

# ST. JOHNS REVIEW

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VOL. 5

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NO. 5

## TELLS HOW HE STANDS

## DOINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

## A VISIT TO OUR SCHOOLS

### Councilman Davis in a Lucid Manner Gives His Position on the Liquor Question

### The City Dads Convene and Transact Their Usual Budget of Municipal Business in a Satisfactory Manner

### Good and Efficient Work Being Done by the Various Instructors in This City

Editor Review:

I notice an article in the Telegram which quotes me as saying my reasons for voting for the repeal of Ordinance No. 183 are substantially as follows: "Account of parties going to Portland, getting drunk, coming back broke to be taken care of by the city of St. Johns." This is not correct I made no such statement. What I did say was this: "That liquor is being sold in St. Johns illegally and in small quantities. Beer wagons and liquor wagons are making deliveries two or three times a week and paying the city of Portland for the privilege. St. Johns gets the results and effects minus the revenue and has no voice in the regulations and conditions."

I am fully aware of the fact that the city went "dry" by vote in June, but the city is not dry now, nor has it been at any time since the election, nor is there any prospect of being so. I will admit that there is a lameness somewhere but where is it? It is none the less true that these conditions do exist and that nothing effective has been done to check it. The police department has not found any one willing to swear to a complaint against the offenders, even when they have the facts in their possession, claiming they do not wish to be mixed up in it.

I voted dry in the June election, but I did not vote for the kind of dry we have been getting up to date.

If we have to have this traffic and cannot make a better showing than we have to check it, I think it the best plan to have the traffic under the city's regulations and restrictions and keep the revenue in St. Johns, rather than to have it go to the places around us. Summing up the situation, I was forced to the conclusion and so voted. Where an evil exist there should be a remedy, and if on remedy is not effective, it is proper to find one that is. I would like to mention right here that it is a very unpleasant thing to do by the average councilman to have to decide on such matters, but at the same time their duty is plain, that is, to choose the lesser of two evils. They will be damned if they do and damned if they don't, and are un-

against a prejudice in either case that is a handicap. There is plenty of work to do without this and ought not to be in their hands.

I was anticipate the question that will likely arise from this suggestion "Why didn't the council stand by the vote of the June election?" In the first place the city attorney's opinion makes this election superfluous and irregular, had the charter been understood the same as now, and in that event would be of no more value than a straw vote. The methods resorted to by both sides were questionable. Men were voted from transient gangs that had no interest whatever in the town and paid no taxes, but they were "legal" voters. The other side tacked Portsmouth precinct on to us, which also proved legal, but every fair minded man on earth knows this was unfair. Honors are even. The transients have gone and the result is in doubt as to the real bona fide vote of the actual citizens of St. Johns. An emergency existed on account of these conditions and it was up to the council to do something to improve matters.

The moral question was not involved for the reason that the town was wet in fact, no matter if it was voted dry. Neither was it a question of money, but to put the traffic under the control of the city, as there is no denying the fact that we do have it. This procedure comes partly from suggestions and information from good tax paying citizens who voted dry in June.

The restrictions exacted will be binding and ample and contemplate protection and good behavior, and subjects the party taking out a license to a monetary loss in case of a break in the rules. Jersey street will be exempt from their presence. No back rooms and no back doors. Clean glass front, etc. Also there is a raise in license.

The councilmen who voted for the repeal of the ordinance did so believing they were doing the best for the city and no personal prejudices were mixed in it, or considered with an object of reversing the will of the people; but only to cope with a vexatious question and apply the best remedy.

A. W. Davis.

The city fathers, Balaamus Equus, and a number of other citizens of St. Johns met in the council chamber Tuesday evening in their 35th weekly session, all members being present.

Tom Cochran presented request for an extension of time for 30 days to enable him to complete the work on North Hayes street, which was granted on motion of Doble. All yes.

Petition for are light at the intersection of Chicago street and Portland boulevard was read and on motion of Doble petition was accepted and placed on file to be acted upon when available funds were at hand. All yes.

Communication from Leroy H. Smith asking that the city council lend its aid to induce the telephone company to give him a phone, stating that he had been trying for three years to get the Pacific States telephone company to put a phone in for him and for the past six months had either written or phoned that company asking them to install a phone for him, but the only thing he had been able to secure was a lot of broken promises. On motion of Doble the communication was received and placed on file, and the recorder instructed to take the matter up with the telephone company.

That old chestnut, The St. Johns Gas Light and Heat company bobbed up again, but this time it appears to have a little ginger in it. Mr. C. R. Donnell, representing the present alleged owner of the franchise in his communication informed the council that active operations would begin in a very short time and that a deposit of a cash bond would be deposited with the city to be released when the machinery was on the ground. No action was taken at this time but later, on motion of Davis the recorder was instructed to invite the writer of the communication, Mr. Garrigues the attorney for the company and any others interested to meet the council at their next regular meeting and discuss the matter. All yes.

The city engineer asked if any clearer roofing would be accepted by the council than that specified in the contract, since the roofing company refuses to give the guarantee that the contract required. The matter was referred to Johnson to con-

fer with the contractors and to report at the next meeting of the council.

In the matter of a petition to establish grade on New York street, resolution was read requiring the city engineer to furnish profile of the same on motion of Davis. All yes.

Resolution instructing the city engineer to present the council with profile, estimates for the improvement of South Ivanhoe street from Polk to Ida street showing sub grade and five-foot cement sidewalk. Resolution was adopted on motion of Doble. All yes.

On motion of Davis, Mr. Tallman was permitted to construct a six-foot cement side walk with 12-foot curb along his property abutting on South Hayes street. All yes.

On motion of Hunter, the gas communication was accepted and placed on file and the writer invited to meet the council next Tuesday evening.

Ordinance accepting the profile as presented by the engineer for the improvement of South Hayes street was accepted. All yes.

Ordinance authorizing the ferry election came up for discussion and passed to the third reading, but after considerable discussion it was laid on file for an indefinite time. It seemed the sense of the council that it would be the more economical way to await the action of the legislature as to the county operating a free ferry here, if the measure met the approval of the legislature and became a law then this ordinance could be passed and the bonds voted if the citizens so wished.

The city engineer reported for the second payment on the dock the following: Piling driven, 14,284 feet at 115 cents, \$16,326.55. Labor for superstructure furnished, 277,880 at 5 cents, \$1,389.40, total \$17,715.95, of which 90 percent, or \$15,944.35 is due and payable. On motion of Davis the report was accepted and warrant ordered drawn for the amount.

On motion of Bonham the council went into a star chamber session on the liquor question. After about an hour's hard work they returned and the mayor returned the ordinance repealing ordinance No. 183 with his veto, stating as his reasons for not approving the ordinance that the ordinance as it stood was necessary. He showed the difference in the wording of the new charter from the old as an evidence that even if

the city attorney's opinion was good that under the old charter it was doubtful if the council had authority to license the sale of liquors. That as against the opinion of the city attorney there was the decision of the circuit judge and others declaring which were regular and he believed the council lacked the power and authority to make these changes. On motion of Bonham the ordinance was laid on file one week, because it could not be acted upon at the present session.

Windle reported that there was some friction being engendered in the matter of the improvement of Yamette boulevard, south of Richmond street. Some of the residents claim that the street is but 80 feet wide, while others contend that it is an 100-foot street. Some think there were dedications and others insist that there were none. If the improvement cuts 20 feet off the lots there will be some objection to the improvement. This section of St. Johns was a part of the city of Portland and it will be necessary to examine the records of the county and the city of Portland before the exact status of the situation can be arrived at. On motion of Windle the city attorney was asked to make the necessary examination and make a written report to the council. All yes.

J. F. Hendricks requested permission to use the city hall for a card party for the fire department and the band boys, Monday night, next. The object being to give the organization such social features as will keep up an interest among the members and thus prevent their dropping out. He also asked authority to use hall on future occasions when desired by the boys on permission by the mayor. All yes.

After an extended discussion regarding the driving of extra piling so as to reinforce the foundations of the city dock to support wharf bins, on motion of Davis the city engineer was instructed to have the necessary piling driven. All yes.

Doble reported that there were still two property holders on Pittsburg who had not signed the waiver and it was returned to Mr. Douglas with an urgent request for these two property owners to sign the waiver so as to make it unanimous.

Last week we told our readers something of the conditions we found in the grammar, or Central school building. Friday morning we visited the school where we were met by Miss Boss, and very graciously given the freedom of the building.

We first listened to the recitation of the class in Latin, who were reading Caesar's wars. In which they had proceeded to the 18th chapter. We do not know a more interesting study than the languages, and while it has been so long since we studied Latin that we could not make an intelligible translation, it was very interesting to follow the pupils in their translation of the subject, the meaning of the original coming to us as they progressed; and again, to note the different shades of meaning that could be given the same passage by taking different views of it, from the construction of other sentences, where the same or similar expressions were used; thus bringing out the extreme difficulty of making an exact translation of a bit of literature written in a dead language. Miss Boss is particularly well versed in the Latin and brought out clearly and forcibly the fine points of expression of the historian in his account of Caesar's transactions. It made us wish again for the old school days, if even for no other reason than to brighten up on Latin. One reason, we suppose, why the Latin is so attractive to us is that our own language has received so many of its words from that language.

From Miss Boss' room we went into that occupied by Miss Janney, a very bright little lady, who was engaged with the class in zoology, and the branch known as entomology. The class had for its subject the common fish-worm. They had in their paraffin pans artificial and enlarged subjects, but during the study they brought in live specimens of the lumbricus terrestris as they call this much abused "earthworm". The school is supplied with a number of cheap magnifying glasses of a power as those used for the detection of counterfeit money, and have one microscope which is very good for a small school, having a power capable of showing trichina in pork, the scales on the wings of butterflies and such microscopic objects. Of course our board cannot furnish the school with all the facilities that could be found in the larger cities of Portland, San Francisco and other cities of like size; but there are a few additions we would like to see put into the high school equipment. Just as soon as the district can afford it we would like very much to see show cases placed in the building to care for geological, botanical and zoological specimens gathered by the pupils in the course of their studies of these sciences. If this can be done and the specimens mounted, bearing the name of the specimen, name of pupil placing them and the date, in a few years there will have been placed in the building a collection that thousands of dollars would not buy from the district. It would be valuable not only for the collection of the flora, fauna, mineral and other specimens, but for a living record of the work of the pupils of the different years. There is space in the cloak room to Miss Janney's room for just such a case sufficiently large to accommodate the class until the school building is enlarged which will be but a very few years, for even this year there will be a crowded condition before the year is closed.

We next visited Miss Randall's room where the pupils were studying English Literature, the particular work being Sir Walter Scott's Quentin Durward. The method of study is admirable and Miss Randall is a clear, forcible instructor, her style being a combination of inquisitorial and expository. The traits of character of the hero were brought out and discussed, the language of the work, the style of spelling having been held to the old English more or less. These were all made so plain that the pupils could almost see Quentin as he was supposed to exist at the time of the writing of the work of fiction. There is a feature in this work we have not noticed in others. It is that the profane expressions which were so common in that day as our slang is today, perhaps more general, is expressed in the French language in the printed work, which removes much of the objectionable features of the older writings to those who do not understand the French. Following the

same line of action, one would suppose that in a French edition they would use Greek for the swear words.

Miss Humphreys' room was the next class visited. Here was found a fine class of pupils of the 5th grade. One of them, a native of Russia recounted some of his adventures, telling how his father and family were driven from their home when he was a little child. His father coming to America, his mother and children becoming separated after amassing themselves from Russia into Germany finally how his father sending money to them, his mother gathered up the children and came to America. They spent some time in Castle Garden and then went to Canada where his father worked constructing elevators. A bad fall delayed his father from sending for them and after they came over, another bad fall crippled him up for a time and then he quit that kind of work. The reason given for the lad, who is a bright little fellow, for his father not going to Germany, was that it was just the time that the father would have to go soldiering if he went there. To escape this service he came to America. His account of their escape from Russia was very interesting. They had little or no money but hid away among the farmers, who fed them and smuggled them through the lines. They had to walk 20 miles, and when it is remembered that one Russian mile equals seven or eight miles the distance seems up big, 140 miles. The family has been in Canada twice since coming across the big pond and have come to the conclusion that there is no country better than Uncle Sam's domain.

In the next room visited, that of Miss Stevens, were found 25 little ones in the first grade. They repeated the story of the chipmunk and sang the song of the sars, little Miss Baldwin singing a solo and the entire class joining in the chorus. Their instructor is of a most charming personality and the little ones talk the world of her, hence their wonderful success in their work. Their painting is simply wonderful for such little mites, and compares favorably with that of older pupils.

We just stopped a moment with Miss Beach, who has the second grade. They were laboring with their spelling lesson and were deeply interested, but as our time was almost gone and several more classes to visit we were obliged to hurry on.

The next room was that of Mrs. Dunn who keeps the 2nd and 3rd grade pupils busy. It was their reading hour and the little ones read very nicely, having good command of the subject and giving very good expression indeed.

Miss Donleykor's room, where her pupils were wrestling with the mysteries of plane geometry, was next visited. One pretty Miss was at the board explaining why the sides of a square were equal to each other and how to prove it. It was a very interesting process, because the young lady knew just exactly all about it but was not able to get the words together just in the order in which they should come. It seems to us that higher mathematics is just a little harder for girls than for boys and yet we know a young lady who had all the boys guessing who would lead the class in mathematics during her last college year, and at the same time coached three boys through the last term.

We then returned to Miss Randall's room where she was honoring a class in book keeping. There are a number of bright young pupils in this class and Miss Randall said if any of our merchants were behind with their books she could furnish two or three pupils who were able to do good work outside of school hours, assisting them to catch up. She would like to hear from any merchant who needs assistance on his books, as it would give the pupils more practice in their work and at the same time prove beneficial to the merchants.

There are 217 enrolled in the high school building 66 of them taking the high school course. In this school, too, as in the grammar school we find better order, brighter, more cheerful demeanor than was manifested last year. Miss Boss informed us that they were making better progress than they did last year, and that there would soon be two more classes added which would crowd their little building to the utmost. This would indicate that another addition will soon be necessary.

### Give Us the News

### May Get Better

We are under many obligations to Mrs. N. J. Bailey for a fine lot of news notes. If our good friends knew how highly we prize these personal and news notes, and how they add to the value of the Review they would take particular pains to give them to us. It is this more than any thing else that makes the paper readable. The editorials are simply the opinion of one man, usually, and these news notes and personal items are facts of history our citizens are making, in which every one in the city takes an interest and every one wishes to know; therefore, if we can get these items we can make the paper the most useful and most readable and interesting. Now, can't we interest every one to tell us all the news? If you will make a note of the happenings in your vicinity and will write them down for us we will be glad to furnish you with the necessary stationery. There are other things which we can do for our friends who will thus assist us if they will call we will be glad to explain. Come in and talk the matter over with us, and we think we can interest you.

It has been thought the Home Telephone Company was dead so far as St. Johns was concerned, but we have heard that this company recently bought and paid for lot 2, block 5 in Chipman's addition for the purpose of putting in an exchange. Here is hoping it is true. The Pacific States is anything but satisfactory in their service. When you call the line is busy, or if not, it is just as apt to be wrong in its conclusions as are you, but these news notes and personal items are facts of history our citizens are making, in which every one in the city takes an interest and every one wishes to know; therefore, if we can get these items we can make the paper the most useful and most readable and interesting. Now, can't we interest every one to tell us all the news? If you will make a note of the happenings in your vicinity and will write them down for us we will be glad to furnish you with the necessary stationery. There are other things which we can do for our friends who will thus assist us if they will call we will be glad to explain. Come in and talk the matter over with us, and we think we can interest you.

### Fraternal Brotherhood

### Given a Big Boost

The Fraternal Brotherhood elected the following officers at their meeting Friday night:

Louis Hopfinger, president; Ina Kingsbury, vice president; James H. Gee, secretary; Ed L. Stockton, treasurer; A. W. Vincent, phys. clin.; Katherine Quay, chaplain; Elgin Barton, sergeant; Susan Galloway, mistress at arms; Wesley Heck, inner door keeper; J. E. Hukenny, outer door keeper; N. A. Gee, past president.

The lodge meets at the M. W. A. hall every Friday evening and reports the most enjoyable social times. Visiting members of the order are always made welcome.

The "Three Nights of Big Fun," which the K. of P. folks pulled off was the kind of success that usually attends the operations of this enterprising bunch. Everybody was in a good humor and every body blowed his money; consequently there was about \$175 to the good in the exchequer of the two lodges. There was one feature that we failed to mention in our write-up of the occasion, and that was the Telegram booth on the east side of the hall. There were several representatives of this evening paper present, all working for the Alaska excursion, and succeeded in securing about 20 good votes for our candidate. This is a good boost and should make every friend of Mrs. Valentine get in and hustle for her. We must not fail to send her on this excursion. We could make no better advertisement for St. Johns.

### Patronize Home Industry

There has been much said and there is being much said about trading at home, patronize home industries, etc., but the true inwardness of the proposition was never more fairly presented than in an exchange some time since in practically the following story:

Going down town the other morning I over heard a sad merchant and his good wife in conversation which ran like this: "Now, dear, be sure and don't forget to send to the city today for that new Stanhope, so that we can have -- Sun-ay. You know our old buggy is getting so old it is not fit to be seen."

Just a few blocks away the merchant who hauled vehicles was sitting at breakfast with his family. The conversation drifted around to the near approach of school. "And that reminds me, John," said the lady who sat at the head of the table, "I must be going to the city not later than next week. I must get goods for the children's school clothes and when to see about a fall suit for myself, and while I am there perhaps I'll better see about a new rug for the parlor and some lace curtains for the front window."

An hour or two later one of the leading grocers stepped into the bank to buy a drift which he was going to send to a catalogue house for a "well bedroom suite." "How's business?" asked the banker. "Oh, not very good," replied the coffee and tea merchant. "Things are a little dull just now." Before the banker finished writing the draft, a dapper young man with a grip stepped in and asked how every body was. The banker seemed glad to see him. He was the representative of a large printing establishment in another city. He and the banker chatted pleasantly for a few minutes after which the young man inquired cas-

### Locates in St. Johns

Ed L. Cox is a new comer from the East who has located at 1929 Starford street. There are about a million families in the east, who, if they knew how much better, pleasanter, more comfortable and happier life is in Oregon than it possibly can be in the land of cyclones and blizzards, would like to Oregon by the first train. But they have always lived there, many of them never have lived out of their native state, and they think they have a claim on the best spot on earth. Possibly, where ignorance is bliss it is folly to be wise, but we always thought that saying was a lie, pure and simple, all wool and a yard wide, and we think we can prove it.

### Commercial Club Meet

A meeting of the St. Johns Commercial Club will be held in the assembly room in the New Holbrook Building Wednesday evening, Dec. 16 7:30 o'clock. The subject of consideration is a suitable roadway between St. Johns and the Swift plant will be discussed. Also several other highly important matters are to be taken up and discussed. The citizens of St. Johns and vicinity, whether members of the club or not, who have the interest of the city at heart are urged to attend. New members of the club will be admitted. George J. Perkins, Secretary.

Work is progressing nicely in the new addition M. L. Holbrook is opening east of St. Johns. He is clearing the land, opening streets, etc., so that he will have room for a city by the time the new saw mill is installed at Maelgry junction, and the employes of the mill will come in and build it.

Note the label on your paper.

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