

CITY MAY SEIZE RIVER FRONTAGE

Private Interests Hold Ends of Streets, in Opinion of Deputy Ellis.

WANT TWO SIDES OF RIVER

Property Long Held as Private Belongs to Municipality, Declares Official — Value Enormous. Big Battle Promised.

Action to take over on behalf of the city waterfront property, said to be valued at millions of dollars, comprising streets fronting on the Willamette River, and including, among numerous other properties on the east and west banks of the stream, the Southern Pacific Company's Jefferson-street docks, will be commenced by Councilman Ellis in the near future. He has been working for several weeks on data, now nearly complete, and announced yesterday that he will introduce a resolution in the near future, directing City Attorney Kavanaugh to take steps to have all these streets opened to the public.

Battle Royal Promised.

This action will be one of the most sweeping and drastic procedures ever undertaken by the municipality, and the stakes will be the largest ever fought for by the city. It involves many of the most prominent and wealthy business and professional people of Portland, who have, during long years, built up immense establishments largely on what they evidently believed to be their own property. That they will put up a big fight to retain it, is certain, and it seems probable that a battle royal will be on in the near future, when Councilman Ellis introduces his resolution before the Council.

One of the largest corporations involved is the Southern Pacific Company, which occupies, with its tracks the Jefferson-street depot, the terminus of its Yamhill division, about three blocks of property that Councilman Ellis proposes to solve for the city. It was given to the company many years ago by the Legislature, although the power of that body to do so has been seriously questioned. No city administration and no succeeding Legislature has undertaken to demand that this valuable property be returned to the municipality, but it, along with the other choice pieces, is soon to be claimed by the city, according to Councilman Ellis.

East Ankeny Excepted.

After looking up the records, Councilman Ellis announced yesterday that the only city street that has been vacated and is not, therefore, in reality municipal property, is East Ankeny street. This was released to private persons years ago, and does not come within the list of the other streets, terminating on either side of the river, to be claimed on behalf of the city government for the public.

"The City of Portland has more valuable waterfront property than many people would think," said Councilman Ellis, after completing his investigation of the records. "It has millions of dollars' worth as a matter of fact, and as soon as I can prepare to do so, I will introduce before the Council, a resolution, authorizing the City Attorney to take over these pieces of property for the city. They comprise dock property at the foot of numerous streets, on the two sides of the river, that will give Portland a prestige that will be amazing. This will eventually result, in my opinion, in one of the most gratifying advancements ever made by the city. We will then have enough dock property, so that if the city wants to go into the public dock business, it will have enough room of its own, without purchasing a cent's worth. Furthermore, it will have it right in the heart of the city, and all up and down the river, in the most advantageous position."

All West Frontage Claimed.

On the West Side, the city, according to Councilman Ellis, owns all the dock property from Gilean to Market streets, lying strictly in the intervening streets, and is deriving no revenue from any of these except Madison, Morrison, Stark and Burnside, these being the streets on which bridges are built or are being built, and Stark street is used by the city as a landing slip. The streets are all 60 feet wide, and in the aggregate are enormously valuable. Nearly every one of the waterfront sites is utilized at present and has been for many years by private interests, many of them being large and important.

The Southern Pacific Company occupies, with the depot and terminal yards of its Yamhill division, all the waterfront from Jefferson to Market street, a distance of three blocks. This is said to be one of the choicest pieces of all the property that is to be claimed on behalf of the city.

East Side Wanted, Too.

From East Madison street to Holladay avenue, a distance of a mile, there is only one street that has been vacated and that the city does not control, according to Councilman Ellis. This is East Ankeny street. All others, according to him, are city property, for which the city is not and has not for many years received any income, and has not used. The streets on the East Side that are used by the city are those on which are bridges—Madison, Morrison and Burnside—East Stark street, where the fireboat Williams is moored.

"I think that Mr. Ellis is laboring under a misconception," said a manager of a large establishment that will be affected. "I think these streets have never been dedicated to the harbor line, but only to the 'high water' line, which would be hard to determine. If I am correct in this view it would be impossible for the city to take over the property, without first paying for it, as any other corporation or individual would have to do. In my judgment, Mr. Ellis will find that he can not carry out his project to take over all of the street ends lying along the river, although he may be right and I may be wrong."

So far as could be ascertained, Councilman Ellis says, the only special privileges ever granted to any of the streets included in the list, is one on Main street. The City Council, in October, 1899, granted to Stephens & Moffitt the right to use the foot of that street, but only at the pleasure of the Council. It can, therefore, be revoked at the will of the present Council.

Late Marine Arrivals.

Tacoma, Dec. 13.—Arrived—Steamer Riverside, from Seattle; steamer Yucatan, from Cordova; steamer Teor, from San Francisco; steamer Eureka, from Dupont. Departed—Steamer Similia, for South Sea Islands. Singapore, Dec. 13.—Arrived previously—Antiochus, from Liverpool, for Tacoma. Shanghai, Dec. 13.—Arrived previously—Christian Box, from Portland, Or. Los Palmas, Dec. 13.—Arrived previously—Salatia, from Tacoma, etc., for Hamburg. Yokohama, Dec. 13.—Sailed—Empress of India, for Hongkong and Vancouver. Limerick, Dec. 13.—Sailed—Janetta, for Portland, Or.



\$3.50



\$3.50



\$3.50



\$3.50

Queen Quality Shoes

Most Extensive Showing of Fashionable Boots Ever Made at a Reasonable Price

Exclusive Designs Short Vamp Models

An Exposition of Style and Quality Never Equalled Before Under \$5 or \$6

\$3.50

An Exposition of Style and Quality Never Equalled Before Under \$5 or \$6



\$3.50



\$3.50



\$3.50



\$3.50

The great "QUEEN QUALITY" organization has scored many triumphs in the past, but this last shipment—by far the largest consignment of shoes ever received by any concern in this city at one time—outdazzles the most brilliant of previous efforts. After making the round of all the shoe stores in the city—with your impressions of shoes generally sold at \$5 and \$6 accurately fixed—you will marvel how we are able to offer such shoes—and in such assortment—at \$3.50.

Women's shoes at \$3.50 have always been one of our most important specialties. There has never been a time when we were unable to satisfy the exacting demands of style and quality at this price; but these new "QUEEN QUALITY" boots proclaim in clarion notes our undisputed leadership in the \$3.50 shoe field.

While not a "Special Sale"—this offering is so extraordinary—it will be safest to make your selections as soon as possible. The "Queen Quality" factory is unable to supply present demands, so that future shipments will be delayed

Come with the expectation of finding ALL of the latest shoe styles—including advance models from the New York "Custom Shops." Button and lace boots, but, of course, button boots as the favorites. Patent, Vici, Gunmetal, Semi-Dull and Black Russia tannages; tops of leather—or cloth—black or colored. Also cravenetted cloth boots—black and colors.

The Most Emphatic Demonstration We Have Ever Made of Our Consistent, Everlasting Policy—

"Close Margin Prices"

LOS ANGELES

SAN FRANCISCO

PORTLAND

G. K. Walker

270 WASHINGTON STREET

HOLD-UP ROBS SALOON

AT MUZZLE OF GUN TAKES CASH FROM REGISTER.

Wears Mask Made of Dirty Towel and Makes Escape Toward Railroad Yards With \$6.

With his face hidden behind a mask made of a linen towel, a man entered the Boss saloon, 101 North Front street, at 8:15 last night, and, under the cover of a pistol, compelled F. Garsneder, the proprietor, to lay the entire contents of the cash register on the counter. Selecting all the money, aggregating \$8, from the pile of receipts and papers strewn on the bar, the thief coolly backed his way to the front door, holding his victim and W. Barnett and William Beck, two visitors in the place, at bay with the gun. Once outside, he dashed down the street and disappeared.

The police were notified, and in less than 15 minutes a detachment of plain clothes men and bluecoats was scouring the railroad yards, but no trace of him was secured. According to the story told by eye-witnesses to the hold-up, the perpetrator was evidently a youth and a novice. He was first observed entering the door leading from the street. At the time he was apparently nervous, and, after a moment of tinkering with the mask about his face, whipped a blue-steel gun from his pocket and approached the bar. Without taking a survey of his surroundings, he pointed the weapon at the proprietor behind the bar. "I want everything you have in that," he said, pointing the gun at the cash register. After realising the gravity of the situation, Garsneder complied with the

command. He is described as of small stature, about 23 years old, and weighed about 140 pounds. His mask was made of a dirty linen towel, with holes gouged out about the eyes.

Streetcar Meeting Indorsed.

At the meeting of the Kenilworth Improvement Club last night in the Presbyterian Church, R. H. Merchant presiding, the proposed streetcar mass meeting, to be held on the East Side,

was indorsed, and it was voted that all attend. The club went on record as opposed to water meters. The matter of framing a street improvement district was discussed, but it was decided to postpone action until the sewers have been laid.

Queen Helena of Italy now is called "the children's queen." It is one of the results of her work in behalf of the suffering children following the Messina earthquake, and also of her unflinching interest ever since she ascended the throne, in the children of Rome.

WE OCCUPY THE ENTIRE BUILDING EXTENDING THROUGH FROM FIRST TO FRONT STREETS.

Appropriate Christmas Gifts

Picture Framing

We are showing new patterns of moldings in antique gold and Cinnamon walnut. See our lines of framed and unframed pictures. Mirrors framed to your order.

Hollywood Carbons

We are agents for the Hollywood Carbons, the best carbon reproduction of modern and ancient masterpieces.

Artists' Materials

5 Great Branches of Art. Oil Color. Water Color. Pastel Color. Black and White. Crayon. Charcoal. China Decoration. Pen and Ink.

Framed Pictures

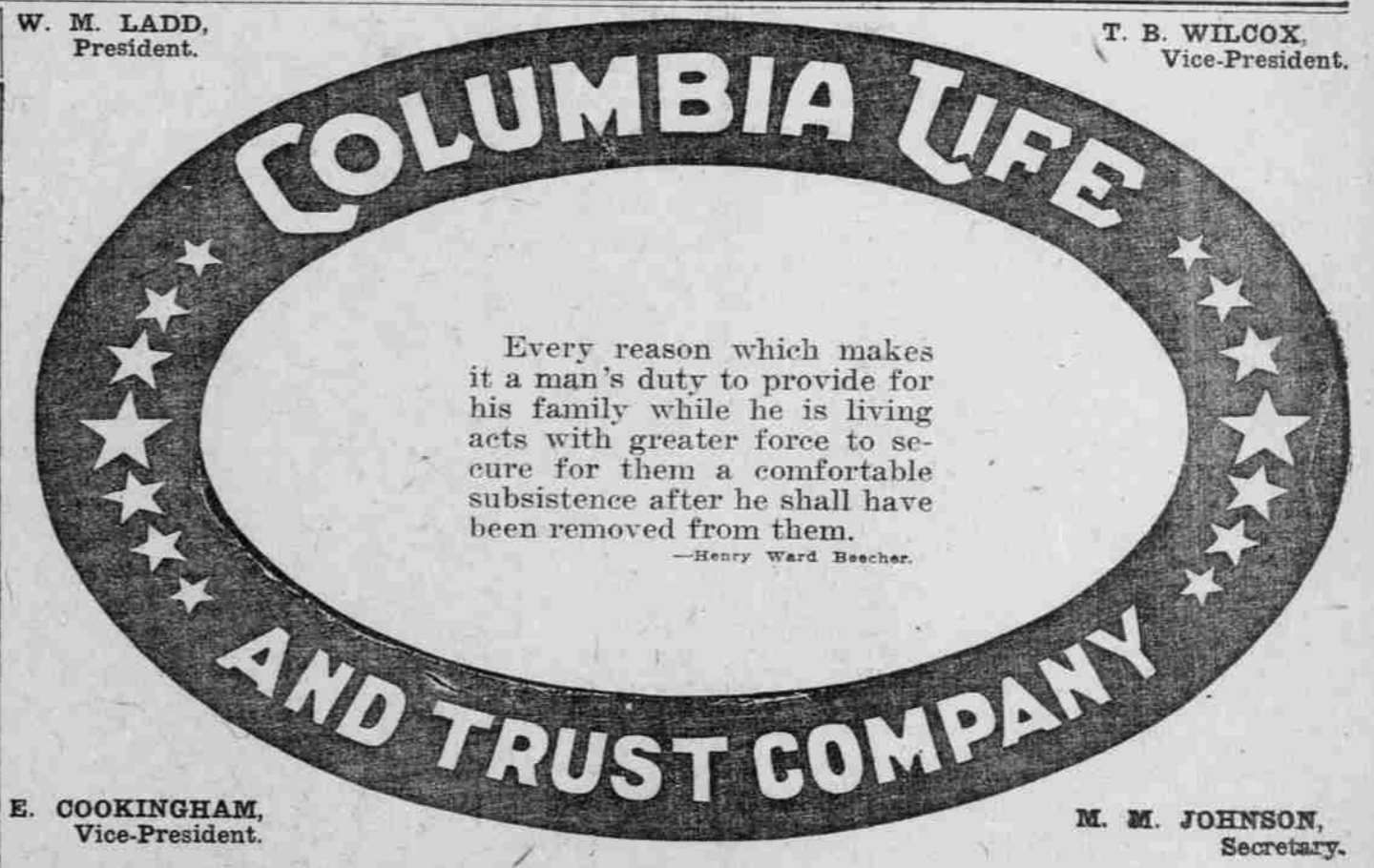
Our Framed Picture Department presents a wide variety of new and beautiful pictures. Oils, water colors and pastels, as well as the popular poster prints.

SANBORN, VAIL & CO.

Wholesale and Retail Dealers. Both Phones—Main 009, A 5008. 170 First and 171 Front Sts.

W. M. LADD, President.

T. B. WILCOX, Vice-President.



E. COOKINGHAM, Vice-President.

M. M. JOHNSON, Secretary.

S. P. LOCKWOOD, VICE-PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER. Home Office, Lumber Exchange Bldg., Portland, Or.