

STREETS VERY BAD

Portland Thoroughfares
Are a Disgrace.

THE CHARTER IS RESPONSIBLE

The New Charter, if Adopted, Will
Afford Relief, but Nothing
Can Be Done at
Present.

Portland's streets are, and have been since the time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary, a reproach to the city. In business and residential districts, every foot of the city is in a condition which is a menace to every vehicle passing over them, and an eyesore to all that look upon them. Nearly every main thoroughfare has a history of one after another unsuccessful experiment with various kinds of "improvements." Where poor paving material has been laid it has rotted underfoot, and fragments of it still remain to cumber the earth. Where good material has been put down, want of means to enforce its maintenance in good condition by the contractors has resulted in its rapid deterioration. The present charter affords no relief from this state of things; in fact, it is responsible for it. The charter now in course of preparation seems to hold out a promise of help; but for the present at least, the city must put up with things as they are and call the attention of strangers within its gates to the sky, to Mount Hood, to anything, in short, but the streets that lead through its well-built business section and its beautiful residence grounds.

Under the present charter the Council cannot order an improvement if it is objectionable to the holders of a majority of the abutting property, which it is not infrequently the case. If an improvement is ordered, holders of a minority of the property can prevent its execution. The Council that it is not advisable, and when the assessment has actually been made any irregularity in the method of procedure or any infringement of the law, the improvement, of course, falls on the city. In cases where streets are carried on elevated roadways it has been found practically impossible to secure adequate improvements, for the reason that owners of abutting property, contending that such improvements are of no benefit to them, invariably refuse to consent to them.

In spite of these defects, however, numerous streets have been improved, some with Belgian blocks, some with asphalt, some with vitrified brick and some with macadam. But, although provision has been made for contractors who put down the improvement to keep it in repair, it has been found nearly impossible to hold them to it, and at least one bond has been held void by the Supreme Court. Having no fund to defray the expenses of repairing the streets, the City Engineer has been powerless, and one pavement after another has gone to pieces when a very little work from time to time might have prolonged its life for a number of years.

Of course, much experimenting has been done with new materials, and the record of their failure is found in the impassable condition of a number of streets, notably Fourth, and Washington above Sixth. But property-holders have learned from their own experience and that of others what materials are best suited to the needs of various districts, and they would be willing, many of them, to pay for good improvements, but for the knowledge that their money is virtually wasted on streets which cannot and will not be kept in good condition. This feeling has become general, and only where the demands of traffic absolutely require some kind of pavement are owners of abutting property willing that it shall be put down. And as a consequence of many suits to resist assessment, and many efforts to defeat improvements, the Council has become weary, and is very slow to order the improvement of any street whatever.

The new charter promises relief in many ways. In the first place, provision is made for a system of assessment according to the benefit conferred, similar to the system of sewer assessment now in vogue and generally satisfactory. The Council will establish the boundaries of a district to be benefited by an improvement, and property within them will be assessed according to the benefits received. Thus, where an elevated roadway is to be built, all the property which will be enhanced in value by the construction will pay for it. Secondly, a remembrance of two-thirds of the property-holders, and there will be no appeal from its decision. This, it is believed, will effectually dispose of protests based on dissatisfaction with the paving materials used.

But promising more than any of these provisions is that establishing a repair fund, Section 196 of the charter now in the hands of the Charter Commission provides for the levying of a tax of not to exceed three-fourths of one cent on the assessed value of all property in the city, which will raise about \$30,000. In subdivision 19 of section 67 it is provided that all money received from the levying of this tax shall be used for the maintenance of the streets, and the City Engineer can proceed to keep every thoroughfare in the best condition.

It must be remembered, however, that all these provisions are contained in a charter which has not yet been adopted, and that the citizens of Portland or the Legislature, and that meanwhile there is nothing to do but make the best of the streets as they are, and be thankful that it is impossible for them to get any worse.

HOPS AT 12-14 CENTS.

The Market Still, and Sales Not Numerous.

The hop market is in a condition of armed neutrality at present. The modulus vivendi of prices is between 12 and 13½ cents per pound for the best product. Some offers, sales and refusals have been reported above these figures, but they do not mark the real level of the market. Very little business is doing, and quotations are largely nominal. The growers who still hold hops are the ones who have been stubborn about selling all through the season, and most of them are as stubborn as ever. As the circle of them grows smaller the market grows harder.

It now appears that the quantity of last season's crop was underestimated. The general guess of the crop at first was 60,000 bales. These figures have been increased as the selling season progressed. The accepted estimate up to the last week or two was 65,000 bales. It now transpires that no less than 70,000 bales were grown in Oregon last year. Of this crop, about 55,000 bales have been shipped away. Of the remaining 15,000 bales, about 10,000 are in railroad warehouses. The East Side warehouse of the Southern Pacific contains about 5000 bales. Most of this quantity

is in the control of speculating dealers, who are holding for higher prices. The amount in the hands of growers is estimated to be between 2000 and 3000 bales. The largest accumulations of hops other than at Portland is 3000 bales at Salem and 1500 bales at Eugene. Although some very choice lots are left in the state, the best of the crop has been mostly disposed of. In New York, prices are between 14 and 15½ cents, which shows that values in Oregon are established on a Western basis. In the local market demand is strong for 12 and 13½-cent product, but buyers quail at 13 cents. As to "short" contracts, it is believed they are for the most part, filled. Some contractors have lost considerable money by the unexpected rise of prices in the past few weeks. Some contractors for next year's product are making at 10 and 11 cents, mostly in Marion County. But farmers are too much flurried at present to enter readily into such agreements.

WORKS FOR GOOD ROADS.

Government Agent Abbott Tells of Oregon Conditions.

James W. Abbott, of Denver, is in the city. He is special agent of the Mountain Division, of Road Inquiry, Department of Agriculture. He has been making a tour of the Northwest in the interest of good roads. Mr. Abbott's work is part of the Government's endeavor for highway improvement. He left Denver last month, and has been through Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Eastern Oregon and Washington. He will leave tonight for California.

Mr. Abbott's division of the Road Inquiry Bureau covers the territory of the United States west of the eastern base of the Rocky Mountains, between Canada and Mexico. It is the largest district in the United States, and also the part least advanced in road building. The other road divisions are the Eastern, Western and Southern. The Department of Agriculture has been doing road inquiry work since 1882. Mr. Abbott said yesterday that all the districts which he has visited are eager for highway improvement, and realize the economy of good roads.

"Roads in the Northwest are generally primitive," said he, "but the natural conditions here are very favorable for good roads. It is the largest district in the United States, and also the part least advanced in road building. The other road divisions are the Eastern, Western and Southern. The Department of Agriculture has been doing road inquiry work since 1882. Mr. Abbott said yesterday that all the districts which he has visited are eager for highway improvement, and realize the economy of good roads."

"The natural obstacles in Oregon are not great. But you do not have here the bulk of freight that there is in the East, and this causes higher rates, even though your railroads are highly favored by gentle grades."

"In Oregon I would impress this above all—the necessity of drainage. It is possible by surveys and the proper leveling and grading system to drain any road, even in the most humid climate. And the cost of roads here should be very much less than in other states, for you have so much rock."

"Employment of convicts on roads is very successful in other states. This method benefits the community and the criminals, and does not antagonize legitimate labor."

"The Bureau of Road Inquiry has prepared a great deal of literature on this subject, which is freely sent to anybody who asks for it. Requests should be sent to Hon. Martin Dodge, Director of the Office of Public Road Inquiry, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C."

JABBED A HOLE IN THROAT

Traveling Man Gets Drunk and Tries to Kill Himself.

Acting from mania produced from over-indulgence in liquor, A. G. Glenn, about 30 years old, of San Francisco, cut his own throat with a long-bladed jackknife last night in a local hotel, and was conveyed to the North Pacific Sanitarium. Glenn arrived at the hotel Tuesday, and he at once began to drink more liquor than was good for him. He spoke to several guests regarding family troubles, and complained that various people were talking about him. Yesterday Glenn's behavior had not improved, and in the course of the afternoon his friends called in a physician, who administered medicine to his patient and advised him to go to bed. This Glenn agreed to do, and was then left in his room. About 7:30 o'clock last night a message arrived at the hotel for Glenn, from a friend, and when one of the hotel messengers knocked at Glenn's door he received no answer. On the door being opened, Glenn was found to be standing near the washstand, in a drunken condition, with a handkerchief in his throat. A jackknife was near, covered with blood, and the unfortunate man had used it several times. Medical assistance was at once secured, and in the interval that elapsed Glenn was heard to remark: "I did this to get out of trouble." Glenn was conveyed to the Sanitarium in the Holman ambulance.

PAPAL SECRETARY HERE.

Monsignor M. Antoni Speaks in Praise of American Institutions.

Rt. Rev. Monsignor M. Antoni, of Rome, one of the secretaries to the pope, was in Portland yesterday, leaving on the 2:30 P. M. train for California. Monsignor Antoni is on a tour of the United States, and is visiting all the principal points of interest. He came from Tacoma to this city and was the guest of Archbishop Hughes yesterday. Monsignor Antoni is a middle-aged Italian and speaks English fluently. He has visited every portion of the globe, but not until recently has he set foot on American soil. He is delighted with the United States, especially the Pacific Slope, and is pleased with the general condition of his church.

"The United States is the greatest country on earth," said Monsignor Antoni to an Oregonian reporter. "You have boundless resources here, and an enthusiastic and energetic people. When asked about the pope's health, he said, 'The pope retains his mental and physical vigor to an astonishing degree. I have a letter from his private secretary, written on January 5, in which he states that the pope's health is excellent.'"

CATARRH OF THE BOWELS.

Cures bloating after meals and large quantities of gas which cannot be expelled, cause diarrhoea, alternating with constipation. B. B. Catarrh Cure has a tonic and curative effect on the bowels and restores them to a natural and healthy action and condition. For sale by all druggists. Book on Catarrh free. Address Smith Bros., Fresno, Cal.

OLDS, WARD, MANN & KING

Read our store news each day and you can't help seeing how far-reaching are the economies of our

TWENTY-FOURTH Annual Clearance Sale

Everything at reduced prices. Come with the throngs and enjoy this bargain carnival.

Kitchen Furnishings

Satisfaction and economy await all who replenish during our Clearance Sale. For instance—Large Scrubbing Brushes . 7c ea
Clothes-wringers, with iron frames 98c ea
75-foot Wire Clothesline at 13c ea
Asbestos Mats at . . . 3c ea
Agate Teapots, nickel-trimmed 75c ea

Warm Underwear

Extra bargains for women and misses.
Ladies' \$1.50 Tights, black wool, open or closed, only 98c pr
Misses' Vests and Pants, Jersey ribbed, natural wool plaid, garments worth 45c and 50c. Sizes 24 to 30, only 29c ea

A notable fact for you to remember is that Richardson's Linens are the best in the world and we are Portland agents.

Lipman, Weber & Co

Dainty Silkline COMFORTS Reduced to \$1.58
Filled with finest laminated cotton

White Wool BLANKETS Value \$4.25 pair \$3.15
Size for single beds

Slightly Soiled White Wool BLANKETS Value \$5.00 and \$6.00 \$4.45

Linens

GREAT INDUCEMENTS to Hotel, Restaurant and Boarding House people and all Housekeepers. The very best TABLE LINENS, NAPKINS, TOWELS, TOWELING, LINEN SETS, TEA CLOTHS, etc., all at greatly reduced and most tempting prices.

Homefurnishings

ALL LACE CURTAINS, SASH CURTAINING, PORTIERES, COUCH COVERS, TABLE COVERS, TAPESTRY, DENIMS, ART TAPESTRIES, DRAPERY MATERIALS, etc., at lowest prices.

DELAY ON FOURTH STREET

MAJOR ROWE VETOES IMPROVEMENT ORDINANCE.

Maintenance Bond for 10 Years Being Illegal, New Measure Must Be Devised.

Mayor Rowe yesterday vetoed the ordinance providing for the time and manner of improving Fourth street from Madison to Burnside. It will be remembered that the property-owners on the street petitioned to have it improved with wood blocks treated with carbolicum and asphaltum, and asked that the city take a bond from the contractors for the maintenance of the improvement in good order for 10 years. City Attorney Long having given it as his opinion that the city is without authority under any circumstances to take this bond, the Mayor decided to veto the ordinance. His veto message, which explains itself, is as follows:

Portland, Jan. 23, 1902.—To the Honorable Common Council of the City of Portland, Or.: Gentlemen: I return herewith Ordinance No. 12,082 without my approval, for the reason that the property-owners signing the petition for the improvement of Fourth street with treated wood blocks, and ask a guarantee to maintain the street for a period of 10 years, and to give a maintenance bond as security for the maintenance of the same, I am advised by the City Attorney that a bond of this kind would be illegal and of no value. I transmit his opinion herewith.

This street is in a deplorable condition, and should be improved at once; but the property-owners have the privilege of specifying what kind of an improvement they desire, inasmuch as they cannot be protected by a maintenance bond. If the property-owners will re-petition for the improvement of this street with treated wood blocks, and accept a guarantee from the contractors, I shall be glad to see the Council push it ahead as much as possible, as it is very desirable that this street be improved without further delay.

H. S. ROWE, Mayor.

The contract for the repaving of Fourth street has not yet been formally awarded, but it is understood that the work is to be done by Fisher, Thorson & Co., agents for the preservative to be used on the blocks. Members of the firm were seen yesterday, and stated that they are ready and willing to give a maintenance bond for 10 years to the property-owners on Fourth street, collectively or

Today and Tomorrow

will witness lively selling in our Suit room. Be here early.

25 High-Class Suits of best materials, novelty styles, worth \$45 to \$65, will be sacrificed at \$25.00 ea

Also a collection of

Flannelette Wrappers in seasonable colors, prime \$1.00 and \$1.25 garments, today and tomorrow, only, each 69c

SMALL NECK FURS Scarfs, Boas and Collarettes, correct in style and quality, MUCH UNDER PRICE.

FOUR BIG DRIVES IN

Black Dress Goods

See them in our Dress Goods annex

Picture Framing done to your order—Best work—Lowest prices

Meier & Frank Co. Meier & Frank Co.

Arbuckles' Coffee—Thousands of pounds at 11c pound—(Basement.)
Great bargains in Ladies', Men's and Children's fine Shoes.
Special bargains in Fascinators and all lines of Knit Goods—(Second floor.)

Costumes, Evening Wraps Marvelously Low Priced



Too many high-class evening Wraps, Costumes, Skirts and Novelty Suits, ranging in price from \$40 to \$190, in stock for late January—These high-class garments to a great extent are bought for show purposes—This year the display was without doubt the largest and grandest ever brought to the coast—We sold many of them—General business on fine novelty garments was more than satisfactory, but the cloak chief indulged a little too liberally—What remains we are very anxious to dispose of before the arrival of the Spring and Summer novelties—So we have made price reductions on the entire stock that should instantly appeal to every woman interested in high-class fashionable wearing apparel at a remarkably low price—There's black velvet Costumes, Jackets and Wraps, silk Evening Dresses, Carriage or Opera Capes and Cloaks, French Novelty Kimonos, magnificent ready-to-wear House dresses, and a superb showing of high-class black silk Dress Skirts in the newest styles and best qualities—Prices throughout are far below cost.



Leather Goods Clothing Department Basement

Clearance Sale values in all kinds of Leather Goods.

Imitation Seal Finger Purse, 25c kind, at 18c
Imitation Seal and Wairus Finger Purse, in 2 styles and 3 colors 38c
Bargains in Traveling Sets, Music Rolls, Chatelaines, etc.
Trunks and Traveling Bags at unusually low prices.

No clothing store in town can equal the sterling values we are offering in seasonable clothing for man or boy.

Men's \$15 Overcoats \$11.98
Men's \$15 Suits \$11.15
Men's \$18 Suits \$12.65
Men's \$6 Pants \$4.85
Boys' \$5 Suits \$4.10
Boys' \$4 Suits \$2.89
(Second floor.)

The basement is the bargain center of the whole store—Household necessities of every description at Clearance Sale Prices.

Crockery, Kitchen Goods, Lamps, Cutlery, Silverware, Cut Glass, Silver-Plated Ware, Bric-a-Brac, etc., are all included—Two carloads of Granite Ware at very low prices—(Basement.)

"Willamette" and "Eldredge B" Sewing Machines at Clearance Prices. Carpets and Lace Curtains can be bought at the lowest prices of the year.

Undermuslins Infants' Wear Books

Have you secured your share of the Cotton Underwear bargains? We've supplied thousands, and still they keep coming after more each day—We never before have enjoyed such generous patronage in the underwear department—Goods right—Prices right.

Anticipate the baby's wants for the next year—There's a saving you'll appreciate on all wearing apparel, from the little shoes to the caps—The reductions on coats is worthy of special mention—Dresses, Shirts, Socks, Boots, Caps, Bibs, etc., all reduced.

All the latest copyrighted Books at 89c.
Cook Books at the lowest prices.
All Sets at Clearance Prices.
Entire stock of fine Stationery at interesting prices.
1902 Valentines are now ready—1c to \$5.00.

The Clearance Sale

Is the magnet that's crowding these aisles day after day—Mountains of merchandise disappearing daily—It's the saving opportunity of the year, and many thousands can testify regarding the values we are offering here—Every article, every line of goods can be purchased at from 10% to 25% below regular selling price—Don't delay buying.

MEIER & FRANK CO. MEIER & FRANK CO.

FOR INFORMATION BUREAU.

Publication of Suitable Matter and Its Effective Distribution.

PORTLAND, Jan. 18.—(To the Editor.)—Ten days ago I urged republication of 50,000 copies of New Year's Oregonian, and a guarantee that purchasers would mail them to persons outside the state. On investigation I find most of our well-to-do citizens and property-owners are willing to subscribe \$20 to \$50 for New Year's Oregonian, but very few will guarantee to distribute them. My experience while four years in charge of the state's immigration affairs was that unless such printed matter is carefully distributed and placed right away "where it will do the most good" it had better not be printed at all, as I know of many cases where hundreds of copies of immigration matter, after being secured, were placed aside, and after some years were burned as useless.

Now, if individuals won't do it, how is distribution to be secured? In that case I would suggest that a private board of distribution, composed of five energetic Portlanders, with Governor Geer and a secretary, the board with the secretary should be authorized to subscribe this sum to be paid up, the stockholders electing the board. This board and secretary would compile, free of charge, in book form (with the consent of The Oregonian Publishing Company), such printed extracts from New Year's Oregonian as may be deemed necessary, say 40,000 to 50,000 copies, with map; and delegate to the board authority to distribute them as speedily as possible, free of charge. But in distribution the shareholders ought to prescribe that "time is the essence of the contract," for if the board keeps these 40,000 copies till some one sends for them, or distributes them in batches to Tom, Dick and Harry in this city, little good will be accomplished, and real estate agents will soon exhaust the edition published by distributing them only to their friends, residents of Portland.

Furthermore, cannot two of the six members (that will be two every three weeks) spend two hours each week to give advice and guidance to strangers when they call to answer the multitudinous questions strangers will ask after arrival in Portland? In a letter I have

JUSTICE FOR MURDER.

It Is the Penalty Which the Law Inflicts, So Let Us Be Just.

PORTLAND, Jan. 21.—(To the Editor.)—It is not often, after a court's verdict has been given in accord not only with the law, but also with public opinion, that we find attorneys seeking to arouse public sentiment, through an appeal in a newspaper, and employing sentimentalism to overturn or modify a court's decree. Yet this is certainly all that can be said for the lengthy article published asking clemency for Dalton.

Too grave consideration is given to a murderer, based on moral law, which is by a culprit, feeling the possibility of facts crowding in upon him, and trusting to the very measures of sentiment, called forth in the article referred to, make a confession never for the purpose of seeking justice may be met, but that the informer may escape the penalty provided by law. If the same scruples had entered into the mind of the culprit before committing his dastardly deed a crime would have been prevented, a useful life saved, and the sickening sentimentalism that so often obstructs the course of justice would now be an unnecessary appeal.

The object of meting out a severe penalty is example, and has there been greater cause wherein the law's decrees should be strictly enforced than in this instance. I feel as if too much sentimentalism had already been expended on these wifely murderers, and on advertising their acts and words, let us give expression of our love and regard to the unfortunate family who have lost a valued member.

CITIZEN.

Worse Than Getting Tight.

A well-known business man has remarked that "some ladies lack themselves tight, and some men drink themselves tight," neither of which is to be commended, but getting tight is not the worst thing a man or woman ever did. Men of high character who would scorn the thought of taking a drink of any intoxicant, and women whom any boy might feel proud to call "mother," are sometimes so thoughtless as to neglect the colds which children so often contract. The inflammation of the mucous membrane becomes chronic and the child has catarrh, an incurable disease that will be a life's torment. A little forethought, a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy judiciously used, would have effect on the trouble. This remedy is especially valuable for coughs and colds in children, because it always cures, and is pleasant and safe to take. All druggists sell it.

The Best Telephone Girls.

Electrical World and Engineer. The American girls of Irish parentage have been found to possess to the highest degree the necessary quickness of perception and action, and to prove the statement is cited the fact that a large percentage of the operators in the Chicago exchange, picked out according to the results of examination, are girls of Irish descent. City life has been found to give a girl an advantage in this particular over the country girl, whose wits have not been sharpened by the contact with many people and the exigencies of the urban community.

WHOSE PICTURE'S THAT?

Probably ours, because we sell lots of them all over the Coast. \$2.75, \$4 and \$5 unframed steel engravings at \$2 and \$2.50 each; 75-cent and \$1 photographs and artos at 25 and 50 cents each; regular \$1 and \$1.50 line of platinos and platinettes at 60 cents each; photo cards, regular \$1 and \$1.50 line, at 60 cents each. A large assortment of high-grade etchings, and all at special prices. We will exhibit a line of framed pictures during the sale.

SANBORN, VAIL & CO., 170 First St., Bet. Morrison and Yamhill.

The American Cigar. Good as the name. Buy the best.