RECEPTION TO M'KINLEY

PORTLAND PLANS IN CHARGE OF COMMITTEE OF FIFTEEN.

Legislative Committee Invites Governor Geer to Accompany It to State Line.

Plans for President McKinley's reception in Oregon are taking form. The President will be met at the state line by a committee of eight members of the Legislature—Senators Fulton, Kuykendall and Brownell, and Representatives Reeder, Roberts, McCraken, Briggs and Poorman. Governor Geer and staff will be invited to accompany the Legislative committee. Arrangements for the reception in Portland are in charge of a committee of 15, of which Mayor Rowe is chairman. This body has been instructed to request the President to lengthen his visit to Portland.

The Legislative committee met at the Imperial Hotel yesterday afternoon and adjourned to take part in a general meeting of Portland residents in the United States Court room. Among those who attended were: Senators Fulton, Kuykendall, Representatives Reeder, Roberts, McCraken and Briggs; Mayor H. S. Rowe, Henry Hahn, president of the Chamber of Commerce; Samuel Connell, president of the Board of Trade; E. H. Kilham, president of the Manufacturers' Association; H. M. Cake, president of the Commercial Club; Judge C. B. Bellinger, Judge W. B. Gilbert, John H. Hall, United States District Attorney, Colonel James Jackson, General Owen Summers, General C. F. Beebe, J. M. Long, United States Senator Joseph Simon Solomon Hirsch, Senator F. P. Mays, George A. Steel, F. V. Holman, Sanderson Reed, Judge John B. Cleland, David M. Dunne and Messrs. Shaw and Capron, of the Ohio Society.

Mayor Rowe was elected chairman, and Sanderson Reed secretary.

On motion of Mr. Hahn, Chairman Rowe was directed to appoint a committee of 15 on arrangements, of which he should be a member, and chairman. This will be called the executive committee. It has power to appoint subcommittees and make all arrangements.

A general discussion of plans of entertainment of the Presidential party followed. A trip down the Columbia and a committee of women to meet the party were among the suggestions. Mr. Hall said the President's stay in Portland would be too short, and that steps should be taken to have the time extended. These matters were referred to the executive committee.

Representative Briggs' motion that the executive committee and those present at the meeting invite Governor Geer and staff to accompany the Legislative committee to the state line prevailed. Subsequently the Legislative committee met and decided that it should extend the invitation to Governor Geer.

A letter from Ashland to the effect that that city is the proper place for the welcome to President McKinley upon his arrival in Oregon, was referred to the executive committee.

Senator Fulton asked whether the executive committee would send a delegation to meet the President, act as a body, or appoint another committee.

Mayor Rowe said his understanding was that the committee to be appointed by him will look after the President while he is in Portland.

"There should be a committee from Portland," said Senator Fulton.

Mayor Rowe said he understood that Governor Geer will appoint a committee representing all parts of Oregon to meet the President at the state line.

City Attorney Long moved that a Portland committee be appointed to act with Governor Geer's state committee. The suggestion was referred to the executive committee.

The meeting discussed the proposal to appoint a general reception committee, and the wish of the old soldiers to meet President McKinley, in a body, and in case there is a parade to have a place near him. No action was taken.

Mayor Rowe will appoint the executive committee today.

ENTRIES CLOSE TONIGHT.

No Dogs Can Get Into the Bench Show After This Day.

The bench show of the Portland Kennel Club begins April 17, but the entries close today. After 12 o'clock tonight, no entry can be made for any cause whatsoever for this show.

A number of solid silver cups have been promised to the club which have not yet been shown in Feldenheimer's window, but it is expected that they will be exhibited in a day or two. The classes of dogs for which these special prizes are to be given have not yet been determined by the bench show committee, for the reason that they desire to give these cups to classes well represented by entries. The committee is waiting until the entries close.

The club desires to announce that all dogs will be fed and exercised by the club, unless the owners desire to do so. By depositing $5 a dog may be taken from the bench show for exercise from 7 to 10 o'clock in the morning and from 5 to 8 in the evening, and this deposit of $5 will also allow any person to take a dog from the bench show at the close of the show each evening and return the dog by 10 o'clock the following morning. At the close of the show the $5 will be returned unless the dog is not properly returned to the show. Entries must be made with the secretary, W. W. Peaslee, 452 Sherlock building, Third and Oak streets. The necessity for closing the entries is to complete the catalogue by the time the show opens. The catalogue will contain the name of every dog and the class in which he is entered. After tonight no one, not even an officer of the club, can have a dog entered. So entries, not yet made, must be made today.

MUSICIANS' CARNIVAL.

Answering an oft-repeated question, the committee in charge of the Carnival at the Exposition hall, on Saturday next, have decided to introduce the prevailing custom in Eastern cities at functions of this nature, and permit maskers to wear their disguise the entire evening if they so elect. There will be no request to unmask. All are assured that absolute good order will be maintained. The large list of valuable prizes on exhibition at 113 Third street, and free concerts daily, afternoon and evening. Tickets on sale. Prizes distributed on door admission include upright piano, fine Singer sewing machine, ladies' bicycle and dozens of other useful articles. Tickets, 50 cents. Mardi Gras parade Thursday at 12 M.

Pickled sheepskins are articles of export from Australia to the United States.

RESTORED TO THE FORCE

FOUR POLICEMEN WHO WERE DISCHARGED.

Circuit Court Holds the Removal Was Contrary to the Law—One Dissenting Opinion.

A decision was rendered in the policemen's case yesterday that the order of their removal be canceled, and that they be restored to their positions. It was held that the men are under the civil service rules and can only be discharged from the force for the causes stated in the charter, namely, insubordination, misconduct, inefficiency or violation of any law. The next move of the policemen will be to sue for their salary from July 1, 1900. The names of the officers are Charles Venable, Patrick Murray, Moses Waller and W. O. Stitt.

The court was divided in its opinion. Judge Sears held that they could be removed if the Commissioners were actually out of funds, but the admission of the City Attorney that there was $18,000 in the police fund and the fact that the Commissioners appointed other men at the next meeting was evidence that they did not act in good faith.

Judge Cleland held that the Commissioners could not remove for any cause except those mentioned in the charter.

Judge George dissented. His opinion was that the Commissioners, when the funds were short, not only had the right to remove men, but it was their duty so to do, and that the removal abolished the offices. The fact that some of the men were reappointed or taken back, and that the Commissioners subsequently increased the detective force by appointing John F. Kerrigan and Frank Snow had no bearing on the law of the case. A wrongful act or two of them would not effect the matter. Judge George also held that the petition was defective because the Police Commissioners were named only as a body instead of individually.

Judge Sears reviewed the case and then stated that he and Judge Cleland had arrived practically at the same conclusion, and, speaking further, His Honor said: "It is contended that the Commissioners had no right to do away with the men when they were without funds. I have reached the conclusion that while this may be done they cannot discriminate between the men. Again by appointments made by the board at a later meeting, the lack of funds was not proved, and the two circumstances are not consistent. I am individually of the opinion that the act of removal was erroneous. Judge Cleland is of the opinion that the Commissioners could not remove except for cause. The opinion of the court therefore is that they were in error."

Judge George, in his dissenting opinion, said in part:

I am not able to agree with the decision of the majority of the court. I believe there is in the city charter a well-founded distinction between removal of an incumbent from office and an abolishment of the office for economical reasons. The civil service provision of the city charter prevents removal from office except for inefficiency or misconduct, on charges made and trial had. These provisions on their face relate only to removals from office, and in my opinion do not prevent the head of the Police Department from abrogating the office itself when limited taxable funds make it necessary and proper to do so.

To my mind the city charter plainly indicates that no city department is required or authorized to keep useless officers; but, on the contrary, it appears to be a duty to abrogate them and to so regulate expenditures as not to exceed appropriations and to abolish the extra officers, and that civil service provisions in such emergencies do not apply. To my mind there is a broad distinction between removing an incumbent of an office in order to get rid of one man so that the office may be open for some new incumbent—all of which civil service regulates—and the removal of the office itself for reasons of public economy.

After the decision was rendered, John F. Logan, attorney for the policemen, notified Chief McLauchlan that the men were ready to resume work. The Chief was not prepared to act and took time to consider the matter.

MISSIONS OF THE ORIENT.

Condition of Native Population Makes Work Necessary.

At the semi-annual meeting of the Columbia River Branch of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, yesterday, much interest was manifested in the reports from the Northwest and China, Malaysia and India. The society is growing in membership and power for good with each successive meeting, and the interest taken in far-off missions is only increased by the intervening distance. The reports showed that many church debts were paid last year, and the annual thank-offering is expected to be more substantial than heretofore.

A letter from Bishop David H. Moore, of Shanghai, was read by Mrs. A. N. Fisher. It treated of the success of the work in the Orient, which was gratifying, even considering the troubles in China, which are now believed to be ended. The society's school at Nagasaki, Japan, he described as a splendid property and fine work, but the teaching force he considered inadequate. Many of the missionaries in Nagasaki—noble women—fled from China during the recent troubles. He had recently visited Tien Tsin and Pekin, and found the society's property occupied at a handsome rent, by the armies. At Pekin, he preached to the girls and boys who had survived the 70-days' struggle. They seemed comfortable and cheerful, he said.

Bishop Moore was 12 days in the interior of China, being borne from place to place by chairmen, and found the people respectful and orderly. In Oregon, the largest auxiliary membership of the society is that of Taylor-Street Church, which numbers 85. Grace Church has the best list of subscribers to the Woman's Missionary Friend.

In the afternoon, Miss Cranston, daughter of Bishop Cranston, of Portland, who recently returned from a tour of the world, which included a stay of several months in the Orient, spoke on "North China."

Mrs. Alice Otto Selby, who was an evangelist in Japan, spoke of "Village Life in Japan," a subject of which Americans know so little. She told of many villages where intemperance is universal among men, women and children. This condition of the native population makes missionary work necessary.

The general executive committee of 1898 recommended the raising of $200,000 as a 20th century offering, during the years 1899-1900. Columbia River Branch was apportioned $2000 of this. The objects to which the offering of the branch will be devoted are the Singapore Deaconess Home, the Hing-hua School, the Young Ladies' Institute in Rome; the Lucknow Woman's College and the Baroda Orphanage.

The meeting was the most interesting and enthusiastic the society has held in many years.

SAN FRANCISCO.

The O. R. & N. Co.'s steamer Geo. W. Elder sails from Ainsworth dock, Portland, at 8 P. M., April 12, for San Francisco. Lowest rates.

LOWEST BID REJECTED

CONTRACT FOR IMPROVEMENT OF SECOND STREET.

Board of Public Works Takes Up the Subject of Electric Wires in Buildings.

A technical error in O. D. Wolf's bid lost him the contract for improving Second street between Morrison and Madison yesterday. Wolf's bid was the lowest, but he bid on the curbing by the lineal foot, when the advertisement had called for the cubic foot, and so the Board of Public Works awarded the contract to Smyth & Howard, whose bid was $147 higher.

The conclusion was not reached by the board, however, until quite a lengthy discussion had been gone through with, and the board had been addressed by Mr. Moody, who acted as attorney for Smyth & Howard. In fact, the City Auditor had announced the Wolf bid as being the lowest of four competitors, and it needed only the formal vote to award the contract to Wolf, when the attorney interrupted the proceedings and demanded that the contract be awarded his clients if any of the bids were to be accepted.

City Engineer Chase explained that there is very little real difference between "cubic" and "lineal," as the figures in the curb would amount to about the same either way. The board was very desirous of saving the $140 for the taxpayers, but, realizing that the work might be enjoined if it was awarded to Wolf, the members concluded to let the contract to the lowest bidder, in accordance with a strict reading of the advertisement. The total cost of the improvement will be about $4500.

A communication was received from the Board of Fire Commissioners, in which that body complained of the manner in which electric wires are being attached to business edifices and dwellings in Portland, as several fires had resulted recently. The Fire Commissioners suggested that the Board of Public Works pass a resolution governing the manner in which electric wires should be affixed, but failed to specify the changes needed. The matter was therefore referred back to the Fire Commissioners with the request that a resolution covering the subject be submitted in writing, for deliberation at the next meeting. The Board of Public Works is anxious to regulate the running of wires through the city, when it is understood exactly what to do.

A number of notices which had been served on the owners of dilapidated sidewalks were returned to the board, indorsed by the serving official as to whom the notices had been served on, and the City Engineer was ordered to repair the walks at the expense of the property.

The City & Suburban Railway Company desires to repair its portion of Morrison street, between Front street and the entrance to the Morrison-street bridge, a distance of 200 feet, but the company has no franchise for that particular block. An ordinance has been drawn up and submitted to Richard Williams, who will see that the interests of the city are properly guarded before recommending its passage. The matter will come before the next meeting of the board.

The contract for improving Garfield avenue was awarded to N. B. Golden for $848.20, he being the lowest bidder. The contract for improving East Third was awarded to Archie Mason for $369.

The board decided to advertise for bids for 150 yards of screened gravel and 150 yards of crushed rock, to be delivered at points about the city to be designated by the City Engineer. The material will be used in repairing macadamized and graveled streets, and the move is an entering wedge of an era of street repairs about to be inaugurated by Mr. Chase.

BACK TO SIMPLE METHODS.

Water Will Be Raised for Irrigation by Primitive Wheels.

Irrigation by steam pumps on the Columbia River, Dr. N. G. Blalock thinks, is too expensive, so he is discarding his steam engine and setting up water wheels to be turned by the current of the river at his island farm opposite Coyote Station.

"The power of the Columbia River is practically unlimited," Dr. Blalock said yesterday at the Perkins, "as the current runs at six miles an hour by the island at low-water stages, and 10 miles in times of freshet. We simply set barges out in the river and attach paddle-wheels to them. Sprocket chains from each of these wheels will utilize all the power, as they will be attached to the main pump shaft. The pump itself will be an endless chain of one-gallon buckets, and has been known among Pacific Coast miners for years as the Chinese pump. There is very little waste of water, and the contrivance is so simple that there is nothing to get out of order; therefore delays and expensive repairs will not be counted on. The height the water has to be raised is 35 feet at an average stage of the river. One of these pumps irrigated the orchard on the island last year, and I have confidence in being able to keep 500 acres of alfalfa moistened by the simple power and pump next Fall, as we can build as many barges as we desire, and, once set to running, the subsequent expense is light."

Dr. Blalock has seen several attempts to irrigate along the Columbia River by expensive and elaborate machinery, but does not consider any of them a success.

More Money for Salem Postoffice.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—The Supervising Architect has allowed the Campbell Building Company, contractors for the Salem Postoffice, to put in additional foundation work for that building, for which an additional allowance of $215 will be made. This extra foundation has been found necessary on account of the character of the ground in one point.

The cold rains have not been good for the new crop of Denny pheasants, says an Oakville correspondent. Many of the birds are sitting now, but their eggs are on the ground and will not hatch on account of the cold.