

DEBATE FOR CITY CONTRACTS

Barber Asphalt Company Asks for Modification of Specifications.

CHARGE PAVING MONOPOLY

Warren Construction Company Underbid by Rival \$5,135.99 on Second-Street Work and \$3,426.28 on Couch.

The first gun in the skirmish of what promises to be a bitter fight over the question of city paving contracts of Portland was fired at the session of the Executive Board yesterday afternoon, when the Barber Asphalt Paving Company entered into competition with the Warren Construction Company in bidding for the work of paving Second street, from the north line of Morrison to the south line of Gibson, and Couch street from the west line of First to the east line of Fourteenth, under the specifications calling for Warren's bituminous pavement in conformity with the petition of a majority of the property-owners.

Upon the Second-street contract the Barber Asphalt Paving Company bid \$27,123.78, or \$1.76 a square, as against \$22,128.00, or \$1.42 a square, of the Warren Construction Company, each offering to maintain the street in good repair for a period of ten years at 25 cents a square year.

On the Couch-street proposition the Barber Asphalt bid \$3,199.83, and the Warren Construction Company bid \$3,426.28, or \$1.76 a square, as against \$2,128.00, or \$1.42 a square, of the Warren Construction Company, each offering to maintain the street in good repair for a period of ten years at 25 cents a square year.

The Executive Board may have to reject the Barber Asphalt Company's bids on the ground that they do not strictly conform to the specifications, and that the Warren Construction Company's bids are in violation of the ordinance which provides that the Warren's Puritan brand of materials and we are able and ready to back up our assertion with our contract, our bond, our money and our work.

"If the mention in the ordinance and specifications of this particular trademark name in the particular private brand is to preclude the making of the same identical pavement under any other name than 'bituminous' or with any other material, then the Warren's Puritan brand, all competition in bidding is stifled, the calling for and opening of bids is a farce, and the Warren Construction Company is given an absolute monopoly in the paving work."

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DEEP CHANNEL TO BE OPENED

Major Roessler Is Impressed With Importance of River Improvements.

SOON SUCCEEDS LANGFITT

Contract for First Work on Cello Canal Soon to Be Let—New Corps Engineer Has Efficient Record.

Major S. W. Roessler, of Washington, D. C., reached the city yesterday afternoon to become the successor to Major W. C. Langfitt as corps engineer in charge of fortifications and river and harbor improvements and the maintenance of the light house district. The new officer has not as yet learned when he will take charge of his office here, the change being dependent upon the return of the late Major Langfitt, who is at present in the Puget Sound district, where he is making an investigation of projects recommended to the department, but not yet approved.

Major Roessler brings to the city the information that his predecessor has been appointed, upon the date of his leaving Washington as a member of the Board of Inspectors of Rivers and Harbors, which board was created by an act of 1902, the duties of which shall be to examine and report upon the return of the city of Portland for the improvement of rivers and harbors before final action by the Department of War or the Board of Engineers, and before Congress has taken any action thereon.

"The work here is of great magnitude as well as of great importance," said Major Roessler, at the Hobart-Curtis last night; "but I do not wish to say anything as to what will be done at this time, not having broadcast over the city the details of my office as yet. The work at the mouth of the Columbia will also be of great value to the state. The tendency of commerce to the coast, as well as of deeper and deeper drafts, makes it essential that the channel to the sea be made deep and kept deep. It is also essential to the state that the channel be maintained from the harbor of Portland to the sea, for the prosperity of the state depends in a reflex way upon the shipping centers of the state."

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But Telegraph Appears to Hold the Sternwheel Record From Astoria.

HER TIME HAS BEEN BEATEN

Breaks Record of Receipts.

County Clerk Fields yesterday submitted a report to the County Court showing the amount of business transacted in his office during the month of July, and he states that it is the largest for any month since he has been in office. Receipts were \$472.35, and expenses were: Salaries, \$196.32; supplies, \$67.11. A comparative statement for the month of July for the last five years shows the following: Expenses to county, 1901, \$129.06; 1902, \$383.91; 1903, to county, 1903, \$213.13; 1904, \$652.27; 1905, \$196.12.

BOYVILLE AT BEACH.

Juvenile Court Sends Second Company to Sea View.

Ilford's Cargo Nearly All On.

Marine Notes.

Domestic and Foreign Ports.

Babies' Day at the Fair.

FATHER OF THE EXPOSITION IS ARRANGING PROGRAMME.

Prizes of All Kinds Will Be Given for Little Tot of Every Color, Size and Description.

THE TAVERN ENTERTAINS.

SPECIAL ALASKA EXCURSION.

EVER TREAT YOU SO?

ALASKA.

China, Japan and Manila.

Excursions to Alaska.

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