

NEWS OF THE VETO

Brought by to the Ins and Sadness to the Outs.

MITCHELL-REPUBLICANS SORE

Democrats Disappointed at the Loss of the Political Machine and Some Talk of Having Bought a Gold Brick.

Governor Geer's veto of the charter turned Portland upside down, figuratively speaking last night. It was a boundless joy to the hearts of the Republicans who carried the election of 1898 and now control the political machinery of the city. The Mitchell Republicans and the Democrats were broken-hearted. They had set their minds on the fat jobs in the police and fire departments, and confidently predicted that Governor Geer would not think of putting his veto between them and their goal.

REPUBLICANS REJOICE.

H. W. Corbett-I do not see but what the Governor has acted very properly in vetoing the charter, as it is practically the same charter, with very slight amendments, that we have now, except that it would simply carry out the bargain made with Mr. Mitchell by which he was to receive the Democratic votes for Senator in exchange for the fire and police departments and the right to corrupt bargain and sale of the Republican party of the city to the Democrats for that consideration. The Governor has already approved a law whereby a commission has been appointed to draft a new charter. This will give plenty of time to carefully prepare a new charter by experienced men. It has been said that the charter vetoed is a commission prepared by the Taxpayers' League; but I am informed by prominent members of the league that it was not prepared by them, but by other interested parties. Governor Geer seems to me could not have done otherwise under all the circumstances than he has done, and I am quite sure the people of Portland will confirm his action. There certainly are not in favor of turning over the police and fire departments, which are now ably conducted by experienced men, to new and untried hands. The present charter has in force a little less than two years and people have hardly become acquainted with its provisions. By the time that the commission prepares the new charter, we shall have had the experience of the present one, and shall know where the defects are, if any. We can then carefully correct the same.

Mayor H. S. Rows-I think Governor Geer used good judgment in vetoing the charter bill. The reasons he gives for his action are pertinent and sufficient, and fully justify his veto, which was the correct thing under the circumstances. When there is a commission to prepare a charter, what propriety would there be in putting in force temporarily a new charter, which would be certain to create a lot of litigation, upset the order of things, and cause confusion during all the time it would be in force. I believe that the people of Portland will decide that the reasons given by the Governor for his action are sound, and that he used his judgment for the best interests of the city.

Representative John McCracken-I suppose Governor Geer thought he was doing the proper thing or he would not have vetoed the charter. I voted against the bill in the House.

O. F. Paxton-Governor Geer is right. The present charter is confessedly a good measure. The best evidence of this is the fact that it was re-enacted in the bill which the Governor has vetoed, even to the extent of clerical errors and mistakes, except as to the naming of certain individuals to fill certain offices possessed of large political power. The present charter being satisfactory, there was no present necessity for a change. The bill for the new charter was enrolled and passed in such a manner as to create grave doubt of its validity. Had the Governor approved the bill, and had the city attempted to do business under the new charter, a vast amount of embarrassing and costly litigation would have resulted. The Legislature which recently adjourned passed a law creating a commission to frame a new charter for Portland. As there is no fault to find with the present charter, Governor Geer did a wise thing in vetoing the bill, thus leaving the old charter in force until the people of Portland have an opportunity to determine what, if any, changes should be made in their form of government.

City Engineer W. B. Chase-I consider the veto a very wise act, for the reason that this Legislature provided a commission to prepare and submit a charter for the people at the next election in June 1902. There was no emergency at this time, nor any defect in the present charter requiring any hasty action in charter making. The proposed new charter contained no economic features superior to the old, and indeed all of the defects of the old charter were to be perpetuated in the new one. The only changes were political ones, and were not conducive to any improvements in the business provisions of the charter. It seems, therefore, that the Governor acted wisely in vetoing the charter.

City Attorney J. M. Long-The veto of the new charter by the Governor was a good thing for the city. The present Fire Department of the city is the best we have ever had in the city. Many of the firemen have had 10 or 15 years' experience, and to have turned these men out of office and put in new and incompetent men, we can't tell what the result might have been. The same thing is true of the Police Department. The feature of the charter in regard to the appointment of a single commission was very bad. The duties of the two departments are entirely distinct. The Commissioners serve entirely without pay. A man experienced in the administration of the Fire Department might not be a good man for the Police Department.

The two positions require different kinds of executive ability and experience along different lines. The tendency of modern municipal corporations is to concentrate power in the Mayor, so that the people can hold him responsible for the results. It is essential in securing a well-governed city that the power should not be divided or placed in the hands of people who are opposed or antagonistic to each other in the discharge of general public duties. The city has not been so economically run for years as at the present time. The present charter concentrates power in the Mayor, and avoids the danger of sudden changes. A member of each commission and of the Board of Public Works go out of office at each election, and the city is free from radical changes in the administration. This policy is followed by the best governed cities in the world. Another reason is that the general public did not desire a change in the Police and Fire Departments. That is evidenced by the fact that very few people expected the Governor to sign the bill. It was a well-known fact in both factions of the Republican party and the Democratic party, representative citizens believed it was not to the best interest of the city to have such radical changes made in the existing charter. It was the Legislature that laid out the work for the city to do. It is not wholly a local matter. Every citizen in the state is interested in the growth, development and prospects of Portland, and it is the duty and prerogative of the Governor to check all hasty, ill-considered and badly prepared legislation. Time will develop that Governor Geer's position on the veto of the charter will receive the marked approval of a large majority of the citizens of the state and the city of Portland.

Edward Ehrman-I am glad the Governor vetoed the new charter. This is a Republican city and it should not be turned over to the Democrats. The Police and Fire Departments are perfectly satisfactory, and the positions of the men should not be taken away from them.

MITCHELL MEN DOWNCAST.

They Declare That Governor Geer Exceeded His Prerogative.

United States Senator John H. Mitchell-I regret the veto, not only in behalf of the people of Multnomah County, but in behalf of Governor Geer.

United States District Attorney John H. Hall-In my judgment the veto was wholly unwarranted. A Republican county having elected a Citizens League to the Legislature to enact, among other laws, a new charter, and the charter having been ratified by a Legislature that was overwhelmingly Republican, Governor Geer exceeded his prerogative in denying to the people of Portland the right of self-government.

Senator Franklin P. Mays-The veto is an outrage.

Senator Andrew C. Smith-The veto is a moral wrong, a political abuse, and an official outrage. It is an unwarranted intrusion on the streets of local self-government.

Senator J. E. Hunt-I think Governor Geer has made a grave error, that he has offended 75 per cent of the people of Portland, and that he has done so in a manner that will be remembered when the proper time comes. If the veto is based upon the ground that the charter was not read the third time by sections on its final passage, the Governor has exceeded his prerogative, as the record shows that it was read the third time. Even the Supreme Court has no right to go behind the record. There is no doubt that the charter would have been passed by the House of Representatives if the Supreme Court would have been called upon to decide its constitutionality. It seems to me that since we have a Superior Court, questions coming within its province should be left entirely to it. I am speaking upon the presumption that the veto is based on the ground I have named for surely no sane man could veto the charter for any other reason. Why Governor Geer should permit other charters which were passed in identical the same way as the Portland bill, and then single out the Portland charter, the people of Portland are entitled to know. It is one of the most peculiar and disappointing features of his administration up to this time.

Charles H. Carey-The question of the charter was settled last June by a pronounced majority of the citizens of this city. No political consideration should have influenced the Governor in the matter. The Multnomah delegation went to Salem for the purpose of making radical reforms in the municipality, the cutting out of useless offices and the reduction of high salaries, in accordance with the pledges made to the people at the campaign. A weighty consideration, such as the unconstitutionality of the charter, would be the only reasonable excuse for the Governor's action.

L. H. Tarpley, defeated for Representative on the Citizens ticket last June-I am surprised that the Governor should veto a measure which pertained solely to Portland. Our delegation was almost unanimously in favor of it, and carried out the wishes of the people of Portland in getting it through the Legislature. The Governor did absolutely wrong in not permitting the bill to become a law. If there was any doubt of the constitutionality of the charter, that question should have been settled by the courts, and not by the Governor.

Ex-State Senator F. A. Bancroft-The veto is a great injustice. The charter was approved by almost the entire Multnomah County delegation. The Citizens League petitioned the Legislature last June by a majority which indicated that the people of Portland wanted a new charter. The sentiment of the people will reflect unfavorably upon Governor Geer.

Charles A. Burckhardt, leading candidate for clerk of the Police and Fire Commission-The charter was a local measure, and Governor Geer had no reasonable ground to interpose a veto. It was passed by a Legislature which was overwhelmingly Republican, and were the Legislature in session, it would be passed over the veto. The veto will react on the Governor.

George H. Durham-Governor Geer should have respected the expressed wish of the people of Portland. It was not becoming of him to pass upon the propriety of Legislative action. The people voted for a change last June, and it was gratuitous impertinence on the part of Governor Geer to interfere with local affairs.

T. C. Powell, ex-Clerk of the County Court-It must have been a powerful influence that induced Governor Geer to veto a charter which was supported by nearly the entire Multnomah delegation, and which received so large a vote in both houses of the Legislature as the Portland bill did.

John W. Minto, who had been named for Chief of Police-I am surprised at the veto, for the reason that I thought that Governor Geer would keep his hands off the Police Department. Unless he found something in the contents of the charter which he considered unconstitutional or radically wrong, he should not have vetoed it.

Samuel Connell, president of the Board of Trade-Governor Geer has killed himself politically.

Charles A. Malarkey-It is my opinion that when the delegation from this county provided a charter for the city the Governor had no right to veto it, as no constitutional question was involved, and no question except local government for the city, which the delegation was com-

petent to provide, and did provide in the charter. The veto continued the old regime in office, with a much more expensive government than that provided in the charter which the Governor vetoed.

W. F. ("Jack") Mathews, father of the charter-In my opinion the reasons given by the Governor are not sincere. If he gives as one of his grounds that he doubts the constitutionality of the charter, he is insincere, and in my opinion he had another motive, which I leave to the public to guess.

J. C. Moreland-Well, in the first place, if Governor Geer vetoed the charter on constitutional grounds, I don't think he is qualified as a constitutional lawyer to pass upon such questions. In the second place, I think it was a mistake, politically, and every other way. In the June election the people voted squarely and decisively to do away with the present regime, and I believe their wishes should have been carried out. When a Legislative body in both houses of the Legislature, and every other way, in the June election the people voted squarely and decisively to do away with the present regime, and I believe their wishes should have been carried out. When a Legislative body in both houses of the Legislature, and every other way, in the June election the people voted squarely and decisively to do away with the present regime, and I believe their wishes should have been carried out.

Representative D. M. Watson-So he vetoed it, eh? So Governor Geer is greater than the Legislature. Well, I thought Governor Geer had more political sense, more political sagacity. The Legislature that elected Mr. Mitchell passed the charter. That election has been approved by the people; so would the charter, if its merits were known. The charter was the issue in the election, and Governor Geer vetoed it. Well, he'll be so badly snowed under, he'll never be heard of again. Political cowards, you know, are very bad things-very bad. Really, he must be making arrangements to go back on the farm. We'll fix him next round-up in 1902. He won't have a corporal's guard when he comes before the convention for re-election. He has shown himself an awful weak man, and he should have been paid

for his services.

The following declined to make any statement: Mitchell Republicans-D. M. Dunne, Collector of Internal Revenue, and member of Governor Geer's staff; Judge Raleigh Stott; General Owen Summers, except that he had won a 45 hat from Colonel Dave Dunne; A. H. Tanner, the Governor's law partner.

Democrats-Representative J. J. Shipley; Senator R. D. Inman.

POLICE AND FIREMEN.

Office-Holders Celebrate the Occasion and Hilarity Reigns. At police headquarters last night, the relief force of policemen was just leaving for duty, when the news was telephoned that the charter bill was vetoed yesterday morning.

"Hurrah," said the boys, and common congratulations followed. Faces that had not worn a smile for weeks suddenly showed cheerfulness, and every one had a broad grin.

"It's wonderful how a little thing like that makes you people happy," observed Municipal Judge Cameron, who was present.

"It's a big thing for us. We won't have to hunt for new jobs," explained one policeman, and the others joined in the general chorus of assent. Chief McLaughlin was not present at the time, but Captain Hoare was on hand to receive congratulations. Nearly every minute the telephone rang, and Policemen Bulger and Barton were kept busy listening to all the pleasant messages of congratulation. Policemen on the beat were stopped and congratulated, and altogether there was a time of mild hilarity.

About the happiest man in the fire department last night was Chief Campbell. Up to about 8 o'clock the firemen generally were an air of gloom, although a few of the veterans who "had been there before," looked resigned. Then an Oregonian reporter telephoned Campbell the news, and he drew a breath of relief and said: "Good enough. It's over."

A good many relatives of the men were waiting at various fire stations to hear the news, and they were becoming smiles. Bets were paid, and those knowing one who lost were mildly chaffed. It is rumored that the new lease of life the firemen have received will have the effect of originating about one or two weddings which have been talked of.

PROVISIONS OF NEW CHARTER.

Main Points of Differentiation in the Vetoed Bill. The changes made by the new charter, which will now not occur, were numerous.

The most important was the surrender of the fire and police departments to the Democrats.

The Harbor-Master was placed in the hands of the new Commissioners instead of the Mayor and Council, and there were other minor changes of this kind.

The salary of the Chief of Police was reduced from \$300 to \$150 per month and some salaries in the fire department were cut down.

The salary of the Municipal Judge was reduced to \$1200 beginning next term, and the Mayor to \$300, to begin next term.

The City Engineer was removed from his place on the Board of Public Works.

The Police and Fire Commissioners were made elective two years hence, also the Board of Public Works.

The city was given power to transfer money from the general to special funds in emergent cases, to license bicycles, and to collect licenses on various callings, vehicles, etc., for the purpose of revenue. Certain licenses were made payable into the street repair fund.

Appeals were granted from convictions in the Municipal Court in misdemeanor cases.

The street laws were amended to permit the Board of Public Works to object to a street improvement where it should be decided that the material proposed

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over would prevail. When the Governor puts his list in and vetoes the bill, I believe he is interfering with municipal government.

Some Democrats Think They Cut a Cold Deck. The crowd at Pat Powers' place received the news upturned and there was a mixture of good humor and disgust in the many expressions heard.

"We have received it in the jugular," the others would yell. Pat Powers said: "A gold brick, yeh. Whew! I don't know what to think about it. As far as I am concerned I have got all I want of it. It's the first time since I've ever heard of a Governor vetoing a charter, and I am 56 years old."

One of the boys called out, "We only need a few more, Pat, and we can build a house."

Powers responded: "I guess that is right; if you want to know all about it, just ask Jack Matthews."

William Reid made a spirited speech to the effect that "the country is safe now," he said, "You remember what my position was all the time. The Democrats didn't elect him, and the Democrats and Mitchell Republicans will not elect him next time; wasn't that what I said? Didn't I have an inkling before the charter passed the Senate, that the Governor would veto it? You remember, and he didn't Bob Inman so right here, and he didn't deny it."

Martin Ready-The only difference is, I would have vetoed it on Monday, if it had been on my side of the House.

Captain Stapleton-The mule left for Salem this morning with the gold bricks. Has the Chief returned?

Paddy Maher-He had the power to veto it. If the people elect Senators and Representatives, and the Governor vetoes and sends them up to make laws, the Governor should keep his hands off. The Democrats have been sold a gold brick once more.

Edward Killfeather-I think the Democracy got a bunch of green goods. Powers should call the county committed together and invite Judge Lynch. I don't think Mitchell ever intended to deliver the goods. They induced us in good shape. I am sorry for the decent, intelligent Commissioners that were turned down. They would have shown that they could give Portland the best administration it ever had, but wouldn't it freeze you? Bryan was benighted at Watson's, and so was John H. Mitchell. That's the hottest yet. Watson says he voted for Bryan, but we know for certain he voted for John H. Mitchell. And we have got it where the chicken does. That is all I've got to say.

Representative George W. Holcomb-What I should like to say would not look well in print. I am satisfied that the Mitchell Republicans kept faith with us. The veto was no part of their doing.

Representative Frank A. Heitkamp, secretary of the delegation-I regret that the charter was vetoed, as it was a good measure. It had a number of economic features which would have saved large amounts to the taxpayers. The Democrats were fairly treated by the Mitchell men, and Governor Geer alone is responsible for the veto. So far as politics are concerned, the Police and Fire Commission was carefully selected, and would have given the city an honest

administration. I cannot understand why a charter which had the support of practically the entire Multnomah delegation should be vetoed. It did differ materially from the present charter, and was far more acceptable for the reason that it corrected the shortcomings of the present charter.

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SCRIBNER'S FOR MARCH. RICHARD HARDING DAVIS'S Illustrated Article on The East Coast of Africa. THE SETTLEMENT IN CHINA by T. F. Millard. MRS. GILBERT'S STAGE REMINISCENCES. AMONG THE IMMIGRANTS by Arthur Henry. Illustrated. RUSSIA OF TO-DAY De Witte and his Work, by Henry Norman, M.P. A NEW AMATEUR CRACKSMAN STORY by E. W. Hornung Illustrated by F. C. Yohn. OTHER ARTICLES AND STORIES. NOW READY PRICE 25 CENTS.

should not be a benefit to the street. A temporary repair was defined. These were the principal changes. There were a number of reductions in salaries to commence in July, 1902.

WANT BRIEFS SUBMITTED.

End of the Testimony in Firemen's Suit Against the City.

Briefs in the firemen's suits are to be submitted to Judges Sears, Frazer and George within 20 days, by the different attorneys engaged in the trial of the case, and 10 days further time has been allowed by the court to file reply briefs. The taking of testimony was concluded yesterday morning.

O. F. Paxton, one of the plaintiffs' attorneys, suggested that the testimony be extended by the official reporter, stating that this would assist in the preparation of the briefs and shorten the oral arguments. After some discussion it was decided that the different attorneys arrange themselves to have this done.

City Attorney Long remarked that, according to a decision of the Supreme Court of New York, published in The Oregonian, it was held that it was unconstitutional to fix any stated salary. If the opinion was correctly given in the paper, it would dispose of this case.

Attorney Gleason-According to that the Council could give you only \$50 per month if they wanted to.

Mr. Gleason-That was under their Constitution.

Continuing Mr. Gleason said: "I would like the cases disposed of as early as possible. These men want their money. They have been waiting long enough for their money. The clerk has been sitting as a jury and has heard the testimony, and knows what the facts are. If the court will indicate what it is not clear on, it will shorten our labors somewhat."

Judge Frazer-I think the court would like to hear a discussion on the law question; for instance, if there can be an implied contract, and what constitutes an implied contract. There is another question. Some of these men were supposed to be permanent men, and were never employed as permanent men, but allowed to go about as they pleased. I would like a full argument on that.

Mr. Paxton-The charter is silent on that.

Mr. Gleason said they all stood on the requisition in the Montag case, except about a dozen plaintiffs whose names he read, who were not allowed enough. The city was bound by it. Also the men, (this requisition was for \$12,000 and was drawn by the Penney Board of Fire Commissioners as one of its last acts. It covered the back salaries, but the warrants were never drawn. Auditor Garbani refused to do so.)

City Attorney Long said he desired to file a copy of all requisitions covering the periods of this suit, and a statement of the appropriations to the Fire Department fund. There was a man working on it now.

John Montag testified that after August 21, 1898, no contracts were made with the men to accept reduced salaries, because attorneys told the Commissioners such contracts were not valid. No man was asked to sign a contract after that time. The men made demands right along for the amounts not paid, and finally a requisition was made.

L. W. Maloney, F. J. Heitinger, H. Hyde, Joseph Harriman and A. Cherry testified regarding their claims.

Business Items. If Baby Is Cutting Teeth. Be sure and use that old and well-trodden remedy Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children's teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic and diarrhoea.

Nobody can be too careful in avoiding "Colic." Be prepared to shake out "Colic" this use Carter's Little Liver Pills regularly. One pill after each meal.

Carry them in your vest pocket: Carter's Little Liver Pills. Take them regularly, one pill after each meal, and you are safe against "Colic."

Maryland Club Pure Rye Whiskey. It tastes old because it is old. CAHN, BELT & CO., Baltimore, Md. FLECKENSTEIN MAYER CO., Sole Distributors Portland, Oregon.

Don't Scrub away your temper. Use GOLD DUST Washing Powder. GOLD DUST does most of the work that your muscle has to do when you try to get along without it. The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of Charles H. Fletcher. In Use For Over 30 Years. "FOOL'S HASTE IS NAE SPEED." DON'T HURRY THE WORK UNLESS YOU USE SAPOLIO.