

BOARD MUST NOT RECONSIDER WORK

Compelled to Stand By Its Acceptance of Thompson Street.

ANOTHER SLAP AT TAYLOR

Contracts Reported On Favorably by City Engineer Are Referred to Committee for Purpose of Personal Inspection.

Assistant City Attorney Grant informed Mayor Lane and the members of the city Executive Board yesterday afternoon that after having accepted a street improvement and after the Council has passed the assessment ordinance, the Board cannot reconsider its action unless it is prepared to set up funds as a basis. This effectively shut out the Board from contemplated reconsideration of Thompson street, a bit of improvement laid by the Pacific Bridge Company, and on which defective curbs were detected by Mayor Lane and members of the Board. After Mr. Grant's opinion was delivered, the Board entered into a verbal agreement with Manager Simons, of the contracting company, whereby he is to repair whatever poor curb is indicated by City Engineer Taylor, after which Mayor Lane will sign the warrant for the work.

City Engineer Taylor, who has apparently been the object of attack by Mayor Lane and Isaac Sweet since their activity in the improvement of streets began some weeks ago, got another rebuff during the session yesterday afternoon, when the Board, by a vote of 4 to 1, referred to the street committee a number of improvements in various sections of the city which had been certified by Mr. Taylor as corresponding with the plans and specifications of his office. Mr. Sweet said he wished to inspect these jobs and see for himself whether they really are properly done. In view of the fact that Thompson street could not be reconsidered, although poorly done as to some portions of the curbing Mr. Sweet wished acceptance postponed until he could go out and look at the work.

Greene Objects to Work.

Thomas G. Greene, who is the only original member remaining on the Board, declared himself opposed to the inspector of improvements by members of the Board, and strongly intimated that none of them are competent to pass on the work. Besides, he declared, it is not the duty of members of the Executive Board to make such inspections.

"We employ inspectors to pass upon street improvements, and we are entitled to depend upon their judgment," said Mr. Greene. "As far as I am concerned, I will not put in 20 days a month inspecting work that is not my duty to inspect, and for which someone else is paid and who is accountable for the reports. It is very nice in the members of the street committee and the Mayor to make these personal inspections, and it may do the property owners lots of good and save them some money, but it is unfair to expect members of this board to do such work. No one do it, and I would not sit on this board if we were expected to; no one expects Harman to inspect ties on his roads, for he hires men for the purpose and accepts their judgment."

Mr. Sweet replied by saying that the present time has brought about extraordinary conditions; that bad work has been discovered, and he felt it the duty of himself and the members of the street committee to make personal inspection. He thought the board should defer acceptance of work, at least until absolutely certain of its good quality.

Considers Inspection His Duty.

Mayor Lane said that he sometimes learns of imperfect work after the board has accepted it and before signing warrants for it, and that such was the case with Thompson street. He said he felt it to be his duty to protect the property-owners, who pay their money for street improvements.

"The property-owners have three notices about street improvements," said Mr. Greene, "and if they do not discover faulty work before it is accepted, it is because they are too lazy to look at the work. We cannot assume a sort of paternalism over them; it is up to them to look out for their own interests. There is going to be trouble, if we do not follow the provisions of the charter, we can't make a new charter every day, to suit every occasion that arises."

The batch of acceptances from City Engineer Taylor were referred back to the street committee. Mr. Greene alone voting against the reference. This is the first time such a thing has been done and is considered a direct rebuff to the City Engineer.

Nolta Makes Personal Inspection.

There were also remonstrances against Killingsworth avenue, another piece of bitulithic laid by the Pacific Bridge Company, and several small property-owners were present, among them being J. H. Nolta. Following the example of Mayor Lane and Mr. Sweet, Mr. Nolta had resolved himself into a cement inspector, he said, and had found lots of defects in the curbing on Killingsworth avenue.

"What did you use to test it?" asked City Engineer Taylor.

"A gaspise," replied Mr. Nolta, amid laughter.

"I would prefer to take the tests with one of my own testers," replied Mr. Taylor.

This street was held up by the Board until next Thursday night at 8 o'clock, when there will be a special meeting of the street committee to hear the protests of property-owners and to make a general investigation of the matter.

East Salmon street, between East Twelfth and East Eighteenth, was the next improvement called, and there was strong remonstrance against that. It is a macadam improvement, and among those who are assessed to pay for it is Assistant City Attorney Grant. When the remonstrance was read, Mr. Grant arose and said:

Willing to Pay Assessment.

"I live on that street, and am assessed in the largest sum of any one on the street, but I will say right now that that job is one of the finest I ever saw; it is first-class work, and should be accepted and paid for. There is no call for any remonstrance, and I see no reason why the Board should refer the matter."

It was explained that the remonstrance is based upon the fact that the storm of three nights ago washed out some of the gravel, leaving bare stones.

"It is a pretty pass," said City Engineer Taylor, "if it has come to the time in this city when all streets are to be held up for little matters like this."

To show his regard for Mr. Taylor's opinions, the board promptly

voted to refer the remonstrance to the street committee, and Mr. Grant was told by P. E. Sullivan, "You are not the only property owner on the street, or the only one who has to pay, and the matter should receive investigation."

Clerk Grutz then read a report on a new sewer, and said "there is a remonstrance against this, also."

Suggests Trip Through Sewer.

"I suggest that the members of the sewer committee crawl through the sewer and inspect it," said Mr. Greene, with a sarcastic smile.

"It would not be a bad scheme to do that," replied Mayor Lane, giving Mr. Greene a piercing glance, "but the sewer is too small for me to crawl through."

This and other sewers were accepted, however, as Mayor Lane explained that it is next to impossible to detect poor work in sewers after they are in. Thompson street being again under discussion, Manager Simons, of the Pacific Bridge Company, offered to repair any defects in the curb or to lay an entire new curb, but said he first wanted the board to designate some one who shall point out such defects. This was agreed to. The end of the affair is not yet, however, for it is regarded as certain there will be an investigation as to why the inspector on the job certified the curbs as acceptable.

George McCabe, formerly engaged in the contracting business in this city, wrote to Mayor Lane, saying he wishes again to take up improvement work here, and suggesting that he is well equipped to handle some of the fills on the East Side, which are practically all under contract to the Pacific Bridge Company. The letter was read and filed.

ARCH IS TO COME DOWN

WELCOMING STRUCTURE DECLARED TO BE NUISANCE.

Executive Board Orders City Engineer Taylor to Proceed With Work of Demolition.

City Engineer Taylor is now face to face with a difficult duty, for he has been ordered by the City Executive Board to tear down the much-discussed arch of welcome, erected last May at Sixth and Irving streets. It was supposed to be completed in time to blaze a greeting to the city's visitors during the big Rose Festival in June, but it was not finished until the close of the lower display, and the Executive Board refused to accept it.

The contractor became discouraged and fled the city, leaving George R. Thomas, his financial backer, to face the situation. Thomas labored in an effort to induce the Executive Board to reconsider and take over the arch, for it had been completed in time to blaze a greeting to the city's visitors during the big Rose Festival in June, but it was not finished until the close of the lower display, and the Executive Board refused to accept it.

There is one regrettable feature connected with the affair. The workmen who built the arch have never received a cent for their services, and this is regarded by all of the officials as a most unfortunate thing. Greene made a motion to refer the question of a bond supplied by a surety company, to City Attorney Kavanaugh, with the purpose of securing an opinion as to whether the city can collect on the bond. If this can be done, and anything is recovered, it will be turned over to the workmen.

Ever since the arch was erected, merchants and others doing business in the vicinity have complained that it is a nuisance, and it is upon this theory that the Executive Board ordered it torn down.

Must Keep Fair Grounds Open.

Mayor Lane called the attention of the members of the Executive Board to the fact that private persons often shut the gates leading to the Lewis and Clark Fair grounds, so that people cannot enter the Forestry building. It was referred to the street committee for investigation. Mayor Lane is determined to keep the gates open, and he may go further and order the fences around the grounds torn down. The city's streets are fenced up, and the Mayor may decide to order them opened all along the line out there.

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PORTLAND, OREGON

CHURCH TO CONFER

State Congregationalists Will Meet at Hassalo Street.

SPEAK ON TIMELY TOPICS

Prominent Clergymen of Portland and Other Cities Will Deliver Addresses and Pacific University Will Give a Programme.

The State Congregational Association, which will convene in annual session in the Hassalo-street Congregational Church, East Seventh and Hassalo streets, next Tuesday night, will be of more than ordinary importance. Leading Congregational ministers of the state will attend, and important topics will be discussed.

"The Immanuel Movement from a Physician's or Scientific Standpoint," will be an interesting and live topic, as the speaker will show the dividing line between the immanuel movement and Christian Science. This address will be Wednesday forenoon at 11 o'clock. Dr. Luther R. Doytt, pastor of the First Congregational Church, of this city, will discuss the topic "Socialism from a Minister's Standpoint," Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock. On Thursday night the Pacific University will be in charge of the conference. A number of students from that institution will furnish the programme and President W. N. Ferrin will preside. Friday night, at the close of the session, there will be a Christian Endeavor rally, in which all the Christian Endeavor Societies of the city will participate. Rev. E. J. Van Horn, D. D. of Seattle, Wash., will deliver the address on this occasion. The following is the full programme of the sessions, which begin Tuesday night and end Friday night:

Tuesday evening—Organization; address of welcome, W. H. Morrow; address of religious modernism, Rev. E. Clarence Oakley. Wednesday morning—Bible reading, Rev. W. C. Gilmore; appointment of committees; new projects (read by scribe); all new projects to be brought before the association must be handed to the scribe in writing; first reading at the above-appointed time; these projects will be up for discussion at 9 P. M. Read and reports by delegates, each church is expected to choose one delegate to give this report: "Evangelicalism," Rev. W. B. Pinkerton; "The Immanuel Movement from a Physician's or Scientific Standpoint," Dr. J. E. Wetherbee. Wednesday afternoon—Bible reading, Rev. D. T. Thomas; "Socialism from a Minister's Standpoint," Rev. Luther R. Doytt, D. D.; business, new projects. Wednesday evening—Music by Rose City Quartet; association; sermon, Rev. E. V. Hughes. Thursday morning—Bible reading, Rev. Philip E. Bauer; conference, "Policy of Home Missionary Committee," Rev. E. S. B. Linger; "The Science of Church Finance," Professor F. C. Taylor; report, Rev. E. V. Poling; "A Transformation Scene in Oregon," Rev. James R. Knodell; report of superintendent, Rev. H. N. Smith; report superintendent of Home Missionary Society, Rev. A. J. Wilson. Thursday afternoon—"The Brotherhood Movement," Stan. G. L. Bates, Mr. C. A. Mann, Principal E. L. Bates, Mr. H. M. Gray; Women's Home and Foreign Mission Board; Home Board, Mrs. Luckey; President, solo, Mrs. Reno Hutchison; "Our Nation," Mrs. P. Taylor; "A Woman's View of Some Home Missionary Problems," Mrs. R. Taylor; "Pondus Mundi," Mrs. F. Fraser; a P. M. Foreign Board, Mrs. Hope, President; solo, Miss Leah Taylor; "The Light of the World," Mrs. Eva Emery Dye. Thursday evening—Pacific University night; President, W. N. Ferrin; address, special music by students of Pacific University; solo, Mrs. F. T. Chapman; address, "Christian Education in Civic Life," E. S. Huntington. Friday morning—Bible reading, selection

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from the sermon on the Mount, Matthew V. Rev. D. H. Sander, address, Rev. W. W. Scudder, Jr., superintendent, Washington Home Missionary Society, "Latest News From Congregational Mission Fields," Rev. Home Missionary Society, "Sacred Music in Divine Worship," Rev. D. V. Poling. Friday afternoon—Address, Rev. H. H. Wilcott, Field secretary, Congregational Church Building Society. Friday evening—Service, Rev. D. V. Poling; Rose City Quartet; Christian Endeavor Rally, Congregational Young People of Portland; address to young people, Rev. F. J. Van Horn, D. D.

Hassalo-street Church may be reached on a transfer from any West Side car to the Alberta, Broadway or Woodlawn lines, or delegates may take any cars on these lines at Second and Washington streets.

GOOD THINGS IN PORTLAND MARKETS

BY LILIAN TINGLE
THERE is hardly a change to report this week, either in regard to varieties or prices of good things to eat. There are new pine nuts and English walnuts at 25 cents a pound, and new crop grape-fruit at 15 cents each. These are almost the only new comers in the fruit or vegetable markets.

Apples are coming in, of course, but have not yet reached their full splendor. The most inviting that I saw were Golden Bellflowers at 25c a box. Grapes are rather less plentiful but the prices seem about the same: Tokays 25 to 35 cents a basket; muscats, 35 cents; black muscats, 35 cents; conchous, 30 cents; concord, 25 to 30 cents; and Eastern concord, 50 cents a basket. Before it is too late, let me remind you how delicious are pears or apples put up in concord grape juice, and how many delicious desserts and good things to drink, both hot and cold, can be concocted by the woman who faces the winter with a good supply of home-made grape juice in her store-cupboard.

Persimmons and pomegranates are both lower in price this week, the former costing 20 cents and the latter 25 cents a dozen. I don't know whether this fact has any connection with the celebration of the Chinese Autumn festival, but I am told that both fruits are favorites with Oriental customers. If you want a novelty in serving tea have a dish of pomegranate seed in place of the conventional lemon slices, and use it in similar fashion with Chinese jasmintea-scented tea. It is "quite different" and not unpleasant.

There were a few strawberries at 15 cents a box, and huckleberries at 15c a pound. Pears and peaches were both about 20 cents a dozen. Eastern chestnuts cost 35 to 40 cents a pound and the larger Oregon chestnuts 30 cents. Cranberries are beginning to look more like the real thing and are 15 cents a quart. Cassava melons cost about 25 cents and cantaloupes range from 5 to 20 cents each. There are still a few water-melons; but in mid-October one's fancy turns rather towards pumpkin than melons. Nice looking white pumpkins were offered at 5 cents a pound. Pear tomatoes were 30 to 35 cents a box; ground cherries 20 cents and rhubarb 2 cents a pound.

Among the vegetables, cauliflower is good but inclined to be a little higher in price. Peas, beans and Brussels sprouts were all about 15c to 15 cents a pound. Artichokes are rather good just now and come three for 25 cents. Peppers, both hot and sweet, the lingering remains of corn, nice green spinach, celery, tomatoes, kohlrabi, black turnips, lettuce-plant, egg-plant, sweet potatoes, parsnips, watercress and lettuce offer considerable variety for the vegetable or salad course.

In regard to poultry the prices are practically the same as last week. Ducks and turkeys are both rather more plentiful. There are good pigeons at 50 cents a pair and squabs at 75 cents. Skurgeon has been absent from the fish counters for some time past, but is to be had this week at 15 cents a pound.

CHICKENS 16c Lb.

Skamokawa Butter, Roll 70c

Eggs, 2 Doz. 65c

Chinook Salmon 10c Lb.

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Prologues are also in again at 25 cents a dozen. Lobsters seem plentiful but the price remains about 30 to 35 cents a pound. Salmon and halibut are 15c a pound; black bass, 30 cents; tom cod, black cod and catfish, 12 1/2 to 15 cents; California smelt, 25 cents; Sound smelt, perch and flounder, all 30 cents; and baby salmon, 20 cents a pound. Crabs are about 15 to 25 cents each; and there are also looking shrimp, clams and oysters for those who enjoy what a friend of mine calls "tid-bit fishy things." In the delicatessen department the approach of colder weather brings to the fore view hominy, mince-meat and hot baked beans, all welcomed by light house-keepers who enjoy these time-honored dishes, but who lack the time or perhaps the skill for preparing them at home as their grandmothers did.

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