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ST. JOHNS REVIEW

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

VOL. 7

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NO. 40

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Progressive Meeting

The second meeting of the St. Johns Progressive association was held in the city hall Saturday night, and a fairly good attendance was present.

The constitution and by-laws, as prepared by a committee endowed with that mission, was read and adopted by sections.

Article I—The name or title of this organization shall be "The St. Johns Progressive Association."

Article II—The object of this organization shall be for the purpose of discussing and taking action upon any public measure vital to the welfare and advancement of St. Johns.

Article III—This organization shall meet in the city hall Thursday evening of each week.

Article IV—All citizens interested in the welfare and development of St. Johns are eligible to join this organization.

Article V—The dues of this organization shall be ten cents per month for each member, payable in advance.

The committee on resolutions asked for another week's time for preparation of same, which was readily granted.

Chas. Anderson and S. W. Childers believed that the ordinance allowing the water company to cents per foot for lowering mains was unjust.

S. C. Cook then stated that the Maple street sewer proposition had reached a point where it was of vital interest to the taxpayers in the city.

D. C. Lewis, an attorney who has lately become a resident of St. Johns made a few pointed remarks on the subject, in which he advised laying the matter before the district attorney.

Adjournment to Thursday evening.

Everyone to be Rated

The Merchants' Mercantile Co. of Portland is preparing to prepare a credit guide for this district, including Multnomah county.

By this system this county will be put in direct touch with credit conditions all over the United States and whenever anyone moves here from any other part of the United States, the merchants here will be at once posted through this company as to how the party paid his bills where he formerly lived.

These credit guides are made up in districts covering every state in the Union. They are made from the combined experience of all the merchants in each of these districts and every merchant rates his own customers according to how they have paid him.

Before a customer is rated he is given notice by letter that he will be rated and is given a chance to pay up his old account and thus secure a good rating.

Each merchant and professional man is furnished with a copy of the rating guide so that he may refer to it and look up the rating of any customer or prospective customer before giving any credit.

Oregon's hop crop is another source of prosperity for the farmer this season. With 30 cents already paid for the growing crop and reports of extreme shortage abroad, making further advances probable the hop grower is in high feather.

The state has an excellent yield of hops this season, the total being estimated at 100,000 bales, which is the biggest crop since 1907.

Trading at Home

Have you any town, city or state pride? Why do you buy out of town? Boost your town; don't knock or try to kill it.

Why do you buy out of town? You may think you save money, but do you?

Every dollar you put out of circulation here at home makes it just that much harder for you to find another dollar to take its place. Is that saving money?

Your home merchant extends you credit when you need it—and you know how often that occurs and for how long you "hang him up"—but when you do your cash buying you send your money to some other city because some things in which the regular price is widely advertised are sold a few cents lower than at home.

And the out of town house makes up on something you do not know about—or on the quality of the goods.

When you buy of a home merchant and find that the purchase is not up to the standard you can go to him and have it out. Can you do that when you buy in Portland or Chicago?

You may argue that you do not sell your products in this town. Perhaps you don't—but couldn't you do so if the town were larger and more prosperous? Do you think this town will grow if you persist in sending to an out-of-town firm for goods? And wouldn't your products have a greater sale if we all did our share in calling for "Made in Oregon" goods, all things being equal?

If people sending their orders to out of town houses would spend the same amount of money in their own town these towns would be growing just as the larger cities are growing. There would be a larger demand for "Made in Oregon" merchandise, a demand for a larger force of clerks to handle the increased trade and a demand for houses for the clerks to live in.

There would be a larger demand for farm products for them to live upon, a larger demand for the produce that the average farmer raises and is willing to raise more of, if the demand makes it necessary. Think it over and see if your trade would not be of some help toward bringing about these new conditions!

—E. X.

Good Place to Rusticate

Hillsboro, Ore., July 29, 1911. Editor Review: I noticed an item in the Review about the intense heat in St. Johns July 24th.

Out here on Maple Hill at the Fir Bluff ranch, where the flowers bloom the year around, the birds sing their praises, the trout jump over the tree tops, the grouse and pheasants roost beside the shady brook and the deer wake me up every morning with their musical bleating, I tell you the climate was rather tropical around these diggings.

I had something less than 100 acres of hay to haul in on that beautiful day. I invited in about 8 good heavy weights. We opened a keg of nails and we put it in the cool rippling brook, and it is hard to tell which flowed the faster the perspiration or the nails, but nevertheless the hay was all confined by night in a beautiful log bungalow that cost something like 25 cents, not saying anything at all about the murders we committed on those little singing insects (culex pun-gens) that say c-o-o-u-s-i-n.

The only thing we lacked to complete our job in first class shape was some of the St. Johns boys, something like Roy Wilcox or some of the other good heavy weights to count the nails for us. If you have any more extremely hot days in St. Johns you are invited to come out to Maple Hill on the Fir Bluff ranch where the merry breezes sing their merry song. J. B. Campbell.

Big delegations from all parts of the state will gather at Astoria for the annual convention of the Oregon Development league on August 14, 15 and 16.

There is wide interest in the approaching session and a splendid, interesting program has been prepared. Each section promises to have a full representation and the meeting will mark a forward step in development circles.

The Centennial celebration will have an added interest for delegates to the League gathering, known far and wide for its hospitality. Astoria will make a special effort to entertain the leaguers. On the whole, the approaching convention promises to be the very best ever held in the history of the state-wide development body.

More Grief

The parallel development of political and industrial life:

POLITICAL. First stage—Primitive barbarism—Individualism in offense and defense. No organization. Each for himself. Free competition, which finally results in mastery of the stronger and the beginning of organization and the leadership of chieftains, feudal barons, etc.

Co-operation in the fighting but not in the distribution of the spoils. Larger and larger political combinations preclude the possibility of individual competition, which meant only waste and ruin, and establish kingdoms and empires holding a complete monopoly of political power which is Monarchy.

The next step is an attempt to obtain relief from this political monopoly in constitutions and laws granting some rights to the people and limiting the power of the ruler. This is limited monarchy or a measure of public control of political power. The next step is public ownership of political power, which is Democracy.

INDUSTRIAL. First stage—Industrial barbarism—Individualism in production—No organization. Each producing what he uses. Free competition, resulting in mastery of those better qualified, and the beginning of organized production under the leadership of those owning the machinery.

Co-operation in production but not in the distribution of the product. Larger and larger industrial combinations preclude the possibility of individual competition, which also means only waste and ruin, and establish trusts and combines holding a complete monopoly of industrial power, which is Industrial Monarchy, or Capitalism.

And we try to obtain relief from industrial monopoly in laws and constitutions such as establish railroad rates, say what trains shall be run, etc. This is what the editor says is the true means of relief, but it is only limited monarchy, this public control of industry. And the next step must be Public Ownership of Industrial Power, which is Socialism.

Mr. Editor, you give the proper definition of democracy "rule by the people at large" and then say that this promotes individualism. But sir, rule by the people at large abolishes individualism in political government in identical manner as merely incidental that would abolish individualism in industry. Democracy means majority rule, the sinking of the will of the individual in the will of the majority.

It means collectivism which is the direct opposite of individualism. The true individualist is the anarchist who complains of the "tyranny of the majority." And you who would continue industrial anarchy are loath to submit to the majority rule of the common man.

Once more—socialism means management of the industries of the people by the people and for the people. Nothing but industrial democracy.

Now, Mr. Editor, I have been a student of scientific socialism for more than twenty years, and when you say that I seem more of a populist than a socialist, you have in mind those misunderstandings of socialism, which you, in common with many others, have acquired, the Lord knows how, but it has not been from reading socialist literature.

"Confiscation, dividing up, to give somebody something for nothing, which Subscriber objects to quite properly, and the abolishment of gold and silver money. There is not one word in all socialist literature to give foundation for such notions. Some writers have mentioned as merely incidental that the use of such money would probably grow less or disappear, which is even now borne out by the facts on the Isthmus where government is in control of practically all business.

This merely an interesting result. And by the way what per cent of business is transacted with money today?

As to confiscation, there has been no confiscation to obtain government ownership of such industries as are now governmentally owned in the different countries of the world. There would be no confiscation if the government should stop the Guggenheim confiscation of Alaska coal land, open up the mines itself and furnish coal to the people at cost, and there need be no confiscation to continue the good work on other lines.

It would not be confiscation if the government should declare forfeited the lands which the railroads have gobbled up although failing to live up to their part of the contract. And it would be parcel it out to settlers 160 acres to each of the first comers. And you have told us that if all property were divided up it would in a brief time be in the hands of a few, and that we know is true, therefore we don't want it divided up, we want it held by the government and used for the benefit of all.

Now as to the statistics of certain industries. You believe that considering the things incidental to competition they made only a reasonable profit. You might have gone farther and shown that many others make no profit at all, and that 95 per cent of all business ventures fail utterly, do not pay for their time to say nothing about profit.

And come to think of it, the feudal barons and rulers of dinky little political institutions didn't make such tremendous profits, consider the incidents of competition, the responsibilities and the dangers of losing their heads from internal or external disturbances, even when they had ground down their serfs and underlings to the lowest point of existence. We wouldn't want the job for what there is in it. Well is that a reason to continue that system? Great Caesar! That is just the very reason we have changed it. In the interest of both the ruler and the ruled we cut out the waste of effort, the responsibility and the dangers of that form of competition, and cut out the profit, all profit, even the reasonable profit of the ruler. We now hire one and pay him a salary.

And wouldn't you please tell us what great and valuable incentive, what zest was destroyed so that there was nothing worth while to work for, and make life worth living?

Well now, when opposing financial interests, because of the risks, the losses,

Firemen's Barbecue

The fire laddies held their second annual picnic and barbecue on the shady banks of the Willamette just north of the ship building plant Sunday. Almost the full complement of firemen and many of their friends congregated on this delightful spot and spent the day as only such good fellows can.

A large section of an ox, done in an exquisite manner by a chef of high attainment, provided provender enough to feed Coxe's army. Besides this there were pickles by the barrel, baked beans, salads and sandwiches in endless profusion.

The firebell rang just after all had eaten to the capacity of their clothes and the way some of the firemen waddled up the hill to the scene of disaster, was highly amusing to some of the guests who had eaten so much that they were unequal to the task of following suit.

Ball games and a kangaroo court were the features enjoyed by all, and the occasion was an immense success.

the waste incident to competition can only the strongest of them make a reasonable profit, and that upon the ruins of the 95 per cent who fail, and by lowering the wages of the millions down to the lowest, and the price of commodities up to the limit,—what is the answer?

"With malice toward none, but charity for all" we will learn from past political changes what the next industrial change must be.

And in the interest of the harassed employer and oppressed worker alike we will change the system cutting out profit, even the (under present conditions) reasonable profit, putting our captains of industry on a flat salary. But of even greater importance than the saving of the profit will be the saving of the waste of many institutions opposing each other.

After a careful perusal of the above, one who is not a socialist could not help but wonder what could possibly be gained by socialism over present conditions.

The doctor takes the planks upon which "Appeal to Reason" and all the socialist street speakers that we ever heard have long been standing and ruthlessly casts them into oblivion. The time honored plank "confiscation," upon which so many weary socialists have clambered, and upon which their fondest hopes are centered is discarded; the "division of the public loot" plank, "something for nothing" plank, and abolishment of gold and silver as a medium of exchange plank are all thrown into the bottomless pit. The doctor also gives us the first instance in all our experience of a self-styled socialist of 20 years' standing pitying the "harassed employer."

Invariably they are styled as "blood suckers," "slave drivers," "inhuman monsters" and the like. To prove this statement we ask any one to listen 30 seconds to any street orator exhorting socialism any evening in Portland. The doctor is most surely in a class by himself.

He states that 95 per cent of all business ventures fail. Why? Is it because they pay their employees too much, or too little as the socialists would have us believe, or is it because 95 per cent of the people making business ventures are unfitted by training and ability to successfully transact business?

Since the doctor has cast aside so many planks that are dear to the hearts of most socialists, mighty little remains between him and the present system. The only difference, as we glean from his remarks, is that the public should own all industrial power, so that the 95 per cent above mentioned would have no chance to exploit their business aspirations, and the laborer's wage crushed down to such an extent that failure in business would be impossible.

But is the government (which is the people) capable of operating any proposition successfully and equitably? Has it proven to be so? In conducting military affairs it has been woefully inequitable. A good soldier receives no more than a poor one, and the soldiers are in far worse bondage than the average workman. He can not throw up his position whenever he desires, and at all times is at the beck and call of the government. In Postal affairs the government is just as inequitable. The rural mail carrier gets \$500 or \$600 per year for his services, must furnish his own horse and feed out of this. Other employees doing much less work receive many times this amount. They cannot throw up their job at a moment's notice, either. The Panama canal is costing twice as much as a corporation could do it for, and yet the wages paid for labor is not much above the average, if any. Therefore, it would be wise to first let the government show that it is capable of conducting affairs in an economical and equitable manner before burdening it with any further responsibilities.

Anyhow, it seems that it is infinitely better to be merely a citizen with a better of possibilities before us than a government slave, subject to the whims and caprices of a fickle and incapable public. Let us hope that the "next step" will not be speedily taken.

The Boy Scouts

A card from Adjutant Butts says he is having the time of his life.

The aquarium is growing in interest as new specimens are being introduced. It now contains three specimens: two adult Epomatids Gibbosi and their baby; one Acipenser Transmontanus, one Ameiurus Nebulosus, one Micropterus Salmoides. There two fine specimens of Carpiolus Cyprinus contributed, but they had been caught with the hands and a few days later the dreaded sporades made their appearance, making it necessary to remove them. The Acipenser was caught by Scout Poff, who caught two, but they handled with the bare hands. After a week one had to be removed from the aquarium and the other is being closely watched. The two adult Epomatids were contributed by Scout Hartle who, handled them with his hands just as little as possible. They may escape the fate of the other victims of handling but it is doubtful. They are beauties and it would be too bad to lose them. The only safe way is to NEVER TOUCH A FISH with the bare hands if it is for the aquarium and never put the hands in the aquarium. The baby Epomatid was caught at the same time as the Salmoides three weeks ago by a stranger who said he did not handle them. As they have passed the danger period without any symptoms of evil effect we are in hopes they are permanent residents.

The show case for the department of "bugology," has not yet materialized. Is it possible that our business men and citizens care so little for their boys and think so much of the almighty dollar that they will not loosen up to the extent of a few shekels to enable those boys to devote some of their spare time to nature study instead of loafing about the street, learning things that can do them nothing but harm? It looks much like it.

New specimens are coming in almost every day, among them a fine belostoma, a pair of prionus lateicollis, a most beautiful papilio eurymedon, a very rare moth, arctia chaia a native of Labrador, but found in the mountains as far south as Colorado. How it happened to come to St. Johns is a wonder to the bugologist: there are a number too which we have not had time to classify, all of which will have to be kept piled up in boxes to deteriorate without doing any one any good until from some source a suitable showcase is secured. A few cents each from our business men would be sufficient to buy a good case which they could donate either to the public library or the scouts as they see fit, in either case it will be filled by the boys and will prove a source of instruction as well as amusement, for noxious insects will be classified and the best method of extermination given.

Scoutmaster.

Council Proceedings

All members with the exception of Councilman Muck, who is absent from the city on a business trip, were present at the regular meeting of the city council Tuesday evening with Mayor Couch presiding.

After the minutes had been read and disposed of, a number of remonstrances against assessment of sewer district No. 2, presented by W. J. Collins, Dr. W. F. Amos, Mrs. Charlotte Carlson, J. H. Cramer, D. C. Rogers, W. H. King and about 40 others, were read. While they were out of order more or less, they were entertained by the mayor and referred to the street committee for report. According to the charter the time for remonstrance against the assessment of the Maple street sewer had long since passed. All that could have been remonstrated against Tuesday night legally was any injustice that the mayor and referred to the street committee for report. According to the charter the time for remonstrance against the assessment of the Maple street sewer had long since passed. All that could have been remonstrated against Tuesday night legally was any injustice that the mayor and referred to the street committee for report.

A resolution to improve Tioga street from Fessenden to Willis boulevard was adopted on motion of Alderman Hill.

Attorney Geo. J. Perkins then asked leave to present a couple of propositions before the council, which was granted. He was urged on behalf of his client, the St. Johns Star and Gravel Co., which has been handicapped by the delay, that work be expedited on the improvement of Macrum avenue; that the time had elapsed for its improvement and the work was at a standstill. Then, as attorney for the bondsmen of sewer district No. 2, he asked that the assessment ordinance be passed with the least possible delay; that debtors of the contractor had brought suit against the contractor and his bondsmen, and if the assessment ordinance was passed it would relieve the situation; that the maintenance bond of the bondsmen was apparently ample to remedy all defects that might arise on the sewer, and, therefore, the property owners would not be injured by an early passage of the ordinance; that personally he wanted the city to have a good sewer, and believed in holding the bondsmen to make it good, if it proved bad; that if warrants had been issued prematurely they could be exchanged without trouble for ones issued after the work had been made satisfactory; that he had been informed by one of the bondsmen that all defects so far discovered had been remedied; that upon investigation the bondsmen had found little if any additional defects. He asked that if there were any other known faults in its construction he wanted to know them so he could advise his clients and have them fixed; that it was incumbent upon the council, he thought, to proceed as rapidly as possible toward having the matter settled satisfactorily.

Socialist Perrine didn't think the bonds heavy enough, judging from a remark made by the contractor; that the property owners wanted the tunnels filled for one thing; that a good sewer was of more moment than any hardship that might fall upon the bondsmen. Mr. Perkins replied that he also wanted the city to have a good sewer and that the tunnels would be properly filled, and that the specifications would be complied with so far as necessary where they were shown to vary widely enough to make a bad sewer. But since the engineer, an inspector of the remonstrators' own choosing, the street committee, a majority of the council, and finally the chief inspector from Portland, with a wide reputation for ability and veracity, had passed upon the sewer and pronounced it good, besides a maintenance bond for two years supplied by well known and responsible citizens, that in the face of this evidence most any fairminded person would concede that it was safe to pass the assessment ordinance.

Gail Perrine, who has been acting as inspector of the bondsmen work, testified that in one place they found pipe with so little cement on top that he could run his hand in; that some of the pipe had been found to be cemented in good shape, and others not so good.

Mayor Couch then stated that he did not think anything could be done toward passing the ordinance until the engineer had passed upon it and handed in his report, and that he would not favor its passage until this has been received.

Alderman Hill thought Contractor Pottage was entirely too dilatory in improving Macrum avenue and

Highway Terminus

Portland has gained a great victory over Seattle and San Francisco. It has been recognized by the United States as the official terminus of the ocean-to-ocean highway, which the federal good roads department is supporting. Seattle and San Francisco have been in competition with Portland for this great tourist and commercial highway-to-be, and it is now announced that Portland has won out. Maps with Portland and New York as the termini are being distributed by the government in every part of the United States, in which is contained valuable advertising for Portland. The map shows the highway from New York to Portland will be 3800 miles long. At Portland it will connect with the Pacific highway, permitting of journey either north to Canada or south to the border of Mexico, Portland getting them coming and going. It is believed that this great highway will be of more material benefit to this section than the Panama canal. It will afford all men of means an opportunity to travel from New York and intervening points to Portland by auto over one of the finest roads in the country, which would mean a most rapid development of this little known part of the world.

he favored taking summary measures with this gentleman and force him to either get busy or get off the job. He made a motion which carried unanimously, that the matter be placed in the hands of the city attorney to demand that the contractor get busy at once and finish the improvement, or the city would take it off his hands and complete the work at the expense of the contractor and his bondsmen, as the charter directs.

A resolution to improve Crawford street from Salem to Richmond was adopted on motion of Mr. Hill; all yes.

A resolution to improve South Jersey street from Mohawk to Ida street was unanimously adopted on motion of Alderman Valentine.

An ordinance providing for the protection of improved streets reached third reading and was passed over until next week.

The report of viewers on the proposed opening of Kellogg street from Burlington to Chicago was then taken up. Socialist Perrine thought it was just a scheme on the part of two or three property owners who had sold the front part of their lots leaving no ingress or egress to the remaining portion that wanted the street opened up; therefore he was "ferminst" it. On motion of Alderman Valentine that the report be adopted by ordinance a vote was taken, which resulted as follows: Valentine, Hill and Davis, yes; Bredeson, Perrine and Horsman, no. Taking the vote of the mayor to decide, he voted in the negative.

Alderman Bredeson believed that Burlington street should be improved as soon as possible; that it should be macadamized its full width and paid out of the general fund, if necessary. Mr. Valentine also favored early work upon this street; that it was a disgrace to the city in its present condition. He favored the property owners paying for the improvement up to 50 per cent of the assessed valuation of their property, and the city paying the balance. Mr. Hill moved that the matter be placed in the hands of the city attorney and engineer to report upon same next Tuesday night.

Mr. Bredeson thought that the city water gauge should be placed in its proper place in the Central school building instead of its present abiding place in the city hall, so that it could be easily ascertained if the proper pressure of water was being supplied. He made a motion to this effect, which carried unanimously.

Socialist Perrine pointed out a serious discrepancy in the city's contract with M. G. Nease, lessee of the rock crusher outfit, and a reading of the contract showed that he had the right conception of the fault. He intimated that there might have been connivance between the former council and lessee on this section of the contract. As it was too late to do more than deplore the "casualty," no action was taken to remedy the defect.

Socialist Perrine stated that he had been requested by the St. Johns Progressive Association to recommend that the ordinance allowing the water company ten cents per foot for lowering water mains be repealed. He asked that the city attorney submit a written report covering this issue next week. The attorney agreed to do so.

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