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

VOL. 5

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NO. 28

EAST ST. JOHNS BOOMING

New Buildings Constantly Being Erected

Lots in Harborton seem to be greatly in favor with the general public judging from the way they are being sold. A number of new residences are being erected and estimates are being taken on several others, the contracts for which will be signed up shortly.

Robert Hume, president of the Star Sand Company, has purchased a building site, and is breaking ground for a concrete residence. Mr. F. E. Clemens, superintendent of the single mill, is building a modern frame bungalow and C. W. Watts, electrician at M. J. Walsh's, is having a residence erected. This tract is being handled by the Spanton Company, who are also handling East St. Johns, a large addition on the Peninsula containing some 1700 lots, which has but recently been placed on the market. This section of the Peninsula is growing at a rapid rate and new residences, stores and buildings of all descriptions are started every day.

A whole block containing 36 lots bounded by South Depot, Wall, Seneca and Newton streets has been purchased by the board of directors for school purposes, and a modern \$18,000 school building will be erected thereon at once. Architect Ernest Kroner has prepared the plans, a full account of which has already appeared in The Abstract of recent date, and one-half of the building is to be ready for occupancy in time for the opening of the fall term of school.

A large store building, to be occupied by a general store and butcher shop, and on the Columbia Boulevard, across from the station, has just been completed and will be stocked this week. The East St. Johns Land Company are letting the contract for more houses aggregating about 15 in number, some of which will be constructed of concrete blocks and all of them to be modern and up-to-date residences.

The Lumber Supply mill on Columbia Boulevard is now in operation and indications are that it will be very successful. It is understood that work will soon be started on the building for the Oregon Sienna Paint Company's new plant for which they recently purchased a tract of land on the Peninsula and close to East St. Johns.

Several outside manufacturers are negotiating for factory sites, and if they are secured expect to erect plants at East St. Johns.—Abstract.

Meeting Night Changed

The Commercial Club at its meeting Thursday evening of last week decided to change the meeting night to Wednesday in order to give the Review a chance to publish the proceedings the same week in which they occur. In this way the people will have a better opportunity to learn of the doings of this important body before they have become stale. The club is in a flourishing condition and deep interest is being aroused in its proceedings. The ferry question was discussed at some length and it is believed that some way will yet be discovered to secure this much desired utility. C. A. Wood, K. C. Couch, C. G. Buck, A. M. Eason and A. W. Markle were appointed as a committee to solicit funds for advertising St. Johns.

Building Permits

No. 27—To George Hughes to erect a barn on John street between Hayes and Ivanhoe; valuation \$100.

No. 28—To J. I. Beam to erect a dwelling on Portland boulevard between Sias and Fessenden streets; valuation \$750.

No. 29—To V. W. Mason to erect a building for the manufacture of cement blocks on Myers street between Thompson and St. Johns avenue; valuation \$100.

No. 30—To A. M. Stearns to erect a dwelling on Crawford street between Pierce and Buchanan streets; valuation \$5000.

LOCAL FIRM GOT CONTRACT

For New School Building in East St. Johns

Hewitt & Wright, the local contractors, were the successful bidders for the new school building in East St. Johns. The plans show that the building will be a fine one and will make an imposing structure. It is certainly gratifying that a local firm has secured the contract as the money will now remain in St. Johns instead of being carried elsewhere, as would have been the case had an outside firm gotten the contract. The reputation of both Messrs. Hewitt and Wright as finished workmen is well established and the public can rest assured that the contract was awarded these gentlemen. The structure is to be completed by September first. Hewitt & Wright are now completing a school house of a similar nature at Houlton, and work will start without delay on the new contract.

Be Kind of "Aisy"

When the O. R. & N. Co. gets ready to construct a track to connect with the city dock it is to be hoped that parties owning land over which this line must traverse will not hold up the company to too great an extent. It will be a bad thing for the city if condemnation proceedings will have to be instituted in order to secure a reasonable price. The dock will not be leased unless a connection with the railroad is guaranteed, and if legal proceedings are necessary before a right of way can be secured it means that several months will be lost before the dock is taken possession of, and as the interest on the money is in the neighborhood of 10 per cent it is of vital interest to the city that the property owners be reasonable in their demands.

A Good Gamble

A letter from Vice President Davidson of the Eastern Oregon Oil & Gas Co. states that the Mammoth Co., whose field adjoins that of the Eastern Oregon Oil & Gas Co., is now down 500 feet with their drill and that the odor of gas was so strong that it made the workmen sick, compelling a short lay off, and that the tools had become so oily that they can scarcely be handled. Mr. Davidson is also manager of the Mammoth company. Mr. Hunt, who has the contract for putting down the well for the Eastern Oregon Oil & Gas Co., now has the derrick timbers up and the buildings are being erected. At this distance it certainly looks as though the St. Johns members of this company made a "killing" when they invested in the Malheur oil fields.

Going Rapidly

The first consignment of combination salt and pepper shakers from the East arrived several weeks ago and disappeared like hot cakes. All who saw them wanted one and the supply was soon exhausted. Another car load has just arrived, and it is believed they will share a like fate as their predecessors. The Combination Salt & Pepper Shaker Co., of which E. C. Huribert is the inventor, certainly seem to have a winner and the stockholders will no doubt soon reap a golden harvest. The handsomeness of the article is seen at first glance and households where one of these ingenious inventions are not found will be few and far between in a few years.

THE PYLES RETURN.

J. Pyle and family have returned to St. Johns after a short residence in Spokane, Wash., and will take up their abode in the residence just vacated by W. A. Olen on Chicago street. Mr. Pyle is a musician of marked ability, and no place seems to suit him quite so well as St. Johns.

SUSPENSION BRIDGE AT ST. JOHNS

Such a Structure Would Do Away With the Vexed Free Ferry Question and a United Movement Should Be Started at Once to Secure the Project

We believe it is high time that a movement be inaugurated for the construction of a suspension bridge between St. Johns and Whitwood Court. We know how people smile and ridicule the idea of a bridge at this point and claim that such a suggestion is preposterous, that the money for such a purpose cannot be secured, that we do not want a bridge at St. Johns, and a thousand and one other objections arise on every side. But we believe the money can be raised. Assuredly the United Railways would be willing to advance a goodly portion of it for the privilege of crossing in order to tap this territory, and the county ought to be induced to furnish the balance. A combination of wealthy men of Portland once had plans drawn for such a structure in order to complete a grand scenic route which they proposed to extend from Portland, winding around the hills on the west side, crossing the bridge

at this place and returning to Portland over Willamette boulevard. For some reason the project fell through, but it is likely money for this purpose could yet be obtained from them. The state could even contribute to the cause, we believe.

No movement of any magnitude has yet been launched without plenty of opposition in its inception, and this will be no exception to the rule. There will be objections, and many of them, but the object to be obtained is so far reaching in its possibilities that any effort made along this line is worthy of the time expended in accomplishing it. If the Commercial club took this matter up and stayed with it until it was an assured fact, even if it never accomplished another public act, would have great cause to congratulate itself upon its great achievement. The Peninsula Development league would no doubt do all in its power to push the ball along, and we doubt if there is a citizen between here and Pied-

mont who would not sign a petition to bring the matter before the legislature when the time is ripe. Every citizen in the Tualatin valley would no doubt do likewise, as would also many residents of the city of Portland proper. As to a bridge starting from the top of the bluff on this side and ending part way up the hill on the west side, being so far from the water that the tallest mast that rides the Willamette can pass under it, is no impediment for marine traffic. Before you reject the proposition as preposterous, look into it and see if it is not feasible. It will not take place in one year, nor possibly two, but the movement must take place some time and why not now? The benefits to be derived from such a structure are almost boundless. Not a prominent visitor to Portland would leave the city without taking a spin over the bridge, and the trade from the Tualatin valley would be insured to us. Think it over.

A Lengthy Session

The city council met in regular convention Tuesday evening and a lengthy session ensued. All were present with the exception of Councilman C. L. Johnson. Minutes were read, and after a slight alteration, approved.

Petition to improve Gresham street, Ida to Buchanan, with cement sidewalk and crushed rock, was read and a resolution was later adopted ordering the engineer to prepare the necessary plans and estimates.

A communication was received from G. A. R. inviting the council to attend Memorial services in the new city dock May 31. On motion of Alderman A. W. Davis the communication was received with thanks.

A petition to improve Hudson street, Oswego to Buchanan, was referred back to the petitioners to ascertain if the assessed valuation of the adjoining property will stand for the improvement by slicing a block or so off the original proposed improvement.

Petition for an arc light on corner of Leonard and Holbrook streets was accepted and placed on file.

Bills totalling \$327.50 were allowed.

Chief Granger of the fire department asked that a sub station be established in the neighborhood of the French block so that a hose cart could be placed there. On motion Mayor Hendricks appointed Councilmen Doble, Brown and Hiller as a committee to look into the matter and report next Tuesday evening.

The St. Johns Transportation company turned in their report for the month of April, which showed that 5,000 foot passengers, 226 single rigs and 135 double rigs had been transported on the ferry for that month. A check for \$5.30 accompanied the report as the city's dividend of the receipts. Accepted.

The mayor suggested that an ordinance be drawn covering the life of cement walk. He believed in justice to the property owners that the contractors be required to guarantee their work for a period of five years at least. Referred to the city attorney.

On motion the engineer was directed to place a grade monument at city hall grounds.

The lighting of the city dock was discussed, and it was decided to request Mr. Hamilton of the Portland General Electric Co. and local men to suggest plans that are modern and up to date and then advertise for bids.

The Willamette boulevard problem was the advanced by ex-Councilman Winkle. A motion that the city attorney be instructed to draw up a resolution or ordinance to straighten out the boulevard to 80 feet was voted down four to two. It is a difficult matter to ascertain just how wide this thoroughfare was intended to be, as the records seem to conflict, in some cases calling for 80 feet and in others for 100. The at-

torney and engineer were requested to search the Albina records in another endeavor to find the right "dope."

Mayor Hendricks advanced the information that the rock crusher was doing nicely and was now turning out about 65 yards of crushed rock each working day.

An ordinance improving Pittsburg street was passed by the council and may be found elsewhere in this issue.

The engineer's report on the condemnation of Fessenden street, making it a 70 foot thoroughfare was read. It was a lengthy document and showed that the engineer had taken great pains to cover all the property in a careful manner. The attorney was directed to draw up an ordinance embodying the report, and have it in shape for passage at the next regular meeting.

Memorial Day Exercises

General Compton Post No. 22, G. A. R., and W. R. C. of St. Johns have completed their program for Memorial day exercises.

Friday, May 28, the veterans will visit the city schools at 11 a. m.

Sunday the Post, W. R. C. and L. of G. A. R. will assemble in front of the L. O. G. F. hall promptly at 2:30 p. m. and proceed to the M. E. church at 3 p. m. Memorial sermon will be preached by Rev. S. Dewart of that church assisted by the several ministers of the city. It is urgently requested that all of the churches and citizens attend these services.

Monday, May 31, the Post and all kindred organizations will meet at I. O. O. F. hall promptly at 9:30 a. m. Line will be formed and will move at 10 o'clock and proceed to the city public dock, where the Post and W. R. C. will hold their exercises. Some brief remarks will close the exercises there, when the line will be reformed and march to I. O. O. F. hall, where a lunch will be served to the veterans, their families, including sons and daughters of veterans, Spanish and Mexican war veterans who are earnestly requested to take active part and be on line of march.

The city mayor, councilmen, professional and business men, and all citizens of St. Johns are cordially invited to assist in the exercises of the day by their presence, as they have already shown their good will and interest in the G. A. R. as a body.

It is urged by the Post that all business houses close between the hours of 10 a. m. and 12 m. on that day and support the spirit and sentiment of the occasion. The time is not far when it will devolve upon the city officials and citizens to take active charge of these proceedings, for death and age are fast depleting the ranks, and the heritage will be left to the patriotic public to assume charge.

Mrs. Florence Rucker has returned to St. Johns after a several months' sojourn in Kansas.

A Bad Accident

An accident that might easily have resulted in several deaths occurred at the St. Johns Lumber Co.'s mill about five o'clock Monday afternoon. Engine No. 3 which is used to pull the saws, the edgers and the feeders for the waste burner, in some inexplicable manner ran off, resulting in an explosion that totally wrecked the engine, blowing large pieces of it through the mill floor and through the roof. How the men working in the immediate vicinity escaped instant death is a mystery. Three laborers stood almost directly over the place where the huge pieces of cast iron burst through the floor and scarcely a foot away, but no one was even scratched, although some of the castings were thrown almost 200 feet. Large timbers were splintered into slivers and the engine is fit only for the scrap pile. The damage is placed at about \$2000.

Pleasant Occasion

A house warming party was given Robert Field and family at their new home on Tyler street Tuesday evening. Mr. Fields recently came from Kansas and lately moved into his new house in St. Johns. A very pleasant evening was spent by all. Two little daughters of Mr. Fields rendered a pleasing duet while the oldest daughter presided at the piano. Other music was rendered by Miss Catherine Coffyn, pianist; Archie Meyer, cornet, and Earl Crouchley, violin. Refreshments were served before the hour of retiring came around. The event was enjoyed immensely, and Mr. and Mrs. Fields were greatly cheered by the visitation. Those present were Misses Catherine Coffyn, Marayable Whitmore, Lena Zygowaki, Gertrude Crouchley, Mr. and Mrs. J. Crouchley, Archie Meyer, Ernest, Earl, James, Roy and Walter Crouchley.

Married

At the residence of her uncle, Gov. J. H. Fletcher, Willamette boulevard, St. Johns, May 18th, Isabelle Fletcher Robison to Louis P. Boardman, the Rev. C. P. Gates officiating. Mrs. Boardman is the daughter of Hon. J. J. Fletcher, mayor of Pierre, South Dakota, and up to the time of her marriage was one of the most successful leading women in America, her last engagement being with the Harry Bishop Stock company, of Liberty play house, Oakland, Cal., where she has been a genuine favorite for the past three years. Mr. Boardman is one of the leading attorneys of San Francisco. After touring the Coast country, Mr. and Mrs. Boardman will make their home in San Francisco.

For rare bargains in all kinds of realty see F. Hill.

BIG BOYS MUST DIG UP

They Get the Benefit and Should Help Some

The campaign inaugurated by the Commercial club to raise \$2500 for advertising and boosting St. Johns can never be obtained unless the larger property owners furnish the greater portion of the fund. The man owning a lot or a house and not expected to give for this purpose as much as the man owning acres of land and water front property, because his property only increases proportionately. Neither can the business men be expected to provide the greater part. They have calls daily for aid to relieve distress or advance the cause of some enterprise and the benefit derived by them by reason of a larger city are no greater than the property owner. As the city enlarges new business houses will rise proportionately in competition and the trade will ever be divided. It is then from the big property holders that help must come. If they are unwilling to do anything to advance the cause of St. Johns the project will fall flat by reason of its own weight. Judging from the past the project does not look bright. Outside of M. L. Holbrook we can recall few instances of where any aid has been extended for this purpose among the large property owners. We trust, however, that history will not repeat itself in this instance, and that they will contribute handsomely to the fund. But unless they do the enterprise will never be accomplished unless a miracle intervenes. The object is a laudable one and fully deserves to succeed, but the little fellows with plenty of ambition and little cash cannot hope to reach near that sum with their mites. We do not mean to infer, however, that the enterprising ones should cease their commendable efforts in the event of the big property owners not contributing to the cause, but do believe that the sum aimed at is placed entirely too high if they do not help and help generously.

Will Come Back

W. A. Olen and family left Sunday for their old home in Clintonville, Wisconsin, where they expect to make their future abiding place. Mr. Olen had been engaged in the real estate business here for the last nine months and had worked up quite a lucrative business and he regretted very much to retire from the field, but Mrs. Olen was afflicted with a bad attack of homesickness, hence their departure. Having been pretty well inoculated with Oregon climate their return is only a matter of months. Some how when one returns to his native heath after an extended absence things do not appear as they formerly did. The objectionable features are more prominent while those in the locality they have just left diminish and they finally wonder why they came home. People change constantly in many ways, but the fact is not noted while mingling together, but returning after a long absence this evolution is quite marked. What a strange world this is, anyhow.

The Title is All Right

Several of our citizens seem greatly concerned for fear that the high school will never be erected in this place, that a title to the ground cannot be secured and several other calamities are liable to occur to prevent its construction. To set all fears at rest we have delved into the matter and discovered that there is absolutely no doubt about securing the title and that plans will be selected in the very near future. The school board wanted to be sure that everything would be all right, and now that all doubt has been removed rapid progress toward its construction may be looked for.

Frank Thorndyke, recently of Astoria, was circulating among his friends here the past several days.

ROAD IS BADLY NEEDED

So Says S. W. Simmons the Road Expert

A remonstrance against the establishment of a county road in the north end has been circulated for past week, and a few who were not fully cognizant of conditions in relation to it signed it unwittingly. Supervisor S. W. Simmons informs us that the road is an actual necessity, that it will be more of a benefit than a detriment to Mr. Gatten's farm, that it is a connecting link between the two roads that now lead to the north end of the peninsula but which at present offer no way of returning unless by turning around and retracing one's steps, that it furnishes an outlet to the Ogden farm which Mr. Ogden has been endeavoring to secure for the past ten years, and that it would afford a driveway to go down one side of the peninsula, obtain a good view of the junction of the two rivers and return along the other side of the peninsula. Had these points been more generally known it is extremely doubtful if a single signer to the remonstrance could be obtained. Under the circumstances the document will likely have but little weight, as all who signed it, after the facts in the case have become known, will be willing to sign a counter statement that the remonstrance was signed without a due investigation or knowledge of conditions which were disguised or controverted by the party asking for signers.

Caused Much Regret

The cutting down of the beautiful maple tree on South Hayes was the occasion of much regret on the part of the citizens residing in that vicinity. As the tree was located on the line of the new concrete sidewalk it was deemed expedient by the city council to order its removal. The council, however, is not to be censured for ordering it cut down, as there are a number of trees in line with sidewalks on various streets yet to be improved, and the same question will arise. It was, therefore, necessary to establish a precedent at this time, and it was deemed advisable to make the ruling that all trees on line with the pavements in the city should henceforth and forever hereafter be cut down. Portland and other cities have adopted this course, and while a number of beautiful trees must be sacrificed to the march of progress, no other course has proven to be advisable.

Very Sad Days

The melancholy days have come—
The sadder of the year;
The carpet's on the clothes line
And incessant whacks we hear.
The bedding's in the kitchen,
And the beds are in the hall;
The pictures are upon the floor,
While some one dusts the hall.
The melancholy days are here—
The days of soap and brush;
Stove polish daubs the silverware,
There's pie on Shakespeare's bust.
Piano holds some frying pans,
The bathtub's lined with books;
The women folks' oh, who could tell
Who they were by their looks?

Are Expanding

The glad house cleaning time
Of muck and dust and soap!
It is a gladsome sight to see—
Through a great big telescope.

Are Expanding

Bonham & Currier have added a handsome line of men's suits to their dry goods department, and now it is not necessary to go to Portland when you want a suit of clothes. It would, indeed, be a hard man to please who cannot find something in their assortment to suit him. No cheap and shoddy goods are in stock.