

# St. Johns Commercial Club Banquets Its Members

Nearly 100 residents of St. Johns and invited guests from Portland sat down at a banquet last night in the New Central Hotel, under the auspices of the St. Johns Commercial Club. The dining-hall was attractively decorated with evergreens, and the tables were rendered attractive by a tasteful disposition. At the head of the table was seated A. S. Douglas, president of the Commercial Club, surrounded by Judge L. R. Webster, City Auditor, T. L. Devlin, W. M. Calkins, of the Portland Commercial Club; Tom Richardson, of the Oregon Development League; H. L. Powers, of Portland; William M. Killingsworth; F. C. Knapp, secretary, Peninsular Lumber Company; the committee of arrangements, H. Bickner, T. J. Monahan, G. H. Carlson, O. L. Chapel, J. C. Crome, W. W. Hicks, Professor John Trenchard, of St. Johns School; Professor Long, of Columbia University. The banquet was all that could be desired.

### President Douglas' Welcome.

J. C. Crome, acting as toastmaster, introduced President A. S. Douglas, who said:

"Neighbors and Honored Guests: In behalf of the St. Johns Commercial Club, I extend you all a most hearty welcome. We have come together on this occasion to get better acquainted, to promote a spirit of good-fellowship and show our guests what we have accomplished in the past few years in the building of a city. Welcome to the new city of St. Johns. While I cannot take you around and show you what we have done, I can call your attention to some things. In 1892, the O. R. & N. Y. R. R. cut a line along the water front and made it possible to establish sawmills and manufacturing concerns that now give employment to many hundreds of men. We have a city of homes. We have recreational establishments that would do credit to an older city. We have many beautiful homes. We have a fine public school as can be found in the state. All these things we have here; and we have churches pointing their spires toward heaven. To all these improvements we call you attention. And looking out from the city let me say you are welcome tonight to all the good things we have. May you enjoy an evening that you will not soon forget. Welcome to the city of St. Johns, in the name of the St. Johns Commercial Club."

### Tom Richardson's Address.

After the applause to the remarks of President Douglas had subsided, Tom Richardson, of the Oregon Development League, was introduced. His subject was "Oregon—Its Development." Mr. Richardson said:

"St. Johns is one of the busiest centers in the entire Pacific Northwest. It was the first time I ever succeeded in getting here and I stood up all the way out and half the way back. On two other occasions I was entitled to get out of the crush at Piedmont and return home. I don't know whether this means that you have a lot of people or that everybody else is like myself trying to get in."

"I will say to you, however, that the minute I saw it I made up my mind to own some St. Johns property. And looking out from the city let me say you are welcome tonight to all the good things we have. May you enjoy an evening that you will not soon forget. Welcome to the city of St. Johns, in the name of the St. Johns Commercial Club."

Other addresses delivered by F. C. Knapp, secretary of the Peninsular Lumber Company, spoke of the wonderful lumbering interests of Oregon; William Killingsworth, of the Peninsular, its "Commercial Future," predicting that the bulk of Portland's population would one day be between the Willamette and Columbia Rivers; Thomas J. Monahan, "St. Johns, Its Present and Future"; "Where Rolls the Oregon," W. M. Calkins, of the Portland Commercial Club; "Civil Government," Thomas C. Devlin; "Public Highways," Judge W. L. Webster; "Educational Institutions," Professor Long; "Unity and Harmony," E. C. Hurlburt; "Our Absent Friends—the Ladies," W. H. King and Dr. W. W. Hicks. The closing was by singing "Auld Lang Syne." The Portland Consolidated Railway Company provided a special car at 10 o'clock to bring the Portland guests to their homes. A Portland orchestra discoursed during the evening.

**Work of St. Johns Commercial Club.**  
The substantial growth of St. Johns is largely due to the effective efforts of the Commercial Club. It was organized nearly a year ago, with W. H. King first president. It is estimated that the new city has a population of more than 2000 people. At the public school there are more than 200 pupils. Seeing the necessity for action, the public-spirited men of St. Johns started the Commercial Club. Through its efforts, a new charter was framed and passed by the last Legislature, laying the foundation for a large city. It was instrumental in securing the Portland Woolen Mills, with its great plant, representing \$300,000 capital stock, and other industries, including a bank, a public dock and other improvements. The club has kept clear of municipal politics, although it has a very deep interest in the selection of capable men to conduct the government. Before 1902 St. Johns had few houses and no industries, but during the winter of that year the O. R. & N. Y. R. R. built its spur. Its completion brought the water front into the markets, with the result that it is lined with manufacturing and great sawmills. These are the Portland Manufacturing Company's veneer and blanket factory, the Olsen shingle mill, A. S. Douglas & Sons' saw mill, 25,000 feet per day capacity; George W. Cone Lumber Company, capacity 75,000 feet a day; the Peninsular Lumber Company, capacity 300,000 feet a day; Johns Four Mill Company, 400 barrels a day; Excelsior Mill, Portland Woolen Mills, two shiplifting plants and the Portland drydock. Other industries are looking for locations, and the Commercial Club has out its committee for the purpose of giving information to investors. Through the efforts of this club, the people of the Peninsula now have through car service. It is along these lines that the club has made itself felt. It has a membership of 75 active men. Its officers are: President, A. S. Douglas; vice-president, Richard Shepard; secretary, J. C. Crome; treasurer, Thomas J. Monahan. It may be said with all truth that the deliberations of club meetings have always been harmonious, and every member has been actuated by a desire for the betterment of the whole district, without regard for personal desires.

**St. Johns New Charter.**  
The charter over which the Commercial Club rejoked last night was the careful work of many weeks. Counselmen Thomas J. Monahan, T. J. Hurlburt and W. H. Hurlburt were appointed by Mayor C. A. Cook to prepare this charter, getting such



OFFICERS OF THE ST. JOHNS COMMERCIAL CLUB.

assistance as they could. Thomas C. Devlin, City Auditor of Portland, with the suggestions of the Council committee and the members of the Commercial Club, drew up the instrument, and a committee from the Commercial Club—L. B. Chipman, W. H. King, R. Shepard and T. J. Monahan—took it to Salem, where it was passed by the Legislature. While the new charter is not perfect, it is considered satisfactory, and one under which St. Johns may prosper and grow.

## RAMSEY IS ACTIVE

Makes Inquiry Into Acts of Matthews.

Report Pernicious Political Dealings on His Part to Department of Justice, and Special Examiner Is Detailed.

MARSHAL'S ENEMIES AT WORK

Is the conduct of W. F. Matthews as United States Marshal for Oregon under the inspection of the Department of Justice, and has a special examiner been sent to Portland to look into alleged violations of the regulations of the office under the administration of Matthews? This is the question asked by those who know the political enemies of the Marshal. Department of Justice, either in Portland or he will be here in a very short time.

Mr. Ramsey has been in Seattle for some time looking into the charges which have been made against J. B. Lindsey and George H. Baker, recommended by Senators Ankeny and Filer for United States District Attorney and United States Marshal, respectively. He has finished this investigation, it is said, and has started for Portland. Whether or not the examiner has reached Portland is not known, but he is not to be found at any of the hotels. It is known, however, that he left Seattle for this city March 23, and it has been reported that he has reached the city and is now working on his investigations.

Mr. Ramsey is in Portland making investigations into the conduct of the United States Marshal's office, the question arises why and on what grounds are they being made?

**Captain Spencer Active.**  
Rumor has it that the trouble is largely due to Captain E. W. Spencer and others of the political enemies of the Marshal. Since Captain Spencer was deposed from the Port of Portland Commission at the instance of Mr. Matthews, who was deposed of seeing J. C. Alsworth have the job, it is said that the captain and his friends have not been idle and that many charges have been forwarded to the department which may be productive of unpleasantness to the occupant of the Marshal's office. In support of this story it is pointed out that Captain Spencer has a standing deposit of \$500 in room 40 of the Chamber of Commerce building as evidence of his belief that the office of United States Marshal would be vacated before the present term of Mr. Matthews expires. It may be said in passing that a rumor yesterday said \$200 of this sum had

been taken by some one who had opposite views on the subject.

What charges, if any, have been made are not known, but it is said that they are many. Political entanglements are reported to be the head and front of them. It will be recalled that President Roosevelt, through Attorney-General Knox, was very plain in his orders to the effect that United States Marshals should not become mixed up in politics, and it has been reported to the department, so it is said, that Mr. Matthews has been a large factor in Oregon politics for some time.

**In Organizing Assembly.**  
The political enemies of the Marshal have come back from the Legislature, it is reported, with the knowledge that he was much in evidence at the organization of the two houses of the Assembly. They have made the assertion, it is said, that the Marshal's office was a place where the legislators, or a large part of them, went for instructions before leaving for Salem.

The department has been notified, so the story runs, that Mills was elected Speaker of the House and Kuykendall President of the Senate in compliance with the wishes and the influence of Mr. Matthews and his friends who were directed by him. It has also been asserted, the story is, that the committees were appointed under the eye of the United States Marshal, that measures were introduced or killed by his smile, and that Speaker Mills and President Kuykendall were both in daily telephone conference with the office of the United States Marshal.

All of these things are claimed by the political opponents of the Marshal to be not in accordance with the instructions of the Attorney-General and of the President, and it is into these in the main that Mr. Ramsey is supposed to be looking.

**Postoffice Involved.**  
There is another assertion that the postoffice figures in the case, that Mr. Matthews still maintains a hold on the patronage of that place and has used it, but this part of the trouble takes second place in the entanglements caused by the leadership of the Marshal in state politics.

This investigation, if it is now being carried on, takes the danger flag from the hand of United States District Attorney Heney, who has been reported to be after Mr. Matthews. Mr. Heney has been looking for any relation which the Marshal's office might have with retarding or obstructing his land fraud investigations, but otherwise—has not been and is not now interested in the one way or the other. It is said that these same complaints have been made to Mr. Heney and to his agents, but that they have been pushed back as not having any bearing on the land-fraud. When this attitude was manifested it is the opinion that the matters were reported direct to the Department of Justice, and that the visit of Examiner Ramsey is the result of the reports.

**Gets Two Houses in North.**  
S. Morton Cohn, proprietor of the Star and Arcade vaudeville theater, has been in British Columbia for the past few days, and he sent word yesterday that he has just secured the Grand opera-house at Victoria, B. C., and Vancouver, B. C., which he will convert into vaudeville theaters. Each of the new houses

will have a seating capacity of 1200, and will form the northern adjunct to Mr. Cohn's chain of dime vaudeville theaters. Mr. Cohn, who is expected home this morning, expects to have his two British Columbia houses ready for business by April 2.

**Duke of Connaught in Madrid.**  
MADRID, March 23.—The Duke of Connaught arrived here today to visit King Alfonso. The King with all his Ministers, the civil and military authorities and the diplomatic corps, welcomed the Duke on his arrival at the station.

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Contractors' Dispute Leads to an Exposure.

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The reason for this presumption is that Judge Carey is connected in many business transactions with Heusser. He also appeared before the Executive Board and requested that the lowest bidder, the Pacific Construction Company, of Everett, Wash., be allowed to withdraw its bid. He was then apparently acting as the attorney of the Everett company. This was granted.

The contract was awarded to the Pacific Construction Company, of San Francisco, which sublet the contract to the American Bridge Company, and Heusser, the practical partner of Judge Carey, did the work.

The bid of the Everett company was \$3,000. The price now to be paid by the city is \$3,000. The framework of the bridge is not completed yet.

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But for some reason Hoffman Bros. took the sub-contract on the concrete at \$3.25 a yard. Concrete can scarcely be placed on the ground for less than \$4 anywhere. Therefore, when City Engineer Wanzner announced that there were 128.43 cubic yards of concrete in the job, and laughed at the idea of paying one-fourth more than called for, the sub-contractors saw themselves up against it.

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202 1/2 Washington street, opposite Perkins Hotel, Cor. of Fifth.  
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Good set teeth.....\$5.00  
Gold crowns.....\$3.50  
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We do strictly as we advertise. And give you a ten-year guarantee. We employ no students at the

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