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VOL. 2

ST. JOHNS, OREGON, FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1906.

NO. 20

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JERSEY STREET

STRICTLY BUSINESS.

City Council Commences Its Final Month As Happy As Little Birdies In A Tree.

When the council was open for its regular meeting last Monday evening Mayor King was presiding, and all members of the body were present. Street improvement seemed to be the order of the meeting, and there was much work of that sort determined upon ere the meeting closed.

A petition to improve Hayes street from Burlington to Maple street was read, and a resolution was adopted requiring the city engineer to make the proper surveys, specifications and estimates. The street is to be graded and sidewalked—but not gravelled.

The engineer's plans, specifications and estimates for the improvement of Philadelphia street were approved, and a resolution for said improvement was adopted.

Councilman Leggett reported that the street railway would at once attend to the payment of its share of the improvements of Jersey street: the neglect had been caused by a misunderstanding.

A petition praying for the widening, extension and improvement of Modoc street from Charleston street to Fessenden was read and referred to the street committee. This is an extension of Willis boulevard.

The deed to the triangular bit of land, vacated by M. L. Holbrook and wife to the city was reported as still missing. Mr. Holbrook had agreed to make a duplicate deed as soon as he returned from California.

A deed was also placed in the hands of the deputy recorder showing a vacation from a Mr. Vanduyne to the city of a 30-foot strip of land.

A petition to improve Fessenden street from Myers street to Jersey was read, and a resolution adopted to have proper estimates and plans prepared.

The same procedure was taken with regard to a petition for the improvement of Burlington street from Jersey to Modoc streets. This will give a sidewalk from Jersey street to Braasch's addition.

The same may be said of a petition to improve Chicago street from Hayes street to the Portland Boulevard.

Bids for the improvement of Thompson, Lively and Catlin streets were in order. There was found to be one bid—that being from M. F. Loy. It was on a basis of 40c per yard for cuts, and 30c for fills. The total estimate for the completion of the three streets amounted to \$2584.92. There was some disposition to contract where there was but one bid—but the matter was referred to the street committee, with an injunction to hurry the matter as rapidly as possible.

Councilman Lindquist reported for the water committee that the matter of the desired extra fire hydrants on Bradford street for the benefit of the industries along the water-front had been looked up. It was proposed to locate a new hydrant on that street at Salem street, and another at Richmond; while an old one should be moved to Burlington street. This will place the total number of fire hydrants on the water-front at five. The report was adopted and the work ordered done with promptness.

The matter of the call for election was taken up, and the city attorney read a resolution he had prepared. As suggested by THE REVIEW last week he had also embodied in the document a call to vote on bonds for the construction of a city hall. It was decided that a call be made for \$10,000 for that purpose, ten-year bonds to be issued bearing six per cent interest. Councilman Thompson favored a bond issue of \$15,000 in 15-year

bonds. But \$10,000 was decided upon.

Judges for election were appointed as follows: J. H. Black, John Poff, F. W. Valentine, P. W. Hinman, C. R. Organ, L. B. Chipman. Clerks were appointed as follows: A. D. Leonard, W. H. Moxon, Lindley Walker and C. A. Cook.

The matter of revising the city charter was discussed to considerable extent. It was decided to appoint a committee to revise the document and present the same to the city for approval or rejection. Councilman Brice thought there should be twelve or fifteen persons on that committee, while others considered that the smaller the committee the more thorough would be the work. Councilman Shields thought the committee should be taken from the council—yet none of the council evinced a willingness to serve. Messrs. S. H. Greene, O. R. Downs and W. L. Thorndyke were appointed as that committee—and their appointment confirmed by the council.

Thomas Glover, fire chief, was authorized to care for the hose and fire equipments after a fire—or to see to it that some party was engaged to do the same.

The delay in the erection of the street lights was commented upon. Councilman Lindquist supposed they were all in place; but it was stated that the matter was being pushed as rapidly as the company could do the work.

Councilman Peterson reported upon the application of E. O. Magoon's license that he, together with Councilman Thompson, was ready to report favorably—but they had not conferred with Councilman Leggett, who was the third member of that committee.

Councilman Brice smiled drolly when he arose. "It would be foolish for me to say that I did not know what ordinance you referred to," he said. "What I wish to know is why ordinance 11 (the intended ordinance regarding the sale of liquor placed on the record book a year or more ago) is not legal?"

Discussion then followed regarding the matter. Messrs. Crook and Miner were willing to make affidavit they signed the document when they were in office; but Attorney Greene explained the matter as concisely as was possible. Councilman Shields wished to see the "original" ordinance—but after scrutinizing it intimated that there had been some "fixing" done with the document.

Attorney Greene said that while the ordinance as transcribed in the ordinance book bore signatures of the mayor and clerk, there was no title to the same—nor was there any date of its being passed. On the other hand the "original" ordinance was not signed in any way, nor dated.

It was found that there were a number of supposed ordinances in the same condition—a point which without doubt would invalidate them. In view of this a committee was appointed to revise the ordinances—notwithstanding that a committee was appointed for that purpose several months ago and had never been discharged. Attorney Greene was that committee. The new committee consists of Messrs. Greene, Peterson and Brice.

The only humor about the meeting was the retort made by Councilman Shields when he was asked by Attorney Greene if he (Shields) had pocketed an ordinance which had just been lost. Shields quickly replied, "What if I did? The ordinance is not signed—so it's no good!"

Adjourned to Wednesday, March 7.

Has Located Here.

"Cap" B. L. Snow, who comes from Kansas, has located in St. Johns as an attorney-at-law. "Cap" is a jovial being—and his credentials are of excellence. He has been in the legal line for many years, has practiced in all the courts of Kansas and Nebraska—even carrying cases to the supreme court—and has usually been very successful in his cases.

Mr. Snow is now located in rooms nine and ten, Holbrook's brick block—and will be pleased to meet the people.

Quickly Extinguished.

Tuesday morning Henry Bickner discovered smoke issuing from around the stovepipe of Harry Mansfield's rooms at the rear of the Bon Ton barbershop. He at once notified the occupants of the place, and with additional help from THE REVIEW office the flames in the attic were quickly subdued. Had the fire had a ten-minute head there would have been no more barber shop there—and, possibly, no print shop.

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IMPOSSIBLE NOW.

It is Now Too Late To Follow Out The Plan Outlined Last Week.

A brief article in THE REVIEW of last week regarding the voting on license question upon a separate ballot has provoked considerable comment of a favorable nature—and the plan as suggested seems to meet with universal satisfaction.

But the suggestion offered came too late for use this year. An investigation of the law shows that preliminary steps must be taken ninety days prior to the election—and that the plan must be endorsed by a district judge.

The fact is, there are no provisions made by the city charter for such an action. Hence it would be necessary that a petition be circulated and generously signed asking for such an addition to the election law of St. Johns—and this petition would have to be favorably passed upon by one of the judges before the action would become legal.

Therefore the suggestion comes too late for use now. There have been many who were favorably impressed with the plan, and who are now anxious to have it tried; but a close investigation of the law shows any test would at this time be illegal. Next year, if taken in time, there will be no reason against a trial of the plan; but this year all that can be done is to nominate the best men obtainable upon each ticket, and do the best possible to elect them.

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