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ST. JOHNS REVIEW

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

VOL. 6

ST. JOHNS, OREGON, FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 1910.

NO. 21

GET IN THE HABIT

Of advertising in THIS Paper and you'll never regret it. Be sure you get in the habit right at it.

City Should Stay Wet

So Says F. W. Valentine, Who Gives Many and Various Reasons in a Concise Manner for This Belief

The election of April 4th, 1910, will be one that will mean much to the city of St. Johns. Besides the election of a full board of city officials, the question of whether or not the city council shall issue liquor licenses is to be decided by a vote of the people.

During the past three years the city has been both dry and wet, and it is for the people to decide which it shall be for the coming year—whether it is better, from almost any standpoint, or worse, to have the city dry or wet.

Let us reason together in a calm, dispassionate manner. We are all neighbors and friends, and the matter should only be discussed in a friendly and reasonable way. All good citizens are equally interested in the welfare of St. Johns, and, I believe, will vote according to their impressions and understanding of conditions.

Let us look at the question first from an industrial standpoint. The tale of a city's progress is always told by the number and amount represented by its building permits. Therefore, it would be well to use them as a guide. Taking the winter months alone, it is discovered that from November 1, 1907, to April 1, 1908, the amount was \$30,500.

From a moral standpoint, I challenge any one to prove that the city is worse now than it was during the dry period. The number of arrests made for drunkenness are not far from equal in both instances, according to police records, and if conditions were taken into consider-

ation they would show that at least an equal amount of drunkenness was apparent during the dry season as during the wet one. The saloons have been conducted in a quiet and orderly way. Not a fight or brawl has been recorded since they have been re-opened. Crowds are not allowed to congregate in front of their places of business; no back rooms, no music, and a sixty per cent glass front prohibits any underhand business. Not a minor has been discovered securing liquor and the places are constantly under police surveillance.

Is it not better to legalize the selling of liquor than to invite men to make criminals out of themselves under the law by selling it illegally? It is a fact beyond dispute that prohibition never did prohibit, and it is doubtful if it ever will prohibit the sale of liquor. Even in Maine, which has long been a prohibition state, statistics show that more liquor is being sold there than is consumed in the state of Oregon.

Simply a restricted residence district, with a quiet and peaceful atmosphere similar to our sister town, University Park, there would be less reason for saloon licenses. But such assuredly is not the case and will never become so. Here will be done the greater portion of the shipping business of the great city of Portland, and all conditions of men will assemble here. Why hamper and impede the growth of the city by keeping men out who favor saloon licenses? Why not leave it open for them to drink or leave it alone? Liquor is not harmful unless it is taken to excess.

To get back to local conditions, does the records show that strong drink has been the cause of the death of any man in St. Johns? Do you know of any family here that is destitute and in want by reason of a dissipated head of the family? If there are any such cases, they are rare, indeed. So far as St. Johns is concerned the sale of liquor has so far not proven a boomerang.

If you have a competence so that you need not struggle for an existence, and desire a quiet, sluggish place in which to pass an idle life; if you despise the sound of the saw and the hammer; if you hate the sight of a working man, vote dry.

F. W. Valentine, 307 W. Charleston St., St. Johns, Oregon.

Wanted—To borrow \$500 for a period of five years; money wanted for improvement of a ten-acre tract of fruit land in White Salmon valley, Wash. First mortgage on place given as security. Address "W" this office.

Banker Wood "Wet" Gets After Manager Ayer "Dry"

Arguments Advanced by These Worthies on the Saloon Question When the Banker Boss Called on the Mill Manager

Mr. Wood—Mr. Ayer you are taking a wrong view of this Saloon Question, and it is going to hurt our city to have it go dry.

Mr. Ayer—As the saloons are now running in St. Johns they are a detriment to the community, and always will be.

W.—You must be mistaken, as all our merchants want the saloons.

W.—Not at all! They say business is better with the saloons than without. That the money is spent in St. Johns saloons, without them it would go to Portland.

A.—If these are people that must have their liquor and throw their money away, I say, let them go to Portland, and remain there. As Roosevelt would say "They are not the most desirable citizens!" Let us have a city built up with honest, industrious people; men with families, fair, broad minded, law abiding citizens.

W.—Yes, that is one of the troubles, Portland undesirable can get here too quickly. There used to be other wet towns for them to go to down the valley, but now these towns are dry, so fast as they are driven out of Portland they come to wet St. Johns.

A.—Mighty little does the revenue from the saloons affect our taxes. It gives the city council a little more money to spend, money which they do not see fit to get from or by appropriation.

W.—I will admit some might be better. But the saloon men have their money invested here; we should not take it away from them. It might be different if we were not so near Portland.

A.—Yes, I am fighting for a dry town for selfish motives and for our own good. Is there a man of you in the city that has larger business interests here than I have or a larger welfare for the city's growth and good? On our payroll there are half as many names as on the registration books of St. Johns. The payroll is the mainstay of this city like that of other cities.

W.—You are wrong, all wrong. But let's not get excited. You do not own the town! I must be going.

A.—You don't own the mill, do you? Why are you working against our interests and the city's? For three years we have told you we wanted a dry town. Now we are going to try to get it dry.

Perrine Wants the Job

Ed. Review: I have been working hard all my life and have not got much ahead. Now, if you think that section 71 of the charter will be amended so that the council shall be the "exclusive judges" in the matter of selling the city dock or any building which the city may own, say, Editor, if this amendment carries, could we not sell the city hall too?

Fessenden Street Status

Condemnation proceedings will be completed by April 3, 1910, which will give the city possession of the street 20 feet wide on each side of the private right of way of the P. R. L. & P. Company.

A Cold Deck--A Lemon

Will the Taxpayers and Owners of Homes in the Second Ward Stand for the Best? A Few Cold Facts, Draw Your Own Conclusions.

Last year there was held what was called a convention, and it was decided that we would get together and work in harmony for the up-building and general good of St. Johns. A nominating committee consisting of F. W. Valentine, Thos. Cochran, and J. T. Murphy stated the ticket and what was the result. The mayor and all three councilmen at large were chosen from the first ward with the two councilmen from that ward, while we were permitted to have two lone councilmen which the charter gives us, but I am in doubt as to their allowing us even that much if such provision had not been provided for in the charter.

Another Big Mill

Portland will have another great flour mill soon. Balfour, Guthrie & Co., wheat and flour exporters, have completed plans for erecting a big mill at the foot of Tenth street on the Portland waterfront.

It Does Not Prohibit

I, B. L. Snow, hold in my hand the sayings of one Gov. Stubbs, who avers that prohibition prohibits. Now, Mr. Editor, for years I have shunned publicity, I now ask no notoriety; but believing as an honest man and a resident of the state of Kansas for years and knowing as I do know the inside as well as the outside of prohibition, I now state as a gentleman and attorney and as a late officer in the army, on my honor as to the truthfulness of what I now state: there was never one day during the so called dry days in the state of Kansas that I could not within five minutes secure all of the whiskey, beer, ale or wine that I or my company, consisting of 112 men, could drink.

Health! Life's greatest boon, least prized when owned, most sought when not possessed. The means by which all pleasures are enjoyed, the highest state of human animation, the perfection of life, the treasure par excellence, is health. What then is this treasure, much to be desired, too often not in good supply. A whole body, clean blood, and a sound mind must be its fundamentals. And a body is whole only when its every cell is free from interfering poisons. The blood is clean only when its fluid is devoid of toxins, and its countless millions of corpuscles are of perfect symmetry, well ironed for their oxygen carrying service and free from the plasmidia that may affect their usefulness or the shriveling effects of deleterious drugs.

Good Health

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- FOR SALE Good 6-room house, 50 x 100 lot, South St. Johns. Can sell for as low as the house cost. This is a snap at \$1250.

The ladies of the M. E. church will serve a 25 cent dinner and supper in new Laethers building on election day, Apr. 4th. They will also have a apron booth where they will sell aprons, coarse and fine.

At the Congregational church, corner Richmond and Ivanhoe streets, all the usual services will be conducted Sunday. Sunday school at 10 a. m., preaching at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. by the pastor. A seat and welcome for all.

Sunday forenoon at the Evangelical church Mr. Gates will preach. This service closes the third year of his pastorate and he will give review of work done by the church. In the evening Dr. C. C. Poling, presiding elder, will preach and administer communion.

Well pressed clothes make the well dressed man. Bring them to 116 Philadelphia Street to insure their being well pressed. All work guaranteed satisfactory. We do Dye Work of all sorts. St Johns Cleaning, Pressing and Dyeing Works, 116 Philadelphia Street. Phone Jersey 1131.

All our meats are government inspected and the best that money can buy. They are neatly and carefully handled. Come in and leave your order for free delivery. Ward's Central Market.