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ST. JOHNS REVIEW

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

VOL. 7

ST. JOHNS, OREGON, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1911.

NO. 43

A Citizen Replies

Editor Review: Please allow me space in your columns to reply to what you had to say last week in criticism of the St. Johns Progressive association.

To begin with will say I care little about what you say such an association should be, but think it should expose and condemn anything that savors of graft and dishonesty. According to your theory robbery and thievery and graft and corruption in city government and such like, should be kept in the dark and nothing said about it lest it might give the city a hard name. The Progressive association I think should be just the opposite. But we will leave that part now and take up, first: What you say in regard to the engineer. You say: "If he had not known the work was faulty why should he not accept it?" Article two, sect. 75 of city charter (not precedent) says: "The city engineer shall keep himself informed as to the condition of public streets, squares, parks, highways, bridges, sewers, lights, etc." It is clear from this section that it is his business to know, and he should not act without knowledge.

Second: The action of the association in condemning a majority of the members of the city council for accepting the Maple street sewer; "that the sewer when it could not answer the purpose for which it was intended." This you say has never been proven. The sewer has been unearthed in more than a dozen different places and found very faulty in that it has not been properly cemented at the joints, the dirt has not been tamped in, filling and other defects, giving ample proof that the sewer is next to worthless. Sewers are built to carry off filth, not to filter it out into and through the soil to breed and foster disease germs, as the construction of Maple street sewer shows plainly it will do and there is no doubt it is doing now.

Third: Condemnation of the hasty action of the mayor and recorder in issuing warrants, &c. You ask why discriminate between the present officers and former ones, "when the city attorney informs us that every mayor and recorder that St. Johns has ever had has used the same haste, why not condemn them all, if any?" If this be true we say we do condemn all and ask if it is good business sense and honesty to throw away the city charter and act on precedent? This of itself is proof of the rottenness in city government. When it comes to handling its finances in such a light and frivolous manner, it might do to act on precedent in some more trivial matters, but when it comes to handling the people's money precedent should be laid aside altogether. You seem to excuse the mayor and recorder because you say they were supported by a resolution of the council authorizing them to sign the warrants. It is not necessary for the council to pass such a resolution when the proper conditions have been complied with. The charter says: "After the assessment therefor is made and docketed, the mayor and city recorder shall draw warrants on the fund credited for such improvement." There is no excuse for haste or precedent in this matter, it looks very bad to those who are assessed to pay the bill.

In regard to what you say criticizing the resolution passed condemning the water company. If equipment of the company is sufficient to deliver 715 gallons of water per day per capita, why do they not get it? Is it the people's fault? Is the company trying to aggravate its patrons, or is it waiting for them to lay larger mains or new ones as was done by the people in East St. Johns, where they were compelled to lay the mains themselves in order that the company could get a supply of water to them; the people care little about the statement you make that the company has installed a 4,000-gallon pump, etc. It is of but little use to the people without the necessary pipes to deliver them the 715 gallons you say they are entitled to. Your efforts, Mr. Editor, to put up argument upholding the water company when you certainly know that the company is not serving the people as it should is very weak indeed. Why not get in and lend your influence to the end that the company be induced to give more efficient service, deliver the goods, and the good name of the city will be improved and the people will be grateful. Now as to the seventh resolution: "The statement has gone abroad, etc." which you say you do not believe. You say this resolution passed because precedent had been followed in the matter of issuing warrants, etc. No, Mr. Editor, this is not the reason, long before

Boldon at Coos Bay

Marshfield, Oregon, Aug. 20, 1911.

Editor Review: Thinking a line from me might be of interest to your many readers, will ask space for only a short letter.

We reached this out of the way place safely on August 6, having a smooth sea and bars almost the same. Here at Marshfield the talk is all of the railroad that is to soon come. And that hope is beginning to bear fruit in the rapid movement of real estate. The coming of the other day of the battleship Boston, the first that ever attempted to cross Coos Bay bar, set the people wild with joy. Every conceivable piece of hunting and flag was out. The cities of North Bend and Marshfield presented a very beautiful sight, decked out as for a Fourth of July, and when the sea fighters entered the harbor cannons boomed and boats and mills whistled, and the whole city was out on the wharves to greet her. Today is Sunday and a large excursion train is down from Coquille and Bandon to visit and give Uncle Sam's staunch little sea fighter a royal welcome. Business is booming down here in all lines. A raft came up the bay the other day to the C. A. Smith mill; one of the longest and largest I have ever seen. An automobile road passes by our door, lately opened by Coos county and connecting Marshfield and Coquille, so that we get to see some signs of life even here. The Nan Smith loads here regularly at the Smith mill for San Francisco and it will be of interest to your readers that this vessel carries more lumber than any other ship in the world, owing to modern equipment for loading here. The C. A. Smith mill cuts over 350,000 feet per day and has the latest and most improved machinery of any mill on the Pacific coast.

Will write again and will thank you for the weekly visits of your paper to give us the news from the many friends in St. Johns and for your valuable space for these lines.

A. T. Boldon.

The sewer was started that statement had gone forth. Last spring I was in the city of Hood River. I overheard a conversation like this: A party was buying a tract of Hood River land and asked the seller if he would not take a nice bit of residence property in St. Johns in part payment for the Hood River land. The reply was that he did not think he would. The buyer put up a good spiel for St. Johns, telling of its natural advantages, etc., to which the seller replied: To begin with, he said "your city government of St. Johns is rotten to the core." Now, Mr. Editor, if you do not believe my statement, go with me and I will put you face to face with the party that made the statement. The fact the former mayor gave the contract or authority to scatter pipe on the line of the Maple street sewer before the contract was awarded and the further fact that the present mayor and recorder did issue warrants illegally and as you say in haste contrary to the provisions of the city charter, also that the mayor now seems anxious to compel the abutting property owners to pay for a sewer that he knows is far from being what the contract and specification calls for, he seems desirous that the contractor gets his pay whether he gives value received or not, when the charter says: "that it shall be the duty of the mayor to see that all contracts and agreements made with the city or for its use and benefit are faithfully kept and performed and to this end he shall by and with the consent of the council and in the name of the city cause any legal or equitable proceedings to be instituted and prosecuted against all persons or corporations failing to fulfill their agreement with the city." Now, Mr. Editor, I claim that instead of favoring and upholding the contractor the mayor should be defending the city of St. Johns and its people against this fraudulent transaction. These are some of the facts, Mr. Editor, that is heralding abroad the statement that "the city government of St. Johns is rotten to the core," and not the effort that Progressive association to throw off the burden of injustice that unscrupulous and designing parties are trying to foist upon the people. I ask, Mr. Editor, who is the greater offender against the good name of the city: the man who upholds corruption and fraud, or the man who feels that he is being robbed and defrauded and makes an open effort to throw off the burden? Who is the knocker, the kicker, as you say? You know that what I have stated is true and if you desire to further advertise the rottenness of the city government and have any more criticisms for

A National Character

Editor Review: From the columns of your paper I learn that Senator Thomas B. Gore, the blind United States Senator from Oklahoma, is to lecture in St. Johns. Permit me to say through your paper to those who possibly can do so, they should by all means hear the senator. Senator Gore is a national character, and his achievements are illustrations of what continuous effort will bring. While making his campaign for senator he often slept on the hard, bare benches in the depots, and used his faithful wife's lap for a pillow, and when she found rest the next day while he was electing senator.

I am personally acquainted with the senator, his ability and pleasing manner as a speaker, and for him too much cannot be said. Those who brought him here are to be congratulated for they will hear none so good during the season.

D. C. Lewis.

for the actions of the St. Johns Progressive association, come out with it and I will tell you some other facts.

A Citizen.

If condemnation, villification, calumny, fault finding and blackening of character spell Progress, we must confess that we are unacquainted with the word. Since there is such a scant supply of the milk of human kindness and charity in this old world of ours, and so much of bitterness, suspicion, distrust and unhappiness, why add more dregs of wormwood and gall? Somehow we have always felt that we would rather drop a flower than a curse, rather reach down and help up than to crush further into the depths, rather brighten a character than blacken it. Hence we have little patience with the individual or organization seeking to cast suspicion or distrust upon another. A character is so easy to blacken and so difficult to remove the stains, however unjust the charge might be. A man without charity for his fellowmen is, indeed, to be pitied. Franklin said: "When you hear a man continually crying 'thief, thief,' watch that man, for he himself is a thief at heart." It seems to us that if some people would spend more time in applying the Golden rule than in mud slinging it would be better for themselves and the community as well. "Without charity I am nothing" are the words of one of the greatest characters of history, and yet one greater than he, said: "Let him who is without sin cast the first stone."

Briefly we will review a few points dwelt upon by Citizen. In regard to the engineer, the fact has been established that with insufficient help he was unable to give the sewer the attention it deserved. Chairman Perrine has admitted this both in public and private. Therefore the engineer or no other individual could possibly comply with the provisions of the charter as quoted. Why should he be censured for failure to perform an impossible feat? In spite of the departure from specifications, all expert testimony has agreed that the sewer will do the work for which it was constructed. One practical sewer man recently told us that he could lay a sewer with merely enough cement to keep the joints from separating, cover it with no dirt and yet it would satisfactorily perform the office for which it was intended. We have all along contended that the sewer was not up to specifications, and do not in the least blame the property owners for remonstrating, but nevertheless we are of the opinion that the sewer will and is even now carrying sewage in good shape. How long it will continue to do so is another question. Surely a sewer with apertures in the bell is not as dangerous to the health of the community as a cesspool at every residence in the city.

Why charge the officials with corruption? Why not have proof of wrong intent first? The recorders and mayors have been guided in the past by the city attorney's advice, and it was so in this instance. Are they to be condemned for this? The charter does NOT prohibit issuing warrants before the assessment ordinance has been passed, we believe, and if they deemed it expedient to issue them sooner, who is hurt by the transaction? Is there criminality in paying for the work when it has been completed to the satisfaction of the engineer, inspector, and majority of the council? If we were one of the officials, believe we would give some parties charging corruption and graft a chance to prove it before a jury.

As to the water company, its franchise is all the defense it needs. When they have deviated from the

Had a Fine Time

Ye editor and family and Mrs. E. S. Wright and children returned Saturday from a week's outing at Castle Rock and near Kelso in Washington state. We went thither upon the kind invitations of Mrs. I. B. Huntingdon and Mrs. Sheppardson, who little suspected the marvelous capacity of a full fledged St. Johns family when it gets its feet under the dining table. The seashore may rave of its crabs and clams and other delicacies, but rich, thick cream, and golden hued butter, base imitations of which occasionally finds its way to St. Johns, eggs fresh laid, young pullets, new potatoes, beans, peas, cabbage, fruit, golden brown hot cakes and bacon that sticks to the ribs makes a bill of fare that even the gods might envy. Of course we went fishing and bivouaced beside the modest Cowlitz river and other streams. For many hours we whipped the waters, invoking all the artifices and allurements modern Waltonism has produced, and yet the result was scarcely enough to create a decent fishy aroma in the frying pan. Therefore, we readily concluded that we were not in Paschal Hill's class as a fisherman. We tried our best to drink the cows dry during our stay, but we were still a few notches behind when we left. Of course we had a good time, but were perfectly satisfied to return to the "maddening crowd" in St. Johns.

terms of that document it has invariably been in favor of their patrons except perhaps in isolated sections where the city's growth was so rapid that a larger main was needed before it was possible for the company to place them, and these were taken care of as rapidly as possible. We challenge proof (not mere assertions) that this is incorrect. It seems to us that if there are any parties in St. Johns not getting the quantity of water they are paying for, they should do the kicking, and not others who are fully supplied do it for them. Before the council is the proper place to lay such grievances, if there are any that the Water Co. does not satisfy. No person is entitled to 715 gallons of water per diem unless he pays for such a large quantity. Then he can get the Golden rule than in mud slinging it would be better for themselves and the community as well. "Without charity I am nothing" are the words of one of the greatest characters of history, and yet one greater than he, said: "Let him who is without sin cast the first stone."

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Council Proceedings

The sewer question of district No. 2, was definitely settled Tuesday evening so far as the present council is concerned, when the assessment ordinance was passed on the strength of the engineer's final report. It has been a great breeder of discontent, and the fact that it will cease to bob up every Tuesday night affords a feeling of relief for all concerned. More bursts of oratory were occasioned over this question than has ever arisen in the council chamber over any other. While some of the property owners are still dissatisfied with the sewer, others have become satisfied that it will perform the functions for which it was constructed, in spite of the fact that the specifications were not literally followed out in every particular.

All members were present when council convened with the exception of Socialist Perrine, who was absent on business in Yamhill county. The first matters to receive attention were petitions for arc lights at the intersections of Alma and Gresham and Dawson and Ida streets, which were referred to the water and light committee for recommendation by the mayor.

C. M. and M. B. Frailey remonstrated against the proposed assessment of Fessenden street. Matter referred to the engineer and street committee by the mayor.

W. A. Bishop, who recently purchased the furnishings of the Central hotel, complained that the water company had shut off his water and refused to supply any until he had paid a bill of \$9 owed by his predecessor. The city attorney was directed to investigate the matter without delay, and if found as stated to force the company to supply water.

A large percentage of the property owners objected to the improvement as proposed on Tioga street. The services of the engineer were invoked to check up the property, and he found less than two-thirds of the property was represented. H. J. Worth made an impassioned appeal against the improvement, even though the remonstrance was not heavy enough to kill the improvement. Later a time and manner ordinance for its improvement was passed.

The Mt. Hood Railway, Light & Power Co. asked permission to erect a huge electric sign at their place of business on North Jersey street, which was granted on motion of Alderman Valentine without a dissenting vote.

Engineer Andrew asked for a ten day vacation, which was granted on motion of Mr. Valentine; all yes.

J. Hahn asked for ten days' extension of time on the improvement of Philadelphia street. Granted on motion of Alderman Muck; all yes.

The following bills were unanimously allowed on motion of Alderman Hill:

T. Johnson, \$30; C. A. Vincent, \$48; J. T. Canright, \$30.55; Myrtle Brodahl, \$50; Joseph McChesney, \$20; Kilham Stat. & Pig Co., \$14; Coo. Warner, \$21; H. A. Harter, \$51.

C. L. Johnson asked for the assistance of council in getting a roadway to the dry dock and the Western Coopers Co.'s factory site, stating that the Port of Portland was badly handicapped by lack of roadway facilities. Referred to the city attorney and engineer on motion of Mr. Hill.

Alderman Bredeson wanted the chief of police to report to council once a month on arc lights; that he had been dilatory in this regard. The mayor stated that he would see that this was done.

D. A. Todd, watchman at the St. Johns saw mill, was appointed special police by the mayor, the appointment being confirmed by the council.

The city engineer's final report on the sewer was then read, in which he said he believed it would prove satisfactory; that the maintenance bond was ample to keep it in repair, if any repairs were needed. Alderman Hill moved that the report be accepted. Alderman Horsman wanted Hayes street more thoroughly tested first. S. W. Childers said it would be an outrage to accept the sewer, wanting every joint taken up if necessary to satisfy the property owners. Up on vote Alderman Valentine, Davis and Muck voted yes; Bredeson, Hill and Horsman no. The mayor cast the deciding vote in the affirmative.

A resolution to improve Edison street from Burlington to Richmond was adopted on motion of Mr. Valentine; all yes.

A resolution to improve Crawford street from the woolen mill to Pittsburg street was likewise adopted on motion of Mr. Muck; all yes.

A directory resolution to improve

New Bank Building

Plans have been prepared for a two story reinforced concrete building to be erected in East St. Johns for the East St. Johns Land Co. The building will be irregular in shape with a frontage of 50 feet on Depot street, 50 feet on Banks street 55 on Kelley street and 65 feet deep at the rear. It is being erected for business purposes, the first floor containing three light, airy rooms, one of which will be occupied by a bank and other two will be fitted up for stores. The up stairs will be used for hotel purposes for the present. The greater portions of the store fronts and the banking room front will be of heavy glass with built in show windows and prism transoms. The excavation work on the basement has been completed for some time and work on the superstructure will be started as soon as the the contract for erecting the same is awarded. A concrete vault will be one of the features of the banking room and the store rooms will be well provided for. The building will cost in the neighborhood of \$10,000.

Building Permits

No. 81—To Mrs. Belle C. Preston to erect a dwelling on Chapel street between Fessenden and Hartman streets, \$200.

No. 82—To B. Fitterer to erect a dwelling on Ivanhoe street between Burr and Buchanan streets; cost \$300.

No. 83—To Jacob Born to make addition to dwelling on Fessenden street between Portland boulevard and Seneca street; cost \$100.

No. 84—To M. F. Tufts to erect a hotel on Burlington street between Decatur and Edison; cost \$3,000.

Burlington street to Bradford with macadam full width with cement sidewalks was adopted on motion of Mr. Hill; all yes.

The sewer ordinance was then taken up and Alderman Horsman moved that it be laid on the table for one week. Upon vote Alderman Valentine, Davis and Muck no, balance yes; the mayor's deciding vote was in the negative. Mr. Valentine then moved that it have its third reading and final passage. Vote: Valentine, Davis and Muck yes; Bredeson, Hill and Horsman no; Mayor Couch yes; carried.

Mr. Wheelock raised the point that the P. J. Peterson bid on the Baltimore street improvement, which had been accepted by the council last week was irregular, owing to the fact that it was received several days after the time of receiving bids had expired. Attorney Esson stated that this was a fact, and that there was no doubt that it was irregular. Mayor Couch thought, perhaps, since it was received by the recorder before any other bids were opened it might stand in spite of its tardiness, but left it up to the council. Alderman Valentine moved that all bids be rejected and proposals be readvertised for; all yes but Alderman Davis and Horsman.

An ordinance assessing additional cost of improvement of Columbia boulevard between Portland boulevard and the city limits was passed on motion of Mr. Muck; all yes.

An ordinance directing the recorder to sell \$20,000 worth of improvement bonds was passed on motion of Mr. Muck; all yes.

An ordinance providing time and manner of improving Tioga street from Willis boulevard to Fessenden street was taken up and passed on motion of Mr. Hill; Alderman Bredeson and Horsman voting in the negative, however.

An ordinance providing the time and manner of improving Crawford street was passed on motion of Mr. Muck; all yes.

An ordinance providing the time and manner of improving South Jersey from Mohawk to Ida street passed on motion of Mr. Hill; all yes.

As the viewers appointed on the proposed opening of Crawford and Bradford streets between Richmond and Tyler streets, proving dilatory, the attorney was instructed to draft a resolution appointing a new board composed of I. B. Martin, Walter Speed and L. H. Chambers.

Money to Loan

A good thing to know if you need it is where you can get money in an hour's time, on easy payments, in amounts of \$5 up, on all kinds of property. All business confidential. Private office, room 1 Holbrook block over Review office. S. H. Satterlee.

Concerning Women

Some men can out guess a drink of whisky; others can come pretty near telling what a dill pickle tastes like without biting into it; but I never saw a man yet who was sure, even after years of married life, whether he had annexed himself to a lump of spice or a mere box of Talcum powder. This, of course, is a compliment to women, but it doesn't make her any easier to understand. As a matter of fact, figuring it out what the weather will be a week from Christmas is as easy as the multiplication table compared to guessing what a woman will do, even when she is asleep. This isn't because men as a general rule are so stupid, but because women have so much disposition.

The fellow who wrote the dictionary sets woman down as "an adult female of the human species" and lets it go at that; but he was a very busy man, and, of course didn't have time to go into the subject thoroughly. Still, I don't know as that makes any difference, for men who have been much married and have had plenty of time to study women, set her down as just a "curious creature." I have heard her referred to often as "just an old hen," and some women even call each other "cats." However, the name don't count. The thing to remember is that the more wrinkles a woman has the smoother she becomes. There is one kind so modest that she would not cross a potato field because the potatoes have eyes. Another kind would drag her skirts in the mud when crossing Burlington street or Jersey, in the winter, rather than show a half-inch of her ankle, and yet she goes to the seaside in summer and lolls around on the beach all day in a bathing suit made of a pocket handkerchief. Some of them are so modest the blush stays on their cheeks all the time. Ten cents at our drug store will buy lots of this modesty. It is often said that women get rattled easily, but I knew a woman once, who, when caught by the old gen going through his pockets one night, had the presence of mind to say she was only looking for a match. Women are great gossips, but some of them aren't as bad as they are painted. Timidity often saved a woman from saying "yes" to a proposal of marriage until she had looked up the fellow's rating in Dunn's or Bradstreet's. One of the nicest things that can be said about woman is the fact that King Solomon, who was one of the wisest men that ever lived, had more than a thousand wives. Of course this was a thousand years ago when St. Johns voted to go into Portland. Nevertheless it makes us all think it all in one life time that we know, and in all probability one we don't know of, so stop kicking; one or a thousand wives, it all goes with the gambols of life.

Milt W. Unger.

NO MORE PILES

Hem-Roid does its work thoroughly. No return.

If you have piles, you know that the usual treatment with salves and suppositories or operations can't be depended upon for more than temporary relief. Outside treatment won't cure the inside cause—bad circulation in the lower bowel. Dr. Leonhardt's Hem-roid, a tablet remedy taken internally, removes the cause of piles permanently. Sold for \$1 and fully guaranteed by St. Johns Pharmacy and druggists everywhere. Dr. Leonhardt Co., Station B, Buffalo, N. Y. Props. Write for booklet.

GOOD ADVICE FOR

ST. JOHNS PEOPLE

People in St. Johns who have constipation, sour stomach or gas on the stomach, should use simple puckerthorn bark, glycerine, etc., as compounded in Adler-i-ka, the new German appendicitis remedy. A single dose brings relief almost instantly because this simple mixture antiseptizes the digestive organs and drains the impurities.—Jackson & Thompson, druggists.

For Sale—18 acres of land, house, barn, and other out buildings, fruit and berry land, 1000 cords of wood on the place, half mile from the depot and river, 32 minutes ride from St. Johns. \$600 down and balance in nine years. H. S. Hewitt, 1174 South Gresham street.

Wanted--Girl for general housework. 529 S. Ivanhoe.