

A LITTLE OFF.

The Peoples Press, a publication issued on the East Side in Portland, and without exception, the best edited and brightest local newspaper about Portland tries to rub it into the Review just a little in regard to annexation.

Of course we do not blame the Press for wishing to get St. Johns into Portland, for like all other citizens of the big corporation it recognizes in St. Johns the most profitable of all the suburbs of Portland, and one before which there is the brightest future and the greatest possibilities, but it was rather ungrateful for it to accuse the Review by implication that our opposition to annexation was from mercenary motives only and "a newspaper has to do wrong to protect itself." That is not within a mile of the fact. When we have to do wrong to protect our interests in the Review, we will quit it. If the money we receive from the city is the only bone of contention, we will give that work to the Peoples Press, if it will keep St. Johns out of Portland until the conditions are more favorable, it would be suicidal to the best interests of St. Johns to go into the big city. It is not the policy of Portland or any other big city to develop its suburbs to the detriment of its own advancement. Portland is just now debating and without doubt will develop a great basin below the bridges and west of Swan Island. In what is called Guilds lake. It is the only salvation for Portland commercially and will be done. How much development will Portland permit on the water front of St. Johns until this great basin becomes too small to accommodate the commerce of this port? You can put it in your eye. The water front is one of St. Johns' greatest assets. Without the fullest development of her possibilities there St. Johns will never be what she is capable of being.

The trouble with St. Johns is just the same as will be met with in any town of the same size in the state or for that matter the nation—there are too many factions. The worst feature of the case is that the people know this as well as any one but they do not seem able to eliminate them and get together on any subject of public interest. The more they listen to such Job's comforters as the Peoples Press who has an ax to grind, the harder will be the task to harmonize their interests.

We are free to admit that the throwing off of some of the former leaders who have become persons non grata with the majority of the voters, is the prime factor in the annexation agitation, for the reason that because they cannot rule they would ruin by forcing St. Johns into Portland. We emphatically deny that St. Johns has been an entity long enough. No time in her history were the prospects brighter than they are now or the possibilities greater than today if the leaders would but quit their scuffling like a bunch of football kids, and laying aside all malice, pull together for the common good. Unless this is done and soon, the mass of voters will become so disgusted that they will vote St. Johns into Portland and retard the development of our little city 25 years.

St. Johns is awake alright brother as has been demonstrated by the wonderful development that has been in progress the past three or four years. The Peninsula watermain would do St. Johns no good without a water supply and this Portland cannot give. Therefore we would not be benefited by the main, besides we would not get an inch of the main unless we paid for it as we pay for our street improvements, and doing it that way we may put in our own water system and not have to take our chances on getting a drink after all Portland has had her fill. We have a fire department equal to any on the peninsula, and when our citizens see the need of it as they will soon, all other equipment will be added as required.

As to taxes, the city taxes this year are 1-10 of a mill lower than is that of Portland and the prospects today are that the city taxes of Portland will be much higher than this next year and more than likely the difference will be much more in favor of St. Johns. We will never gain anything in the matter of car service by going into Portland. We now have better car service than any other suburb of Portland and our standing is such with the company that we get anything we ask for within reason.

The only thing that we would gain that would be a benefit to us our bright contemporary has overlooked, and that is free mail delivery. We would in all probability get that and it is the only blessed thing that we would get for our freedom. We would forever be at the beck and call of Portland and worse police service than we have. Anyone who has been reading the dailies for the past year will laugh when they think of the inefficient police service of Portland giving us anything better than we now have.

No, Brother Press, you will have to come again.

The Oregon City papers are boasting because she has doubled her population during the past 8 years. That is not bad, but St. Johns has doubled the past SIX years and if the people will but have the good judgment, and we think they will, to stay out of Portland and boost for their own interest, they will double it again three times within the next six years.

OUR NEIGHBOR'S VIEW OF IT.

A movement has been started on the Peninsula, originating in North Albina, to arrange matters so that the peninsula section will have a paper all its own. The suggestion has been made to the St. Johns Review, that as it is established in that section it change its title to the Peninsula Review, and take up the work of boosting the Peninsula. At present writing the editor of the Review seems to think well of the scheme, and if he is pledged the support of the communities wherein his paper is supposed to circulate he will adopt the suggestion.

There is news enough in the Peninsula for a live paper, and there will be more news in the future. No better field for a paper could be found and financial success is practically sure to attend the scheme if it is put into effect. People on the Peninsula are most liberal in their support of any scheme to boost the district—as was shown by the excellent showing that section made during the Rose Carnival—and a paper devoted to the interests of this community would doubtless be liberally supported.

Incidentally it would be the best kind of advertising for the district for it would give it a medium through which its advantages could be constantly kept before the people, not only locally, but throughout the entire state and country. So successfully has this scheme been received that there will be called in the immediate future a meeting of all citizens interested in the Peninsula affairs, not only to meet with the St. Johns Review people and talk the matter over, but also to form a permanent organization along the lines formed during the Rose Carnival for boosting the district. The old Realty Board will probably be the foundation on which this new organization will be formed, and its success will mean much to the Peninsula—Peoples Press.

THIS YEAR'S GRAIN.

A postal card came to our office bearing some interesting figures and reading them will cause the thoughtful man to stop and cogitate for a minute to say nothing more. The figures read like this:

Corn, 2,716,000,000 bushels; an increase of 124,000,000 bushels over last year. Oats, 911,347,000 bushels, increase, 157,000,000; Wheat, 675,651,000 bushels increase 40,000,000 bushels; Barley, 173,524,000 bushels, increase, 29,000,000 bushels; Rye, 32,440,000 bushels, increase 1,000,000 bushel. Total estimated value, \$3,000,000,000 increase \$600,000,000. The card then reiterates a big crow coming from the Oregonian because of the tremendous production of the country. Now we are not a calamity howler, and have unbounded faith in our country but we would like to call attention to the fact that the great grain districts of 50 years ago now cannot grow profitable grain crops. This is particularly true as to wheat and people are burning the candle at both ends and the time will come unless this fault is remedied, that the showing will be the reverse of that given on this card and no amount of astuteness on the part of the professional politician will be able to overcome the disastrous results. The agricultural colleges understand this and are laboring hard to remedy the vital defect in our agricultural system, but there are not enough who heed the warning of these educators and the work of robbing the soil goes on. It is a shallow thinker who crowds over the wonderful production of our glorious country in the face of the destructive methods in use by 75 per cent of the agriculturists.

AMONG OUR EXCHANGES.

C. D. Nickelson has deserted the tripod of the Hood River News Letter to engage in the moving picture business. Chris should make a good apeller for the show.

A. C. Lender, formerly foreman in the Hood River News Letter office is now delirious that publication. Bert slings a "nasty quill" in politics and if he proves as good on "society" items, he will make a hummer of the News Letter.

No. 3, Vol. 1, of the Estacada Progress successor to the News, has reached our table. It is a neatly printed and well edited paper and will devote its energies to exploiting the many attractions of that beautiful section of Oregon.

Messrs. Estes & Kelley, who recently acquired the ownership of the White Salmon Enterprise are making a wonderful improvement in the appearance of that sheet. They have dropped our Toddy's abbreviated spelling, do better press work than was done before and put out a much more readable sheet than obtained in that office before their advent.

Pointers for our Patrons.

Our rule is the best stock and best work for our patrons. We do not allow any printer to put out nicer work than we do and we put the best stock into our jobs. The difference between poor stock and first class stock on a job is a small item when you consider the value of the job. It is better to make 50 cents less on a job and have a customer who will come back, than to use the flimsy stock, make the extra 50 cents and lose your customer. That is the way we figure it.

SOCIALIST COLUMNS

These two columns have been leased by the Socialists of St. Johns. They will furnish and edit their own matter, and the editor of the Review will in no wise be responsible for anything that may appear each week under this heading.

Socialist meetings every Wednesday evening at 7:30, at 424 Brunswick Everybody welcome.

THE MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM

By Robert Hunter. There are some things that the working man can decide by voting for the republican or democrat party. They can decide for instance, which of certain great interests shall dominate this country.

They can decide whether the monopolies of the North shall control congress or whether a discontented portion of the manufacturing interests of the north and the southern democrats shall control congress. This and similar questions concerning who shall dominate the country can be decided by a vote for one or the other of the old parties.

But there are many questions that cannot be decided by voting for the democratic or republican party. The more important of these, is, whether or not labor shall have what it produces or even more of what it produces.

The question will be decided against the working man whichever way he votes democratic or republican. Labor produces today one hundred fold what it produced half a century ago. In a half century labor has increased the total wealth of the country from \$100,000,000 to \$10,000,000,000.

But under both democrat and republican rule it has received for its portion of this enormous wealth little more than a subsistence wage.

A well known cattle breeder, Mr. John Spier, has within his lifetime increased the yield of milk per cow from 528 to 828 gallons a year. He has achieved this result without giving his cattle any more grass and the democrat and republican parties have achieved their results without appreciably increasing the wages of the laborers.

Now, of all problems before us at the present moment one only is of surpassing importance. Unless that problem is solved we shall go down to ruin.

It is the problem of the distribution of wealth. It will not destroy the cattle industry to increase the yield of milk, but it will destroy the capitalist industry to increase indefinitely the yield of labor without solving in some manner the problem of the distribution of wealth.

The cow does not have to buy back the wealth which she produces. The laborer does. When the working people of this country produce bread meat and clothing, and other necessities of life, they produce them for sale. While at work they receive wages for producing these necessities of life and out of these wages they must buy back for their own use the bread, meat and clothing and other necessities of life which they have produced.

They cannot do it; their wages are inadequate, and that is the cause of our industrial panics. And such crises must occur again and again because neither the democratic or republican party offers or cares to offer any solution of this problem.

If the cow owned herself and produced milk for herself she would produce only enough milk to adequately supply her wants and then she would rest. If the workers owned themselves and capital and land necessary to production, they would produce only enough of the necessities of life to supply their needs and then they would rest.

There would be leisure when their work was done. An industrial break down with widespread poverty, contrasting itself with incredible wealth would be inconceivable. Their times of leisure would also be times of plenty.

But today the workers produce the wealth for the capitalist, who sells back to them the very articles their labor has produced. Read through the democratic and republican platforms and see if you can find any mention of the great problem. You will find the republicans and the democrats talking about every thing under the sun except this one most important thing under the sun.

HARK FROM THE TOMBS.

Bryan has now indefinitely allied himself with reaction. He has declared that the democratic party is the defender of competition and the only great party seeking to restore competition.

He admits that competition is gone. He admits that for years industry has been moving away from competition. He says that not more than five percent of the corporations of the country would come under his proposed law against trusts. Yet La Follette has shown that this five percent of the corporations control more than 30 billion dollars of the nation's capital.

Bryan would have us believe that he can roll society back into the days of the little cross roads firm. To him the one great fact of modern industry—that competition leads to inevitable monopoly—is a closed book.

He has not seen the phenomena which he is attacking has progressed along the same lines in autocratic Russia, bureaucratic Prussia, republican France and plutocratic America. The trust is at home alike in Japan, just out of feudalism and in Europe and America where capitalism has reigned for more than a century.

Against this on-sweeping tidal wave of concentration Bryan is playing the role of Mother Partridge, and with his puny broom of state licenses would sweep back the encroaching billows that are engulfing the little capitalists.

He sees that his real opponent is the socialist, although his attempt to show that there is an affiliation between the ticket of "Injunction Bill" and that of the party of the working class is a bit of cheap demagoguery. The fact is that the republican and democratic parties are both standing for capitalism. Bryan is with the little labor skinner—the failure in his fight for profits whether that failure be because of unwillingness or inability to use the methods that bring success or because he was born into an industrial world where the opportunities for exploitation were already taken by the great trusts.

Whatever may be the outcome of the present election, and so far as Taft and Bryan are concerned the socialists are indifferent to that outcome, the trusts are her to stay and the battle of the future must decide whether that trust will be used for the benefit of the few or the many. In that battle the socialists will stand on the side of the workers and some other party will defend the powers that possess and plunder.

The only hope of trust magnates lies in putting that struggle off as far as possible. In that policy of postponement, the sham political fights of Bryan and Taft play the principal part. In keeping up that sham fight Bryan is doing the greatest possible service to the trust owners. He is standing between them and the only body that is really determined to deprive them of the power to plunder—the socialist party.

Bryan appeals to the Socialists to support him in his effort to protect Taft and the great capitalists in their present position. He asks that they shall give up their direct attack upon the enemy and join him in trying to produce the conditions of the time of Jefferson.

This harking back to Jefferson is not a rhetorical trick although Bryan is frequently guilty of such things. It is all a part of the reactionary character of the democratic party. His doctrines are all of the day of Jefferson. He still thinks in the terms of a civilization that travelled by stage, did its manufacturing in the household, and whose largest industrial establishment was a master worker and a half dozen apprentices.

He does not see the combination as such a natural consequence of railroads, telegraphs, electricity, and the great machines as competition was the inevitable accompaniment of the ox team and the village blacksmith and the hand worker. If he would bring back competition he must destroy the steam engine, wipe all knowledge of modern science from the human brain as well as from the factory, and bring the world back to the time when the worker produced with the hand tools which he made and owned.

Socialists know this is impossible. They believe that it is undesirable. They are certain that there is a better way and that is, do what Bryan says is the intention of the socialists to let "the public have the benefit of the monopoly."

In the days of Jefferson the workers owned the tools with which they produced wealth. Each worker owned the simple instrument he used. Today the socialists would have all the workers own all the tools, that all might be benefitted by the victories which science and invention has made.

DEMOCRACY SUPREME.

There are some places where the democratic party is supreme, where it has for years had an opportunity to carry out its policy. In the states of Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, Texas, Louisiana, South and North Carolina and Florida there is none to dispute the power of the democratic party. The governors, legislatures, courts are all in the hands of the party W. J. Bryan represents. From these states will come a majority of the democratic congressmen, who must be depended upon to carry out any legislation in favor of labor. In these states, then, if the democratic party is the friend of labor, we should be able to discover the most favorable legislation, the best organized trades, the greatest favors shown to trade unionists.

Will W. J. Bryan "point with pride" to the democratic record in these states? Will he tell his audiences of favored laws passed in their legislatures? Will he boast of the age

at which children are permitted to work in the mines and mills of Alabama, South Carolina and Georgia? Will he illustrate his talk with pictures of the chain gangs of Florida and the Calumet Mine? He claims credit for the peonage system in the turpentine and lumber camps of those states? Every vote cast for Bryan is a vote for the exploitation of babies in the cotton mills and coal mines, a vote to strengthen the class that robs and oppresses throughout the south.

Every congressman that is elected by the votes of laborers upon the democratic ticket will be bound by a caucus, a majority of which comes from states where unionism is a crime and where legislation is more backward than in any pretended civilized country on earth.

In view of these facts, what do you think of a laboring man who votes for Bryan and a democratic congress for the sake of labor. G. L. P.

HENRY E. COLLIER, Lawyer. Rooms in the Holbrook building, St. Johns, Oregon.

Joseph McChesney, M. D. PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON. Day and Night Office in McChesney Block Phone Woodlawn 473. ST. JOHNS, OREGON

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LAUREL LODGE, No. 186 I. O. O. F. ST. JOHNS, OREGON. Meets each Monday evening in Odd Fellows hall, at 8:00. Visitors welcomed. C. P. Gates, N. G. E. B. Holcomb, Secretary.

Holmes Lodge No. 101, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS. Meets every Friday night at 7:30 o'clock at I. O. O. F. hall. Visitors always welcome. I. H. Black, C. C. E. B. Holcomb, K. R. S.

Doric Lodge No. 132, F. and A. M. Regular communication on first and third Wednesdays of each month in Odd Fellows' hall. Visitors welcome. Joseph McChesney, W. M. S. Chas. Davis, Secretary.

Mrs. Florence Rucker, PUBLIC STENOGRAPHER AND COPIST. Leave order or call at City Hall.

Central Market! Holbrook Block. See us for the Choicest Cuts of the Best Meats Obtainable. Orders Filled and Family Trade Solicited. T. P. WARD, Proprietor. Administrator's Notice to Creditors.

In the County Court of the State of Oregon, for the county of Multnomah. In the matter of the estate of Robert Johnson, deceased. Notice is hereby given that the undersigned was on the 14th day of August duly and regularly appointed by the county court of Multnomah county, Oregon, administrator of the estate of Robert Johnson, deceased.

All persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same with proper vouchers attached to me at the office of H. E. Collier, rooms 20-21, Holbrook building, St. Johns, Oregon, within six months from and after the 21st day of August, 1908, said date being the first publication of this notice. BERT JOHNSON, Administrator of above named estate. H. E. Collier, Attorney for Administrator.

In order to insure a change of address in the copy for such change should reach this office no later than Wednesday, at 3 o'clock P. M. Please remember this and save the printer SEEDS SPECIAL OFFER: Write to-day! Mention this Paper. SEND 10 CENTS

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Colonist Tickets will be on sale during SEPTEMBER and OCTOBER from the East to all points in Oregon. The fares from a few principal cities are: From Denver \$30.00 From Louisville \$41.70 " Omaha \$30.00 " Cincinnati \$42.20 " Kansas City \$30.00 " Cleveland \$45.75 " St. Louis \$35.50 " New York \$55.00 " Chicago \$38.00

TICKETS CAN BE PREPAID. If you want to bring a friend or relative to Oregon, deposit the proper amount with any of our agents. The ticket will then be furnished by telegraph. WM. McMURRAY, General Passenger Agent, Portland, Oregon.

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ORDINANCE NO. 199

Charter of said city directed. Passed by the common council the 16th day of September, 1908. Approved by the Mayor the 16th day of September, 1908. H. W. BRICE, Mayor. Attest: A. M. ESSON, Recorder. Published in the St. Johns Review, Sept. 18, 1908.

An Ordinance Assessing the Cost of Improving Salem Street, From the South Line of Crawford Street to the South Line of Edison Street in the City of St. Johns, and Directing the Entry of Such Assessment in the Docket of City Liens.

The City of St. Johns does ordain as follows: The city council of St. Johns having ascertained the cost of improving Salem street from the south line of Crawford street to the south line of Edison street in the city of St. Johns, as shown by the resolution of the common council relative thereto, dated the 18th day of August, 1908, and of record in the office of the city recorder of said city, and notice thereof having been published in the St. Johns Review, a weekly newspaper of general circulation in said city, on August 21st and 28th, 1908, as shown by the affidavit of the foreman of said paper, which said affidavit is on file at the office of City Recorder, and the legal posting of notice of such street improvement as by law directed and as shown by affidavit of the city engineer on file with the recorder of said city, and that the remonstrance that was filed to said improvement, which remonstrance is on file with the city recorder of said city, does not contain the signatures of the owners owning two-thirds or more of the area of the property in said assessment district, established by said resolution, and no further remonstrance having been filed, and as provided by said resolution the sum of \$300.96 is fixed as the engineer's estimate of the cost of said improvement, but which may be more accurately determined by the city engineer, the time within which said improvement is to be completed is hereby fixed at 60 days from the date of the last publication of the notice for proposals for said work, which proposals must be filed with the recorder of said city on or before the 6th day of October, 1908, at 4 o'clock P. M. of said day.

Now therefore, it is hereby ordered that said Salem Street be improved according to the plan and specifications given by publication for not less than 3 insertions in the St. Johns Review, a weekly newspaper of general circulation, and published in the city of St. Johns, Ore., inviting proposals for making said improvements and said sum as estimated by the city engineer as costs thereof, or such sum as shall be finally fixed and determined by said city engineer, not exceeding said sum, is hereby assessed to the lots, parts of lots and tracts of land in their several proportions in the said assessment district of said Salem street from the south line of Crawford street to the south line of Edison street in the city of St. Johns in the respective amounts to be hereafter determined and assessed against said lots, parts of lots and tracts of land abutting upon, proximate and adjacent thereto, and as being especially and particularly benefited by said street improvements of said Hayes street heretofore declared and now designated as all lots, parts of lots and tracts of land from the marginal lines of said street back to the center of the blocks or parts of blocks or tracts of land abutting or proximate thereto on each side of said Salem street between the points above named.

That all the property so included in said improvement district as aforesaid is hereby declared to be local improvement district No. 10.

The city recorder is hereby directed to enter at the proper time the said assessment hereby made, in the lien docket of the city of St. Johns, and cause notice of the same to be published by law in the city charter of said city, and that said assessment be apportioned as in the

It is resolved by the city of St. Johns: That it deems it expedient and necessary to improve Tacoma street, from the west line of Jersey street to the east line of Hayes street, in the city of St. Johns, in the following manner, to-wit: By placing same to subgrade as shown by profile thereof, and by macadamizing same as follows: From Jersey street to Ivanhoe street, full width from curb to curb; said macadam to be 12 inches thick in the center of said street and tapering to 6 inches thick at either curb, from Ivanhoe street to Hayes street, by macadamizing a strip in the center of said street 16 feet wide, in the center of said street said macadam to be 8 inches thick and tapering to 6 inches at either edge thereof; all of said work to be done in accordance to Ordinance No. 193 of said city, and by laying a 12 foot walk on south side street from Jersey street to center of block according to the plans and specifications of the city engineer on file in the office of the city recorder, and relative thereto, which said plans, and specifications and estimates are satisfactory and are hereby approved. Said improvements to be made in accordance with the charter and ordinances of the city of St. Johns, and under the supervision and direction of the city engineer. That the cost of said improvement to be assessed as provided by the city charter upon the property especially and particularly benefited thereby and which is hereby declared to be the lots, parts of lots, blocks and parcels of land between the termini of such improvement abutting upon, adjacent or proximate to said Tacoma street, from the marginal lines of said street back to the center of the block or blocks or tracts of land abutting thereon or proximate thereto. That all the property included in said improvement district aforesaid is hereby declared to be "Local Improvement District No. 11."

That the city engineer's assessment of the probable total cost of said improvement of said Tacoma street is \$718.57. That the cost of improving said Tacoma street in said local district as provided by the city charter of the city of St. Johns, Adopted the 11th day of September, 1908. A. M. ESSON, City Recorder. Published in the St. Johns Review Sept. 18 and 25, 1908.

City of St. Johns, Oregon OFFICERS

Mayor—H. W. Brice Recorder—A. M. Eason Treasurer—J. E. Tanch Attorney—E. C. Custer Engineer—C. Andrews Physician—A. W. Vincent Chief of Police—J. H. Black Night Police—G. Elmeridge Councilmen at Large: A. W. Davis, C. L. Johnson, S. L. Doble Councilmen First Ward: P. J. Miller, W. W. Winkle Councilmen Second Ward: H. C. Hunter, H. W. Bonham COMMITTEES Streets and Dock—W. W. Winkle, P. J. Miller, C. L. Johnson License—H. W. Bonham, C. Hunter, W. W. Winkle Water and Light—C. L. Johnson, A. W. Davis, H. W. Bonham, S. L. Doble Buildings and Grounds—H. C. Hunter, P. J. Miller, C. L. Johnson, H. W. Bonham Health and Police—S. L. Doble, H. W. Bonham, W. W. Winkle Liquor License—P. J. Miller, A. W. Davis, S. L. Doble

Wanted. To exchange Hood River land for St. Johns property. Inquire at this office. 341f