

St. Johns is Calling You

Has seven churches. Has a most promising future. Distinctively a manufacturing city. Adjoins the city of Portland. Has nearly 6,000 population. Has a public library. Taxable property, \$4,500,000. Has large dry docks, saw mills, Woolen mills, iron works. Stove works, asbestos factory, Ship building plant, Veneer and excelsior plant, Flour mill, planing mill, Box factory, and others. More industries coming. St. Johns is the place for YOU.

ST. JOHNS REVIEW

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

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NO 14

St. Johns is Calling You

Is second in number of industries. Is seventh in population. Cars to Portland every 16 min. Has navigable water on 3 sides. Has finest gas and electricity. Has two strong banks. Has five large school houses. Has abundance of purest water. Has hard surface streets. Has extensive sewerage system. Has fine, modern brick city hall. Has good payroll monthly. Ships monthly many cars freight. All railroads have access to it. Is gateway to Portland harbor. Climate ideal and healthful.

COUNCIL MEETS

Matters of Importance Receive Attention

All members were present at the regular meeting of the city council Tuesday evening, with Mayor Vincent presiding. A petition for the improvement of Hayes street between Burlington street and Weyerhaeuser avenue by six foot cement sidewalk and fifteen foot curb, comprising about 7000 feet of walk, was received and the city attorney directed to draft a resolution authorizing the engineer to prepare the necessary plans therefor, on motion of Councilman Davis.

A communication from Miss Elizabeth Caples stated that she had refused to sign a remonstrance against the improvement of Tyler street. An ordinance providing the time and manner of improvement of this street was passed later on in the evening.

Reports of the chief of police, city recorder and city treasurer for the month of January were read and accepted.

The engineer reported a number of the wooden sidewalks in the city in a dilapidated condition, and he was directed to condemn the sidewalks on Charleston street between Hayes and Hudson streets, Chicago street between Hayes street and Smith avenue, Hayes street between Burlington and Catlin streets, and Ivanhoe street between Richmond and Catlin. Notices will be placed upon each piece of property affected directing the owners to repair the walks. It is probable that petitions will be presented asking the council to improve each above named street by concrete walks.

T. D. Condon asked that his liquor license be transferred to Henry Herrer, which was granted.

The improvement of Stanford street between Burr and Buchanan streets was accepted.

The engineer called attention to the need of a crosswalk on Pittsburg street at Crawford, and he was directed to have same constructed.

An ordinance providing for holding the primary election on Saturday, March 6th, and appointing election boards to officiate thereat was passed.

Councilman Garlick made a motion, seconded by Councilman Munson that the councilmen for the next term serve for one dollar per annum, but the motion was lost.

The advisability of placing the question of purchasing the local water plant upon the ballot at the April election was discussed.

Feeling assured that the water rates would not be reduced if consolidation with Portland occurred, several of the councilmen said they believed it would be a good plan for the city to acquire the plant, but no definite action was taken.

The city attorney was authorized to employ the services of the law firm of Jeffries, Lennon and Ambrose in prosecuting the Jersey street case at a stipulated price of \$50 in cash and one-fourth of the damages secured, if any.

Chief of Police Poff recommended that the muzzles be removed from dogs for a few months. Councilman Garlick made a motion that the provision of the ordinance relating to muzzling of dogs be amended so that dogs would be muzzled but three months in the year, but the motion was lost. It is probable that the ordinance will be suspended for several months at the meeting next week.

Building Permits

No. 7—To Jos. Stearn to erect a residence on Chicago street between Smith avenue and Seneca street; cost \$500.

COMING BACK

Old Prosperity has had a little holiday. But cheer up, fellows, don't be sad. He's coming back this way.

Is School System Faulty

The following excellent paper on the subject "Is Our Present School System Faulty?" was prepared and read by Mrs. Anna Canright at the Mothers' meeting last week:

Educators all over our land are striving to better our schools, to eliminate the errors and place both teachers and pupils on a higher plane. Surprising as it may seem, they agree that the present school system is failing to do what is expected of it. There are over a billion dollars invested in our great American system of education, and over four hundred million dollars are required annually to operate it. This money should be well invested. But when the taxpayer learns that only 7 per cent of the pupils complete the elementary and high school courses and that 93 per cent do not complete them the result is not gratifying.

There is a contest between people who stand for tradition in school thought and those who stand for the modern system. We know that human lives and human minds are constantly undergoing great change. The point of view which prevails at one time is not the thing for another period, and this is true in the greatest degree in educational matters. The past was thorough mastery of a few subjects. The present is an attempt to crowd into the school course a touch of much pertaining to the home and business life, overlooking the fact that school should be for study, a gaining of fundamental knowledge, rather than a hurried attempt to learn a little about every vocation under the sun. Teach to make better students, correct spellers, quick mathematicians, legible penmen. Try to find the happy mean between the old extreme of education and the present one of teaching extras during the time which should be allotted to study and recitation. Domestic science, music, sewing, drawing, elocution, manual training are each good in its place, but there should be some way devised to provide extra time for this accumulation of work outside of school hours. The effort is now made to teach twice as many subjects—not twice as much on any subject—as did the schools of former years. One writer says statistics do not show that brain power has been increased in any generations, hence the ability to grasp more knowledge has not been increased, but is diverted into some other channel.

The rural schools are considered a perplexing problem. Their consolidation has many advantages, among them reducing the number of classes and increasing the time the teacher may spend with each class. Individual opportunity is here possible. The pupil depends on self, accomplishes his own work, advances rapidly and can usually be placed in more advanced classes than the city pupil of the same age. There is an advantage also to the younger child in the knowledge he accidentally catches from the instruction of the older pupils.

What should be the test of advancement? Simply the evidence of faithful endeavor, the satisfactory completion of each piece of work. A thing worth knowing should be so thoroughly taught when first presented that no review, no dreaded examination is necessary. The instructor who cannot determine the value of a pupil's knowledge without resort to a detective exercise by asking a long list of unnecessary questions is not a true educator. The usual thought is, constant drill and review on each subject, but try the newer and better way. Strictly prohibit "cramming" for an examination always. Very often so much emphasis is placed on tests and "methods" that all except the desire to attain the passing mark is lost sight of. Not long ago a noted instructor gave a test in arithmetic to twelve business men which was taken from a 7th grade teacher who had used it in her class. Ten were marked zero, one received 20 per cent and the other 30 per cent. As children they could have passed the test, as business men they had discarded the knowledge required in the examination.

Why not provide all schools with free text books? Purchased in large quantities the expense would not be so great to taxpayers. The same books might be used indefinitely if properly sterilized. Some think it would be well to present the text book to the pupil as a permanent possession when the study is completed or allow him to purchase it at cost price. The frequent change in text books has been a source of annoyance to the parent, and very unnecessary except in geography and history. As the law now stands in Oregon, each district can adopt free text books if it desires, and after a time it may have a tendency to curtail the number of unnecessary books purchased. An individual system recognizes the right of a pupil to be absent if necessary. After sickness he returns convalescent and should not be required to do double work. There should be no unnatural penalty for weakness.

Most schools are so well organized that the teacher is told what to do and how to do it. Has no authority in choosing text books, and even the daily program is outlined. She is given the task of instructing, controlling, stimulating to effort. She must relegate the duty of punishment to principal or superintendent because she has no authority. Constant disobedience in one pupil often demoralizes a whole school and each teacher should be required to administer corporal punishment when it is needed. The dread of it will make it unnecessary in a majority of cases. The good old fashioned whip well laid on has saved many a boy from an evil life, and many more boys might be saved were they treated to a punishment they richly deserve. Abolish sentiment and use more common sense in the matter. Moral suasion is excellent in homeopathic doses, but so many parental duties now devolve on the teacher that she should be extended the courtesy to act in this matter when it is necessary. Some of the judges of the juvenile court have come to the conclusion that to "spare the rod" is to "spoil the child."

Dr. Loveland of Portland said recently "The teacher is the real ruler of the country who gets authority from the people. The school is the best friend of the state and of the church, and the 600,000 school teachers in this country constitute the greatest army on earth". Should married ladies be debarred from teaching? Certainly not. If they have been efficient teachers allow them to continue the work at advanced salaries. The following is taken from an Oregonian editorial: "The married woman teachers question wriggled its perplexed way from office to office in New York until at last it reached the final authority, Commissioner Finley. He decided in favor of the married women as common sense dictated. The good precedent may shake up fossiliferous brains in other cities."

What do you think of life tenure of office for teachers? Those in the faithful discharge of faithful duty should be protected by having their appointment permanent, but it is said, "So far as tenure is concerned the poorest schools in the country, at least in the cities, are those which approach most nearly to the teacher's life tenure of office."

In some schools departmental teaching has been tried. Each teacher specializes in some branch. Of course it is easier for her to prepare on one or two subjects and she is able to present important matters more clearly, but such teachers are inclined to demand too much work of their pupils. Each endeavors to place her special hobby in the lead.

For many years pensions have been urged for those who have been faithful in service for a long time. Some states have tried it successfully. Some suggest that more substitutes be provided so that the weary may be given time to recuperate. Others advocate rest cures. An appalling death rate and great number of nervous breakdowns exist among the teachers of this country, according to C. E. Rugh, head of the department of education. He said that the profession of teaching under modern conditions, with

Concluded on last page.

THE LIBRARY

Interesting Notes for the Library Patrons

Hours: Afternoon, 12:30 to 5:30. Evening, 7:00 to 9:00. Sunday, 2:30 to 5:30.

Story hours Saturday and Tuesday at 3:00.

Read the additional stanza for "The Star Spangled Banner" posted on the New Book Rack.

Both Home Needlework and Modern Priscilla will be found in the library this year. Back numbers circulate.

The February Magazines say: "That perfume of the snow—the odor of the sanctity of the snow! Nothing else on earth has a smell so aerially sweet. They know it who, in the afternoon, have left the spring behind in Oregon, and as the blue black starlight night fills the gorges of the Sierra Nevada, feel a marvelous cool freshness about them, and, looking through the car windows, face what seems a pyramid of moonlight and smell the snow on Mount Shasta; till morning comes bringing soft valleys again and the narcissus awfully and San Francisco."

Harper's, in a charming article by Richard Le Gallienne on "The Treasures of the Snow." "Reform's fashionable nowadays. The whole United States and part of New England are awash in uplift, and, except during the base ball season, the spare movements of an enlightened citizenship are devoted to swatting oligarchy. Every day hears fresh chatter outside, and the loud, cheery tones of some new courier telling how his imperial commonwealth is about to enter into the holy state of matrimony with George W. Freedom, having just finished reading Special Privilege to a pulp. And yet the marriage never seems to take place. The reason for this continuous performance of Parted at the Altar is what we most want to know. It is in an attempt to bridge this chasm of silence that Colorado limps forward."—Everybody's, in "Colorado, a Grin and a Grimace" by George Creel.

"In another decade the west may be shipping oysters eastward of the Rockies. Then, just for fun, western oyster distributors might say in their advertising: 'Carriage prepaid anywhere west of the Mississippi. But, perhaps, they would prove more generous.'—Technical World, in "Stealing a March in Oyster Growing" by William Moody.

"This European war reminds us of our duty to take adequate measures of national defense. But, the armament lobby and their friends to the contrary, military strength is not the only, nor by any means the best form of protection."—Century, in "National Defense" by Arthur Bullard.

"Consciously or otherwise, every existing system of education or training for the individual in relation to his state tends to exalt physical force. Tradition and history fill him with the thrills of conquest and military glory, but say nothing of the ethics of his nation's actions. Patriotism is directed into no higher and more beneficial channels than the achievements of military success and power."—Century, in "Peace and Disarmament" by W. Morgan Shuster.

"Japan is no longer an occasional neighbor. We must make up our minds to settle down and live in the same world, even if not in the same country, with the Japanese. Our misunderstandings must be frankly met and boldly and fully stated—not glossed over with formal smiles. We must get their point of view and understand their case. It is the only way, we cannot ignore them; they are in our world and very much in it. We have no hope in violence. Wars settle nothing—not even who is strongest."—Review of Reviews in "Meaning of the Canal" by Benjamin Ide Wheeler.

"An honest soul can scarcely speak of the bill to exclude worthy illiterates from this country without indignation."—Independent in an Editorial.

FOR RENT cards at this office

Shall We Consolidate?

The consolidation question is again being brought to the front. Shall Portland and St. Johns consolidate? It is a matter that is deserving of deep thought. On the face of it the unthinking man might decide that it would be a good thing to consolidate. But if he reasons it out he comes to the conclusion that this is not a good thing to do at this time. Why? The reasons are many and varied. There is not one good substantial reason why consolidation should take place at this time. Portland cannot possibly give us anything that we cannot as easily and far more quickly get for ourselves. In 1910 when the issue was before the people there were said to be a number of reasons why St. Johns should merge with its big neighbor. In a circular gotten up by some of those in favor of consolidation and circulated broadcast through the city twelve reasons were assigned why consolidation would prove beneficial. Just to show that St. Johns could secure anything it needs as readily as Portland could give it to us after consolidation, we print the twelve reasons given:

- 1. Lower water rates. Rates have been lowered to some extent, and are now as low as the Railroad Commission recommends.
2. Gas reduced to same rate as Portland. This has been accomplished, and the people of St. Johns now enjoy the same rates as Portland.
3. Insurance reduced. Insurance rates in St. Johns have recently been reduced.
4. Public dock utilized. It is now utilized by the Crown Willamette Paper company, paying an annual rental of \$2400.
5. Shipping industry greatly benefited. This is a statement without the slightest foundation. Consolidation would have absolutely no effect one way or the other upon the shipping industry.
6. Free mail delivery. This has been successfully accomplished.
7. Free ferry. This has also been secured, although consolidation had nothing whatever to do with it then or now.
8. Free public library. This has also been secured.
9. A just portion of publicity. This has nothing to do with consolidation, and was used as a vote catcher, but doesn't "hold water."
10. Paid fire department. We have it, but it is extremely doubtful if we could keep it in case of consolidation. The truck would likely be removed to University Park, the central part of the peninsula. If this idea is scouted, let the questioner ascertain what became of the fire engine secured by popular subscription at Albina before that city merged with Portland.
11. Property values will increase. This is sheerest folly. It probably would increase in the eyes of the assessor, but in the eyes of no one else.
12. Positive assurance of a five cent fare. Has any one any doubt of that assurance now? Certainly not. Especially since the jitney has become a factor to conjure with. If there were any other reasons the authors of the circular could not call them to mind. So if there is no good reason for going in, why consider it for a minute? We give a few reasons for staying out, and there are many more, some of which will appear later:
We would probably lose our high school, wholly or in part. Portland would not duplicate teachers when there is room in the high schools in Portland for the pupils of St. Johns.
We would probably lose our fire truck and paid fire department. For assurance as to this, investigate conditions in other suburbs of Portland. If we retained a paid fire department, other suburbs would be entitled to the same thing. Portland could not afford this, so ours would undoubtedly go glimmering.
We would lose a large number of our arc lights, in all likelihood. St. Johns, it is said, now has more arc lights than any

city of its size in the Northwest, and it is said to be Portland's policy to allow arc lights only on improved streets.

We would lose the greater portion of our police protection; probably have one mounted policeman.

Would lose much time in going to Portland to pay street assessments, get building permits, permits for repairing sidewalks, and permits for many things for which permits are not required in St. Johns.

Would get very little street improvement. Note University Park and other suburbs. If we should get street improvements property in Portland may be assessed over 100 per cent of assessed valuation for payment thereof, and it takes a larger percentage of remonstrance to prevent it than in St. Johns.

It would cost more to build the same kind of residence in Portland than it now does in St. Johns. All plans must be submitted to building inspector, and the wiring, plumbing and chimney inspector must pass judgment, and the contractor wait their pleasure in investigating the work as it progresses. Of course there is no graft in this inspection, but it is a source of considerable delay and annoyance to the contractor, and he provides pay for his time lost in his estimate of cost.

Taxes will not be lower. In St. Johns taxes would have been much lower than in Portland, had it not been for the co-operation roadway and fire truck recently purchased. As it is the city tax is only half a mill higher here than in Portland for this year, and it is said that the assessed valuation is lower here, so the taxes may be said to be as low or lower than in Portland.

Other reasons will appear from time to time until election time, if the question is put on the ballot at the April election, and we believe we can fully demonstrate the fallacy of merging with Portland at this time.

When Editor Darnell of the Lents Herald was here last Fall we asked him how the people of Lents liked annexation with Portland, and he replied that it was practically impossible to find a man in the whole of Lents who was willing to confess that he voted in favor of annexation; they were so disgusted with themselves for so doing. The only thing they got, he said, was higher taxes. And so it goes. The experience of Sellwood is the same, and it is the same with poor old Albina, once the most flourishing part of that section, killed by annexation. What else could our fate be?

Let us give the matter the most serious thought before we vote to murder the best city in Uncle Sam's domain. We can consolidate at any time, but once the tentacles of Portland have enwrapped us, we will never again get loose.

The Censors Censored

By R. Stokes. Yes! They felt quite secure Back of their censor law. 'Twas just what they wanted, Hadn't one single flaw.

Believed they'd established A new code of morals, 'Twould save from temptation The young boys and girls.

And the older ones too, If inclined to go wrong, Would be saved from the lies Of the sin-tempting throng.

Oh! It worked like a charm For the first year or so, But the time came around When their friends had to go.

And a new Censor Board, From just over the way, Was appointed instead, Then the sinners held sway.

Now, there's grief in the camp Of that sanctified throng, For the new Censor Board Didn't know right from wrong.

Their standard of morals, Were so base, and so raw, They censored the censors, With the censor's own law.

Feed your chicks Hess' Poultry Panacea and keep them free from lice by using Instant Louise Killer, and you will insure a good egg production. Get them at The St. Johns Pharmacy, cut rate drug store.

Do They Need Watching

That Representative Lewis is a very busy man in the Legislature is evidenced by the following from the Wednesday's Oregonian, relative to the Forbes bill ratifying the lease entered into by the State Land Board with the Jason Moore interests for the reclamation of the valuable salts in Summer and Albert Lakes in Central Oregon:

"One gratifying piece of information derived from the debate is that God has been watching Representatives Porter and Lewis. That is certain, for they admit it themselves. Mr. Porter led off by asserting that God knew that he had been working six days a week from 8 o'clock in the morning until 11 at night and hadn't had time to inform himself as to the merits of the lease. Promptly thereafter Mr. Lewis called on the Almighty to witness that he had been working over time and was still seeking light on the subject.

There is no question but what the members are telling the truth about their industrious habits. There is Mr. Lewis for example. If there is anything that needs regulating that he has not sought to regulate with a bill of his own will some one please point it out? He has offered measures to regulate what goes into the state blue book, to regulate district courts, to regulate motor vehicles, to regulate employment agencies, to regulate fishing, to regulate school districts, to regulate taxation, to regulate trusts and canneries, to regulate cold storage, to regulate prohibition and to regulate prize fights. Everybody doubtless will concede that a man cannot regulate the universe and give thought to fostering an industry that will bring only a few millions of capital into the state and produce a trifling revenue to the school fund of \$25,000 to \$175,000.

Progressive Study Club

Mrs. B. Barry entertained the Progressive Study Club at her home, 1004 S. Smith Avenue, Thursday, Feb. 5th. Cooper's works being the study for the day. Mrs. Thying gave the story of The Pathfinder, Mrs. Geeslin, the story of the Last of the Mohicans, and Mrs. Brodeson the story of The Prairie. After the business session the afternoon was given over to amusements. "Disguised Authors" was greatly enjoyed. Mrs. Geeslin winning the prize. Refreshments were served by the hostess and a general good time followed. Mrs. Geeslin gave a reading and little Nora Geeslin spoke a piece. Those present were Mesdames Gilpin, Brodeson, Thying, York, Geeslin, McCann, Kellow, Barry, McCaulley, Schaffer, and little Miss Gilpin, Nora and Jennie Geeslin, Inez Brodeson and Bessie, Eliene and Edward Barry. The next meeting will be with Mrs. Brodeson on Buchanan St., Feb. 18th, at which time the study of Cooper's works will be continued.

To Sell or Exchange

I have some choice unincumbered property in Sheridan, Yamhill county, Oregon, that I wish to sell or exchange for desirable property in St. Johns. Sheridan is in the Willamette Valley, fifty-seven miles south-west of Portland. It is a thriving town of 1500 people, has a most excellent surrounding farming community, has large dairy interests, extensive lumbering interests and thousands of acres nearby have been planted to fruit which is just coming into bearing. For further information, call on DR. W. J. GILSTRAP, First National Bank Bldg., St. Johns, Oregon.

The number of exhibit packages already landed at the docks of the Panama Exposition by Australia has reached two thousand. All these exhibits are being installed inside the Australian pavilion. The exhibits from New Zealand are almost as numerous but these are being placed in the eleven exhibit palaces of the exposition.

Note the label on your paper

BASKET BALL Skating Rink, James John High School vs. St. Johns Fire Dept. Saturday, Feb. 13th, at 8 o'clock. Jitney Dance After Game