cognizant of a refusal to allow a bridge where it has been recently contemplated, bought a big waterfront near the Weierhauser tract—paying \$65,000 for 65 acres. It was the original intention of this railway to bridge

the Willamette at or near Fessenden street—as this paper stated a couple months ago. It is possible, as THE REVIEW has stated at divers times, that this calculation has never been altered or amended: purchases indicating otherwise having been made merely to throw people off the scent and thereby allowing rights-of-way to be picked up the more easily.

The contention of the river men against the dry dock site as an approach to the big bridge may be simply the work of the Northern Pacific itself in order to make the change in location seem more like a forced movement. Just why it purchased this last 65 acres if such is not the case must be explained later.

## FARM SOLD AT GOOD FIGURE

Among the prominent sales of real estate last week was that of the G. W. Force river farm. It is located near St. Johns between the slough and the Columbia river.

The price paid for the tract was \$30,000. The buyer was the Northern Pacific railway company—and now there'll be more guesses on the work of that road.

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