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Devoted to the interests of the Peninsula, the Manufacturing Center of the Northwest

VOL. 3

ST. JOHNS, OREGON, FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 1907.

NO. 21

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Couch & Company

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COUCH WINS

And Carries a Majority of the Republican Ticket.

One of the liveliest elections and the biggest surprises that ever happened took place in St. Johns last Monday when the annual election of city officials was held. From 9 o'clock in the morning until 7 in the evening large crowds were in



K. C. COUCH.

the vicinity of the polling places, and were most orderly gatherings. Everybody worked hard—only to be surprised when the counting was finished.

The total vote was 625 and it is estimated that over 150 voters did not cast their ballots. The fight centered on the offices of mayor and recorder, but the various can-



W. H. KING.

didates for councilmen did not pass an opportunity to fatten their total. The Republican club had its forces well organized, as the result shows.

At the beginning of the count many Norton men conceded Couch's election by a close vote. Very few predicted the majority the count disclosed.

The surprise came on the vote for recorder. This office had been the storm center. The best posted on both sides were of the opinion that Thorndyke had won. In fact money was freely offered that the recorder would be re-elected and



L. E. WALKER.

only one or two bets were made. No one was prepared for the run-away race made by Esson. His majority of 60 votes surprised his most ardent admirers. But the scrap between the two was clear.

The Republican club lost three out of the ten men on their ticket: Thorndyke, recorder; Kaemlein, treasurer; and Hunter, councilman for First ward. The count showed a ragged vote and all three tickets were cut.

A large crowd remained at the polling places until the count was over. As far as the councilmen were concerned it seemed to be anybody's race until the last fifty votes were reached. There was little



W. W. RASER.

excitation. The surprises in several quarters was too much. Outside of an aggravated case of personal differences, which cut no figure on election day, the contest was a spirited one and the best of good nature prevailed among the various candidates.

The individual vote of the candidates will be found in another column.

\$5000

Damages Asked by J. S. Downey From Mayor and Recorder.

A bit of sarcasm indulged in by City Recorder Thorndyke last summer during the time the Hayes street improvement was being combatted by J. S. Downey, led the latter to file a suit in the state circuit court last Monday for \$5000 damages. P. W. Hinman, mayor, and W. L. Thorndyke, recorder of the city of St. Johns, are made defendants.

The cause of the suit is a warrant issued by the recorder for the payment of the costs in the injunction proceedings instituted by Downey. What the recorder intended as a jest is on record in the following language:

Treasurer of the City of St. Johns: Pay to the clerk of the State Circuit Court, or order, the sum of \$24.05 out of the general fund and charge the same to said fund, issued for settlement of Windy Downey's Hayes-street idiosyncrasy.

(Signed) P. W. Hinman, Mayor. W. L. Thorndyke, Auditor.

The above warrant, as may be seen, was issued to the clerk of the state circuit court, on an order that passed in the form of an ordinance to pay the costs of the litigation.

Although intended as a sarcastic reference to what at the time appeared to be a trivial matter the case promises to attain considerable prominence before it is ended.

COUNCIL

What Was Done at the Meeting Tues. ay Night.

The city council convened in regular session Tuesday evening last. The minutes of the last meeting were read, and after a minor correction were approved.

A communication from the charter commission was read stating that their work was finished and that the document would be turned over for approval by the council. On motion of Ald. Hewitt the matter was laid over for two weeks.

The street committee reported favorably on placing an arc light at the corner of Ivanhoe and John streets, as petitioned for by twenty-four property owners, and on motion of Ald. Hewitt the light was ordered placed in position.

Bills amounting to \$66.50 were allowed.

On motion of Ald. Dobie the city attorney was instructed to present a written opinion in regard to the city hall, so far as the city's interests are concerned, and, with the co-operation of the building committee, devise some plan to push the building to completion.

The city engineer was instructed to inspect the East Burlington street sidewalk and ascertain whether the same is on the proper grade, and report to the council at the next regular meeting.

JOE VILLA

Commits Suicide in a Box Car After a Long Debauch

Joe Villa, a blacksmith who conducted a shop on Ivanhoe street, committed suicide in a box car in Portland last Sunday afternoon by cutting his throat with a knife.

He was found by a policeman who noticed a stream of blood dripping from a car in the railroad yards. Looking into the car he saw Villa lying on the floor. On being asked what was the matter Villa replied: "I have cut my throat."

The patrol wagon was summoned, but before it reached the yards Villa was dead. Deceased was a hard drinker and had been on a prolonged spree. He bought the Ivanhoe street shop several weeks ago on credit, and it is supposed financial troubles led him to take his life.

The body was fairly well dressed. Deceased leaves a wife in Brownsville, Ore., and has a brother-in-law working in Portland. Coroner Finley took charge of the remains. An inquest was considered unnecessary.

The Largest Sales.

On last Monday The Wagoner Co., formerly St. Johns Grocery Co., sold more goods in the one day than they sold a year ago in four. Six clerks waited on an ever increasing trade.

M. L. HOLBROOK

C. E. BAILEY

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