

# ST. JOHNS REVIEW

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Devoted to the interests of the Peninsula, the Manufacturing Center of the Northwest  
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## ST. JOHNS GETTING BUSY

### Brick Buildings for Bickner, St. Johns Bank and A. D. McDonald in Course of Erection.

There will be things doing in St. Johns from now on for awhile at least. The first of this week Messrs. Crook & Walton began the erection of a brick building for Bickner Bros. next door to this office. It is to be 64x75 feet. There is one thing unfortunate about the building, however, looking from our standpoint, and that is, it is to be but one story. Perhaps Messrs. Bickner Bros. understand the situation better than we do, however. We believe if they had made it at least two stories, they would have had occupants for the upper story as soon as completed. The building is to be first class in every respect, to be constructed of brick with concrete block front.

In the next block Frederick Leach commenced last Saturday the erection of a two-story brick building, the lower story of which will be occupied by the St. Johns Bank. This building will contain a fine fire and burglar proof vault in which will be placed some 200 or 300 private boxes for the deposit of valuables of the bank's patrons. The upper story will be fitted up for office rooms. This will be a neat addition to the business houses of St. Johns. The St. Johns Bank has obtained a ten years' lease of the building.

Messrs. Black & Kerr, contractors have begun the work of remodeling the building of C. C. Woodhouse at the corner of Philadelphia and Ivanhoe streets. The old shingle roof is to be taken off, the walls built up and a fireproof roof put on. The upper rooms will be fitted up for a "den" as Mr. Woodhouse called it, and we hope it is for himself. He's too good a fellow to be hid away in a little out of the way place like Republic, Wash., and should come to St. Johns.

Workmen are busily engaged in changing the old West Coast laundry building into a rooming house which is to be occupied by Mrs. Scott, as soon as it is ready for use. This will be a fine location for this business. In a quiet neighborhood back of the St. Johns hotel facing Leavitt on the corner of Leavitt and Ivanhoe, convenient to the business center of town, will be put in the best of shape and should be a very popular resort for those who wish for simply furnished rooms.

Facing on Jersey street between Tacoma and Baltimore A. D. McDonald is erecting one of the finest business houses in the city. The main building is 30x80 feet, built of brick with cement brick front. It is built two stories high with the joists for the third story placed so that when the growth of the city demands, all Mr. McDonald will have to do will be to raise the roof. The upper story will be used as a lodge room and it is likely that during some of their "high jinks" performances the roof may be raised sooner.

Back of the main building Mr. McDonald is erecting an addition 50x90 feet, two stories, which is of wood and corrugated iron for store rooms for his material. There is also a basement eight feet high under the main building extending the full width and 70 feet back. The main building is finished with an expanded steel and concrete wall on the south side, rendering it fire proof and at the same time when Mr. McDonald wishes, he can erect another building the same size as the present structure on the south side, using this wall for a partition.

The lower story, basement and addition of this building, will be used to house the St. Johns Sash and Door company's stock. There is an immense pile of this material which has heretofore been kept piled in sheds in a very unsatisfactory manner to the company and this building is the result. They keep everything a contractor could wish for in the finishing of a building, moldings, dados, cornices, ornaments, balusters, porch posts, in fact everything that goes to make a house look well and be comfortable including, of course, sash, doors, screens, etc. The company will be enabled to double their present business when they get into their new home, and double the amount of business will come to them when they have everything convenient for the patrons to inspect.

## INSTALLATION OF IRON FOUNDRY

### J. M. Leach Promotes Enterprise for Manufacture of Iron Work of Every Conceivable Description.

Not the smallest industry in St. Johns, by a big "jugful," is the new foundry being erected alongside the car track just this side of the car line bridge across the Hill road. This is being installed and operated by J. M. Leach of Leach Bros., Portland. Their old shops in the big city will later be moved to this new location. They have a building 50x100 feet already up, used as a molding shop, where a force is hard at work every day and cannot keep up with their orders. They make all kinds of bridge castings, logging tools, sash weights, etc. They have installed at present a three-ton blast furnace, and in the spring will erect a seven-ton furnace beside it.

To the rear of this building in course of construction is a machine shop which will be fitted up with all the modern machinery, such as lathes, drills, planing machines, etc., which go to make a first class machine shop, and in addition an immense 12-ton steam hammer with which will be drop-forged steel tools and appliances for loggers, such as dogs, hooks, block castings, peavies, etc., which will be manufactured from the wrought iron bars of their own manufacture.

South of the molding shop will be erected in the spring the stove works building, a structure 50x100 feet, two stories high. In this building will be manufactured all kinds of stoves, such as box stoves, air tight sheet iron heaters, hop-drier stoves, etc. This last named stove is a new invention of the firm. The stoves now in use generally cost the hop men about \$40 and they last but one year, or at best two, when they have to be discarded and new stoves bought. This new stove will be covered with asbestos, thereby saving a great deal of heat, and will be guaranteed to last from five to seven years, and when it is burned out, the walls can be removed and renewed at a cost of not to exceed \$15. It will be seen that this means a saving of from \$185 to \$265 every five or seven years. Besides this saving the new stove will be much more convenient and safer than the old ones now in use.

The motive power now used is only temporary, and is a common engine. The power to be used when the heavier plant is installed next spring will be electric motors, which will greatly facilitate the business and be better in every way. Then too, the firm will engage in the manufacture of engines and engine parts, in fact do anything that is done in any of the modern shops and will be the largest factory for the production of logging tools on the coast.

It is worth one's while to see the process of making these castings. First the molders begin at the east end of the molding room and working on a long pile of molding sand toward the west end of the shop make a long line of molds of different kinds, which, when the metal in the blast furnace or smelter, is just right the workmen carry in ladles and pour into the molds until they are filled. This is called pouring off by the fraternity. These molds are made in mold boxes or cases with handles at each end to facilitate handling. There may be one or fifty or more molds in one case, owing to the size of the casting to be made. The pattern is first placed in the bottom casing and then the molder packs the sand, sifting the first layer carefully over the pattern so as to make an even, smooth, finer surface next to the metal. Then other sand is shoveled on top and tamped in tightly with the tamping bar and smoothed off even with the edge of the casing. Then a bottom board is placed on top of the casing and the whole thing turned over. The patterns are then removed carefully and any irregularity in the mold is carefully remedied by the molder, who has a number of fine tools with which he does this work. The sand itself is a peculiar material and very fine. It is moistened to just such a degree that it will cling together well, and when the mold is made, and before the pattern is removed the upper casing is filled with sand and tamped down on the pattern board, two pieces of wood being placed in the casing so as to make a hole in this top part of the mold for pouring in the molten metal. When this is properly prepared, it is tilted on one edge, the pattern removed and this top placed carefully over the pattern, thus finishing the mold.

It is a lively time, too, when the pouring off is being done. The ladles are big iron pots with long handles, a single bar at one end and at the other the bar is divided into two handles about two and a half feet apart, so as to give the man at that end leverage to turn the ladle. This handle or carrier is placed on trestles in front of the vent to the smelter and an employe takes a rod of iron like a long poker and punches a hole through the "puddle" into the molten metal which flows out, free as water, an incandescent stream into the ladle below. When one ladle is filled another is placed over it so as to cut off the stream and the bottom one is taken away, the top one taking its place and so on until all the ladles are filled, when another employe takes a "puddling stick" and shuts off the flow with a wad of mud. This molten metal is then carried to the molds, and the process of pouring begins. Here, too, is where heavy losses in the work may occur. In some classes of work, such as pulleys, shieves, etc., where the piece is to be fitted to a shaft, there is a core made composed of sand and flour. These have to be baked until they are absolutely dry. Should they not be so, gas accumulates and "blows" the casting scattering the molten metal in showers, sparkling, spitting, sizzling in every direction. Sometimes the workmen are pretty badly burned by these blowouts, but the greater danger is that by one of the little burns a man may lose his head and drop the ladle, in which case one standing near may be dangerously burned by the flying metal. When one of these blowouts occur, the piece of casting is, of course, ruined, and there is not only the loss of the casting itself which must be remelted, but the core, which perhaps cost more than the balance of the casting to make, is an entire loss, for there is nothing of the core left that can be used again. It is a sight worth going to see if one were sure he would not get in the way and get burned, for the sparks fly like fire crackers on the Fourth of July, and it is hotter about the smelter than the back kitchen on baking days. The big brawny-armed iron workers, with low-cut shirts and high-cut sleeves just like a society belle (?) are covered with perspiration from start to finish, and you can bet your last peso that the iron worker is a warm member when he gets through.

After the castings have been made and allowed to cool, they are finished by filing, turning on the lathe, cutting with the planer, or in some cases simply by putting them in a cylinder called the polisher, with abrasives and this cylinder is turned by steam power, which by rolling the castings and other contents in the cylinder the rough places and outer surfaces of the castings are made very smooth.

## THE CITY DADS IN SESSION

### Council Meets Tuesday Evening and Transacts Its Usual Budget of Municipal Business

The gathering of the fathers of the city was prompt and all were present except Aldermen Linquist and Francis, absent on leave. After the usual opening preliminaries a petition from E. O. Magoon requesting permission to remove the O. I. C. wholesale liquor house from its present location to the French block, but the council thought it best not to grant it.

Captain Bredeson asked for leave of absence for one week with pay which was granted. Recorder Esson requested permission to absent himself from his office from 3 p. m. Saturday evening next to 11 a. m. the following Monday morning, which was also granted. The mayor remarked that he would like to go bear hunting for a week, but as the boys were thinning out this week he would have to defer the pleasure.

The petition for the improvement of Hartman street was presented with 15 signers, but action was deferred until the street committee could make a canvass of the situation and will be brought up next week.

A communication was read from Alderman Francis requesting the extension of his leave of absence another 30 days, but it appearing that he had removed from St. Johns, the charter makes his office vacant, and much as the council and the mayor regretted to do so there was no alternative but to so declare and elect another to fill the unexpired term.

Alderman Leggett nominated W. H. Brice, and Councilman Dobie placed Moses Tufts in nomination for the same office. As no election could be made until after one week's vacancy the election will not take place until next meeting.

The following bills were allowed and ordered paid: Portland Woolen Mills, four pairs of blankets for the jail, \$13.75; Marshall Bros. cement work in basement and vaults, \$235; Thorndyke & Bredeson, stove and pipe for jail, \$8; St. Johns Lumber Co., load of block wool, \$4; total \$260.75, to be paid from the general fund.

The improvement asked for on Baltimore street was left over until next week to give the street committee opportunity to investigate further.

The repairing and graveling of Bradford street, Pittsburg to the ferry, Salem and other streets was discussed at length. The entire board were in favor of graveling these streets. Alderman King urged the council to improve the streets to the boat landing at once from the general fund, that to wait until the regular course could be used would make it too late to have the work done, before the streets would become impassable. The cheapest gravel that could be obtained so far as was known was \$2 per yard, which they deemed too high priced. After Mr. King had urged this work being done, the matter of improving that part of Tacoma street occupied by Mansfield's duck pond was mentioned, but Alderman King said he could not agree to the improvement of that street with gravel at the present price, and being possessed of the requisite amount of property abutting upon that street, that settled it, but it caused the council to wear a bland smile, and Mansfield still holds the fort opposite the duck pond.

On motion of King the band boys were granted permission to use the city hall Monday and Friday nights for practice when the hall was not needed by the council for special meetings, upon the provision that they would at all times leave the room in as good shape as when they entered it, and were careful of the furniture and fixtures.

On motion of King the city attorney was instructed to prepare an ordinance prohibiting minors from frequenting the saloons within the city and providing that a copy of the ordinance should be placed in each saloon.

The matter of the improvement of Edison street with that of the other streets mentioned was left in the hands of the street committee to secure estimates of cost of gravel, improvement, etc., to report at the next meeting.

The council, on motion of King instructed the city attorney to prepare an ordinance declaring the amount of forfeiture the city claimed against the Youngferdorf contractors because of their failure to complete their contract on the city hall.

An ordinance amending ordinance No. 114 of the city charter and fixing the bond of the city engineer at \$2000 was railroaded through to final passage and passed unanimously.

The matter of the filthy puddle in front of the Peninsula bank was taken up by the council and the street committee was instructed to confer with the water works people and see what provisions could be made to have sewer connections with a drain from the faucet at that corner, which would remedy the matter.

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### Returns from Idaho.

J. V. Scott, one of our boys returned this week from a three-months' trip in Eastern Oregon and Idaho near Lewiston and Boise City. Mr. Scott did a stunt a-la-Roosevelt rounding up cattle for Mr. Wyatt the cattle king of that section, who has cattle on a thousand hills. He was so persuasive in his glowing descriptions of St. Johns that Mr. Wyatt made up his mind to visit St. Johns as soon as he concluded the round up. Mr. Scott says the wheat crop is immense in that section; that in one instance he noticed 160 acres of wheat averaged about 80 bushels and that the general average was from 50 to 60 bushels per acre there. He spent part of his time hunting and fishing. The game was grouse and pheasants and two or three coyotes, all larger game being barred at the time he was there. The fishing was for trout and white fish which he says were quite plentiful.

He says too, that while the country was very rough and in some places a regular desert, that he had the best outing of his life and enjoyed himself thoroughly while there. One would not think there was any money in such an unfavorable location, but he said nearly all the stockmen were rich, and that grain and stock growing were the branches of agriculture followed largely there, and that it is a good mining country also in some parts he visited.

Cards are out announcing the marriage of Miss Minnie McClave and Andrew Plattner at Denver, Colorado, Tuesday, September 17th. Many of our people will remember Mrs. Plattner, who used to make her home in St. Johns and will wish her every thing good in her new relation.

### Salisbury-Hildebrand.

A quiet home wedding, but which was declared to be a pretty affair (and it could be no other where our genial watch carpenter is concerned, not even a ball game) occurred at the home of the groom's parents at East Eighth and Alberta streets, Portland, when C. M. Salisbury and Miss Mary F. Hildebrand of St. Johns, were married, at 6 o'clock Sunday evening, Rev. C. P. Gates of the Evangelical church officiating. There were none but the near relatives of the contracting parties present, but we have been told the bride looked sweet as peaches and cream in her pretty wedding gown and our popular jeweler always looks good. The happy pair have our heartiest congratulations, along with that of their many friends here in St. Johns. We understand they will make their home in Portland.

### Powers-Byrd.

All the powers combined to have a bird of a time at the residence of F. G. Powers in St. Johns Wednesday of last week, when F. M. Powers and Miss Rachel Byrd were united in marriage by Rev. F. L. Young of the M. E. church. There were a number of the friends of the bride and groom present and after the ceremony at 7 o'clock p. m. a delicious lunch was served. The happy pair went to Salem, where they will make their home for the present, Mr. Powers being employed as engineer on the new railroad being built between Salem and Portland. Best wishes for their happiness is extended by their many friends here.

The finest of calling cards at The Review office.

### Stuck On Astoria.

A postal from Mrs. Thorndyke bearing a view of Astoria looking out to sea, but showing a part of the prettiest portion of that pretty seaside city was received Monday morning. The card also conveys the news that the Thorndykes have located in a fine residence on the bluff overlooking the Columbia and that they like the city very much. Mrs. T. says it is alive and a dandy. Now, we are getting jealous already. We thought 'it may be years, and may be forever' before Astoria could win them from their first love, but such is the fickleness of the human heart, particularly the feminine part of it. It is a wail, "the king is dead," and before the echo returns, the glad shout welcoming the new king, "long live the king," rings out drowning the echo. Vale, Mrs. Thorndyke.

### A Corn Roast.

A merry party of about twenty-four of our young people enjoyed a good, old-fashioned corn roast on the banks of the Willamette west of the woolen mills Monday evening. A huge bonfire was built, and everybody gathered around the fire with a sharp stick on which was impaled an ear of corn. Amusing games were played, stories told and a general good time was had. Sandwiches were served and fruit juice made to wash down the burned particles of corn that lingered around their mouths. The beautiful moonlight was a great factor in making the affair an enjoyable one.

George Campling left Friday last for Carlton where he has a job of athing to wrestle with.

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