JAPANESE POETRY.

Writing Verse Is a Part of the Polite Life of the Nation.

"There are no long poems in Japanese," says a writer. "A long poem is unthinkable to the people of Japan. They have what sometimes pass for long excursions in verse, but these are really nothing more than short poems strung together, lacking all unity save that of subject. The favorite forms are the hokku, consisting of three lines, the first having five, the second having seven and the third having five syllables, seventeen in all; the tanka, consisting of five lines of five, seven, five, seven and seven syllables, thirty-one in all, and the dodoitsu, consisting of four lines of seven, seven, seven and five syllables, or twenty-six in all. The tanka is the classical form, affected by the standard poets of the country, while the other forms are used by every Japanese who writes at all and by many who cannot. The hokku is the greatest favorite.

"The hokku is composed impromptu upon every occasion, the writer putting into verse the thought appropriate to the moment, the incident or the associations suggested, much as the Greeks wrote their epigrams before the epigram became a little satiric sting. Hokkus are inspired by grave moments as well as by the gay ones. An old statesman on his deathbed sees a dead leaf whirled past his window, and it suggests his own faring forth on the wings of eternity, and he writes, 'A leaf whirls down—a leaf whirls down in the wind.' Nothing more, but the simple repetition pours out volumes with beauty and power.

"These little poems are so much a part of Japanese life that every cultivated person writes them, and all who go to 'view' the flowers, the blossoming of the cherry trees or the reddening maples in Uyeno or other parks, write some pretty conceit in a hokku and hang it upon the chrysanthemum or lotus stalks or on the trees. The hokku may, therefore, be justly called the song of Japan, as we say a certain ecstasy in a few notes is the song of the thrush."

An Animal Born Only to Die.

The instances of natural death in the animal world are conspicuous in comparison with those in the vegetable world for their greater variety and complexity. There seems no doubt that this manner of death established itself independently in the different groups of animals. Years ago an American naturalist, Dana, discovered on the surface of the sea a little animal of so singular a character that he named it "monstrilla." It is a small crustacean akin to the cyclops so common in ponds. But, while the latter are furnished with all that is necessary to capture and digest their food, the monstrilla has neither apparatus for seizing prey nor digestive tube. It is richly provided with muscles, nervous system, organs of sense and sexual organs. It only lacks what is necessary to prolong life by alimentation. The monstrilla is doomed therefore to natural death.—Professor Elie Metchnikoff in Harper's.

The Letter of the Law.

The Hon. John Steel was a sheriff in Missouri. A new county judge was elected, and Steel, thinking to pay the judge a delicate compliment, selected for his first panel of jurors every fat man in the county. The judge weighed nearly 300 pounds. The day was hot, and Steel, when he took the jurors out to dinner, fed them so heartily that they all went to sleep during the afternoon. The judge was furious.

"What do you mean," he roared at the sheriff, "by bringing those sleepyheads into court as a jury? They haven't heard any of this afternoon's evidence. I discharge the panel. Go out now and get a panel of men who will stay awake. I want men with a single eye to justice, not dolts like these!"

Steel went out and rode the county that night. When the judge appeared next morning Steel had a panel of one eyed men for him.—Saturday Evening Post.

Why He Planted.

The poor man who seeks to help, even in the smallest way, but with a right spirit, his fellowmen is of infinitely greater worth to the race than the man of millions whose chief aim and end are his own pleasure. A poor and aged man was seen planting an apple tree and was somewhat rudely accosted by a stranger who said, "Why do you plant trees when you cannot possibly live long enough to eat the fruit of them?" The poor man raised himself and, leaning on his shovel, said: "Some one planted trees before I was born, and I have eaten the fruit. I now plant for others that the memorial of my gratitude may exist when I am dead and gone."

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO.....

An Ordinance Granting to the Home Telephone and Telegraph Company of Portland, Oregon, its Successors and Assigns, the Right to Lay and Maintain Underground Conduits and Wires and to Construct Necessary Manholes, Make House Connections and to Erect Poles and Thereon to Fasten Wires on the Streets and Alleys, and to Operate a Telephone and Telegraph System in the City of St. Johns, State of Oregon.

The City of St. Johns does ordain as follows:

Section 1. That the Home Telephone and Telegraph Company of Portland, Oregon, its successors and assigns, be and is hereby granted for a period of twenty-five (25) years from the date of the passage and approval of this ordinance the right, privilege and franchise to erect poles with the necessary supports, cross arms and fixtures, and to string wires and cables thereon, and to construct underground conduits, together with the necessary manholes and other appliances, and to lay, place and stretch wires and cables therein and along, over, upon, under and across the streets, alleys, avenues and public places of the City of St. Johns, State of Oregon, for the transmission of sound, signals, conversation and intelligence, through and over said wires and cables by means of electricity, and to construct, establish, equip, install, maintain and operate a telephone system, and to conduct a general telephone and telegraph business at said City of St. Johns.

Section 2. That all conduits shall be constructed in conformity with such reasonable regulations as the City Council may by ordinance prescribe for conduits of similar character and all excavations for constructing, repairing and changing such conduits shall be done in compliance with the ordinance of said City which may be in force at the time of the performance of the work, and in such manner as not to unnecessarily interfere with the free use of the streets and alleys by the public, save and except such temporary interference as may be necessary incident to the prosecution of the work.

Section 3. That the said Council or other properly constituted authority thereof shall have the power and authority to supervise, direct and inspect the manner of erecting said poles and constructing said conduits, and of placing said wires and carrying out the provisions of this ordinance.

Section 4. Said grantee hereby agrees and covenants to indemnify and save harmless the City of St. Johns against all damages, costs and expenses whatsoever to which the city may be subjected in consequence of the acts or neglects of said grantee, its agents or servants, in any manner arising from the rights and privileges granted herein.

Section 5. The said grantee, in consideration of the franchise, rights and privileges granted by this ordinance, and as compensation therefor, shall, within thirty (30) days from the commencement of the operation of said telephone exchange, furnish to the City of St. Johns five (5) main line telephones and connect the same with the system of said grantee, and thereafter maintain and keep the same in good repair and working order during the term of said franchise, without expense or charge to the City of St. Johns, and shall allow the City of St. Johns the free and exclusive use of the two pins of the top cross arm on each of the poles erected or maintained under this franchise for police and fire alarm purposes and said City of St. Johns shall further have conduit accommodations in the trenches of said grantee for the placing of said police and fire alarm wires, but which said wires shall not be of such voltage as to interfere with or damage the wires of said grantee, and the conduits to accommodate said fire and police wires shall be placed in the trenches at the time of the construction of the conduit system of said grantee, which privilege in the use of said poles and conduits shall extend during the term of this franchise, and as further compensation, said grantee shall pay to the City of St. Johns the sum of Five Thousand ($5000) dollars as follows:

Two hundred ($200) dollars on the first day of January, 1908, and Two Hundred ($200) dollars on the first day of January of each and every year thereafter during the life of this franchise except last payment, which shall be Four Hundred ($400) dollars, and said franchise may be forfeited by failure to make the payments as herein provided for.

Section 6. The work of constructing said telephone plant, system and exchange shall be commenced in good faith in not more than six months from the date of acceptance of said franchise and shall be continuously prosecuted thereunder in good faith and shall be completed within not more than eighteen (18) months thereafter.

Section 7. Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed in any way to prevent the proper authorities of St. Johns from sewering, grading, planking, repairing or altering any of the streets thereof as may be determined from time to time by the properly constituted officers of said City.

Section 8. Nothing in this ordinance shall prevent the City of St. Johns from granting to other persons or corporation like privileges as herein set forth.

Section 9. The said grantee shall restore all streets and public highways in said city which shall be disturbed in the installation of said telephone system in said city, as soon as practicable and without unnecessary delay.

Section 10. That nothing in this ordinance shall be construed as probibiting the City of St. Johns or the Council thereof from at any time hereafter exercising its police power to require the main line wires of the grantee to be placed in conduits in the business portion of said City, provided, that such police power shall not be exercised except by ordinance, applicable alike to all telephone and telegraph wires and poles, and, provided further, that in the residence portion of said City of St. Johns, all poles shall be, as far as practicable, set in alleys, where such alleys exist.

Section 11. Whenever it shall be necessary in grading any street or alley in said city or in building any sidewalk or in making any other improvements thereon, to remove any pole or poles belonging to said grantee, on which any line or lines, wire or wires belonging to said grantee shall be stretched or fastened, the said grantee shall, upon receipt of twenty-four (24) hours' notice from the Board of Public works or such other board or official as the Council or law may designate, remove such pole or poles and if said grantee, upon such notice, shall neglect or refuse to remove such pole or poles, then such pole or poles shall be removed by the Board of Public Works or such other board or official as the Council or law may designate, at the expense of said grantee.

Section 12. Said grantee, its successors and assigns, shall equip and thereafter maintain a central station in the said City of St. Johns. All poles erected shall be, so far as practicable, of the same size and height, shall be painted and the same shall be erected and maintained at the edge of the side walks unless otherwise directed by the City Engineer or such other officer as the Council or law may direct or designate.

Section 13. Whenever any person or company shall have obtained permission of the properly constituted authorities of the City of St. Johns, to remove any building through any streets or streets, the grantee, if it has a line on said streets, on due notice from such person or company, shall raise, remove or adjust its lines so as to allow an unobstructed passage of such building; and if said grantee shall, after such notice, neglect so to do, the properly constituted authorities of the City of St. Johns shall, at the expense of said grantee, remove said lines as far as they are an obstruction to the passage of said building.

Section 14. For the purpose of effectually securing efficient service and continued maintenance of the property, plant, system and exchange constructed and operated under this franchise, the grantee shall keep and maintain its poles, conduits, plant, system and exchange in good order and repair, and shall render efficient service throughout the entire term of this grant. If the grantee, its successors and assigns, shall fail to keep in good repair its poles, conduits, plant, system and exchange as aforesaid, or shall, during the period of this franchise, fail to render efficient telephone service, the Council of said City may by ordinance declare this grant and all the rights and privileges herein conferred forfeited, but no such forfeiture hereof shall be made if, within a reasonable time after written notice from the said Council of the City, the said grantee shall place said plant, system, exchange and property in good order and repair and shall render efficient service thereby and thereafter.

Section 15. The said grantee shall, within thirty (30) days after this ordinance shall be passed and approved, file in the office of the City Recorder of the City a written acceptance of this ordinance and franchise herein granted, and the failure upon the part of the grantee herein to file such written acceptance within the time herein specified shall be deemed an abandonment and rejection of the franchise, rights and privileges herein conferred, and this ordinance shall forever be null and void, and such acceptance by grantee shall be unqualified and shall be an acceptance of all the terms, conditions and restrictions contained in this ordinance. And said grantee within thirty (30) days after this ordinance shall be in force, shall file with the Recorder of the said City of St. Johns a good and sufficient bond in the sum of Two Thousand ($2000) dollars, to be approved by the Mayor and conditioned that each and every street, alley, highway or any portion thereof, that may be disturbed or torn up by said grantee under the provisions of this ordinance, shall be replaced and put in as good order and condition as the same was before it was disturbed, and thereafter maintained for a period of one year, and further conditioned that said grantee, its successors and assigns, shall faithfully keep and perform each and every condition imposed upon it by this ordinance.

Section 16. This ordinance shall take effect from and after its passage and approval according to law.

Passed by the Common Council of the City of St. Johns this.....

day of .....190..

Approved:

.....
Mayor.

Attest:

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Recorder.

Published in the St. Johns Review April 19 and 26, 1907.

CHURCH NOTICES.

Baptist church—E. A. Leonard, pastor. Sunday school at 10 a. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. B. Y. P. U. 7 p. m. Preaching at 8 p. m. All are cordially invited to attend these services.

Methodist church—F. L. Young pastor. Sunday school 10 a. m.; preaching at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. Epworth League at 7 p. m.

Holy Cross Catholic church, Portsmouth Station 8:15 a. m., low mass; 10:15 a. m., high mass; 7:30 p. m., vespers and benediction.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Chapel, University Park—Rev. Wm. R. Powell, chaplain. Regular services 7:30 p. m. Sunday school 3 p. m. Bible class 7 p. m.; Lenton service every Friday at 10 a. m.

Evangelical church — Sunday school 10 a. m. Preaching 11 a. m. Junior K. L. C. E. 2:30 p. m.; Senior K. L. C. E. 6:30 p. m. Also preaching at 7:30 p. m. Chester P. Gates, Pastor.

Subjects for Sunday, April 21, 11 a. m. "The Spirit Filled Life;" 7:30 p. m., "The Religion for Today."

First Congregational Church—F. J. Warren, pastor. Sunday school 10 a. m.; preaching 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.

Baptist Church, University Park. Rev. A. B. Waltz, pastor. Regular services every Sunday morning and evening.

German Baptist Church—Services held each Sunday at Baptist church as follows: Sunday school 2 p. m., preaching at 3 p. m. Rev. Faltmeat, pastor.

Subscription Notice.

The subscription price of THE REVIEW outside of Multnomah county is $1.50 per year in advance. All papers will be discontinued at the expiration of the time paid for.

Everybody should use stationery containing the map of St. Johns. It will show your friends where you live.