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STIR CIVIC PRIDE

Association Devises Ways and Means.

TAKES UP ONE THING AT A TIME

Many Suggestions as to Beautifying the City, but a Definite Policy Will First Be Adopted.

Ways and means of beautifying the city were discussed at a meeting of the Lewis and Clark Civic Improvement Association, which was held in the City Hall yesterday afternoon. Between 30 and 40 members were present. President Gibson occupied the chair.

When he called the meeting to order the president outlined the course he will take as head of the organization. He had learned that the feeling of the people in general was in favor of civic improvement along all lines. Places where such improvements could be made and streets and avenues in need of repair had been pointed out to him. In past years merchants had been drained for improvements, not of the best, and he suggested that in order to secure their co-operation the work of the association be conducted along educational lines. The association should be the clearing-house for all other bodies, some of which are now working at cross purposes. He recommended that the daily papers be asked to receive suggestions from all interested in civic improvements, and that these suggestions be considered by the association. In all cases the wish of the majority should prevail. The suggestion which receives the greatest number of indorsements should be acted upon first. When the improvement so recommended shall have been made, the suggestion which had the second greatest number of supporters should be considered. Only one matter at a time should be urged, and when by united effort an improvement is secured, a second should be taken up. He would not name his committees until he had seen the members of all local organizations and ascertained their wishes. In committee work he advised perfect harmony.

When President Gibson resumed his seat, L. Wilhelm spoke of sidewalk obstructions in various parts of the city, and particularly in the wholesale district. Between 20 and 30 years ago, when Chief of Police Lappeus was in office, there were no such obstructions, he said. In those days the police felt it their duty to keep the streets clear. Now, although there is an ordinance in the city code against the obstruction of public thoroughfares, the sidewalks in many streets are impassable.

Thomas Guinean said that every visitor to Portland was favorably impressed with the site of the city, but had a contemptuous opinion of the streets. Crosswalks of wood, rotting in mud, should be removed and stone laid. Portland today is the highest taxed city on the Pacific Coast, "and," said Mr. Guinean, "we have nothing to show for the taxes we pay. In other modern cities, people know where their money goes. In making improvements we should take the railways into consideration. If we were to lay a street for them twice a year, they would tear it to pieces."

After speaking about various city matters, Mr. Guinean said the remedy for the street evil was the choice of good municipal officers. The beautifying of the homes could be left to the good taste of the women, but the duty of the men was to go to the polls and vote for the candidates whom they knew to be best fitted for the offices they respectively seek. To secure a start, the selection of good men was necessary. Next the association should see that the corporations do their duty. As to the new charter, that did not cut much of a figure.

"Whenever anything goes wrong," said the speaker, "they tell us that we need a new charter. A new charter means that some one has an ax to grind."

C. A. Bell said it was too early a day to discuss the new charter. In a few days 10,000 copies of the document will be printed and distributed, and then the people will have an opportunity to study its provisions. Those who do not like the charter may go to the polls and express their disapproval when the proper time arrives. Changing the subject, Mr. Bell moved that the vote by which the constitution and by-laws were adopted be reconsidered. The motion was carried and Mr. Bell moved that the by-laws be amended so as to give the president power to appoint the executive board; that the dues of all individual members and affiliated organizations be $1 a year, and the dues of commercial bodies be $5. The motion was carried and the constitution and by-laws were re-adopted.

A letter was received from the Pacific Regalia Company, stating that the offering of prizes for ornamental improvements would have the effect of stimulating work in that line. As a starter the company offered a fine American flag. The flag was accepted and a vote of thanks tendered the company.

In a letter, Mr. Scheydecker, landscape gardener, suggested as a way of beautifying the city the connection of some of the lofty hills around Portland by means of roadways. Mr. Scheydecker's opinion was that by the construction of such roadways points from which the mountain peaks and other scenic sights may be viewed could be more easily reached.

George M. Hyland said the first work of the association should be the beautifying of homes, and especially such neglected places as front and back yards. Plots between the curbs should be looked after and dirty street signs should be replaced. A censorship of billboards should be exercised. In the matter of waste paper, one cause for complaint, receptacles might be placed on telegraph poles, as is done in some Eastern cities. An eyesore was a building on the verge of collapsing. These buildings, of which there are many in Portland, should be removed. In attending to these matters the association would have enough work to keep it busy for the present and it would be better to let the charter alone.

Mrs. L. W. Sitton read an article from The Oregonian, published over the signature of Julius L. Meier, proposing that band concerts be given in the city park on Sunday afternoons and in some other part of the city in the evenings. Mrs. Sitton moved that the suggestion be approved and that a committee be appointed to arrange for such concerts this Summer. The motion was carried and the chair appointed as a committee C. H. Prescott, H. C. Wortman, L. G. Clarke and H. D. Ramsdell.

President Gibson suggested that the representation of affiliated bodies in the association be on the basis of one delegate for each 100 members or fraction thereof. A motion to that effect was made by Mr. Hyland and was carried. As a committee to define the duties of the committee on membership, the chair appointed G. M. Hyland, Mrs. L. A. Clarke and D. M. Donaugh. The membership committee appointed consists of Mrs. Julia Marquam, C. A. Bell, M. E. Thompson, Mrs. E. F. Riley, D. M. Donaugh, Miss Edith L. Niles, Mrs. L. W. Sitton and W. W. Plimpton. The committee will visit all improvement clubs in the city.

The organization of a school children's auxiliary was brought up and was left for future consideration.

On motion of Mr. Hyland the daily papers were requested to receive suggestions regarding improvements in the various sections of the city.

Mr. Hyland said he had ordered a large quantity of literature from the American League for Civic Improvements, and it will be distributed as soon as it arrives. Some trouble has been experienced in securing the literature, as the demand has been so great that the league has been unable to meet it.

New members enrolled were: Mrs. E. F. Riley, J. V. Lankin, L. Wilhelm, Thomas Guinean, A. B. Clark, Lucy A. Clarke, James B. Moore, L. L. Hawkins, H. W. Goddard, the Sellwood Board of Trade, the Woodlawn Board of Trade, Julius L. Meier, L. G. Clarke, H. C. Wortman, H. D. Ramsdell, Mrs. A. J. Steel and Caroline Barnes.

The association adjourned, to meet at the call of the president.

DONALDSON'S FOUR WIN.

Both Pair and High Whist Team Scores Go to Them.

In the weekly tournament of the Portland Whist Club, held Friday evening, Donaldson's team, consisting of Donaldson, Gurnett, Gritzmacher and Vaille, won both the pair and team high scores. The pair score was as follows:

North and south—

Thielsen and Gorman	170
Therkelsen and Slocum	183
Donaldson and Gurnett	187
Dewey and Waite	181
Barin and Levinson	179
Total	900
Average	180

High score, Donaldson and Gurnett, plus 7.

East and west—

Arnold and Thomas	148
Rooney and Robertson	142
Gritzmacher and Vaille	149
Sidney and Cran	141
Wright and Lindsey	145
Total	725
Average	145

High score, Gritzmacher and Vaille, plus 4.

The team score was as follows:
Donaldson's team won 2, lost 1, plus 11.
Barin's team won 2, lost 1, minus 1.
Therkelsen's team won 2, lost 2.
Dewey's team won 1, lost 3, minus 3.
Arnold's team won 1, lost 3, minus 7.

HEGELMAN AND CAVANAUGH WON.

End of Six-Day Race at Madison-Square Garden.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—A crowd of fair proportions assembled at Madison-Square Garden tonight to witness the finish of the six-day walking match. Of the 43 teams which crossed the line Sunday night, only 15 remained on the track at the finish. Ten of these teams only are entitled to prize money, although the management will return the entrance fee to all those who finished. The prize money will be divided as follows: First team, $1500; second, $1000; third $750; fourth, $500; fifth, $350; sixth, $250; seventh, $200; eighth, $175; ninth, $150, and tenth, $125.

Hegelman and Cavanaugh, the German-Irish team, who had been in the lead from the start, held their place with ease and there was not at any time any strenuous contest for first place. The Hurst brothers, England's champions, were compelled to withdraw from the race at a late hour. The final score follows:

	Miles.	Laps.
Hegelman and Cavanaugh	770	4
Shelton and Guerrero	744	5
Fahey and Metkus	728	5
Golden and Tracey	719	4
Glick and Howarth	692	7
Noremac and Cartwright	677	4
Feeney and Feeney	668	3
Frazer and Sullivan	660	5
Davis and Carroll	648	..
Dean and Campbell	635	4
Herr and Herr	625	..
Kellar and Grepp	549	1
Kingston and Smylie	528	9

The world's record was 623 miles 1320 yards.

PRACITCE FOR ILWACO GAME.

Association Football Players Prepare for Opponents.

The Portland Association Football Club had a practice game yesterday afternoon at the Bishop Scott Academy field, and the back division was played with success against the forwards. Gavin shone as a good goal-keeper.

A business meeting of the club will be held Tuesday night at 8 o'clock at room 715 Oregonian building, to arrange details of the football game at Ilwaco, Saturday. All members are asked to be present. In addition to the eleven Portlanders who are to go to Ilwaco to play football, a crowd of rooters is going along, and the match is expected to be one of the most hotly contested events of this season. Municipal Judge Cameron will likely play in the Portland back division.

Multnomah and Olympias Tied.

TACOMA, Feb. 15.—The Olympic Bowling team lost the first game in tonight's contest to the visiting Multnomah Club, of Portland, by two pins, the game ending 210 to 208. The next three games went to the Olympic Club by comfortable margins, and the Multnomahs and Olympics are now tied for the cup in the interstate tournament now in progress, to be finished next week at Portland. The score of the second game was 209 for the Multnomah aggregation to 216 for the home team; the third game, 225 for the visitors to 245 for the Olympics, and the last game, 196 for Multnomah and 209 for the Olympic Club, which latter also won on total pins, 878 to 840.

Seattle and Portland Tied.

SEATTLE, Feb. 15.—The Seattle Athletic Club team bowled a tie series of games with the Portland Commercial Club team tonight, as it did with the Multnomah team the evening previously. This time, however, on total number of pins bowled, Seattle led, the figures being 935 to 924. The work of the bowlers on the whole was somewhat erratic.

Brooklyn Ball Club Election.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The annual meeting of the Brooklyn Baseball Club held in Jersey City re-elected Charles H. Ebbits president. Other officers elected are: Ferdinand A. Abeil, vice-president and treasurer; H. R. Von der Horst, secretary, and Edward Hanlon, manager.

The Monte Carlo Chess Tourney.

MONTE CARLO, Feb. 15.—The chess winners this morning were: Maroczy from Teichmann, Marshall from Eisenberg, Tarrasch from Scheve and Mieses from Popiel. In the afternoon Napier beat Wolf.

New Paper in Paris.

PARIS, Feb. 15.—A new daily newspaper was published in Paris this morning. It is entitled "La Voix Nationale." Senator Marcere is the managing editor of the paper and its political programme is distinctly Nationalistic.

A GIGANTIC HUMBUG

Meteoric Career of the Cassel Grain-Drying Company.

SWINDLE FROM THE BEGINNING

How Director Schmidt Succeeded in Hoodwinking the Public—Tariff Bill Prospects—Berlin's Electric Road.

BERLIN, Feb. 15.—The trial of the officers of the Trebor-Trocknung (grain-drying) Company of Cassel caused a very great sensation. The newspapers filled many columns with details of the trial, which brought out the history of the company's meteoric career, showing it to have been a gigantic swindle from the beginning, though Director Schmidt succeeded in deceiving the board of overseers until the crash came. They regarded him as a financial genius, and trusted him completely, while distributing 50 per cent dividends from fictitious profits, practicing wholesale operations in financial bills, hoodwinking the Leipziger Bank and his own overseers and making immense advances. The evidence indicated that the company never earned an honest dividend, and that it was a humbug throughout, even when its shares were manipulated up on to 1900.

The concern was founded in 1889 with a capital of 350,000 marks for utilizing the waste products of breweries. Later it purchased a patent wood-distilling method which proved worthless. Nevertheless, Herr Schmidt continued in the confidence of the public, and was able to raise the company's capital to 20,000,000 marks. He established branch wood distilleries in all the leading Continental countries, not one of which made expenses. Yet Herr Schmidt succeeded in launching rose-colored reports of the company's business. The overseers confessed that they were so fascinated by Herr Schmidt that they trusted him without any examination of the affairs of the company.

The prospects of the tariff bill grow more dismal. The majority of the committee continues to vote amendments, against the warnings of the government. The amendment providing for the abolishment of the municipal octroi duties, still in vogue in some towns, received an overwhelming majority of votes after the Imperial Secretary of State for the Interior, Count von Posadowski-Wehner, had announced that it was contrary to the constitution, and constitutional revision was necessary before the abolition of those duties could be effected. The amendment adopted yesterday, fixing January 1, 1905, for definitely putting the new tariff law in force, is a step of the Agrarians, and is intensely embarrassing for the government, since it is not certain when the treaty negotiations can be concluded, and the amendment is plainly designed to compel the government to invite tariff wars through denunciation of the present treaties before new ones are concluded.

The Agrarians, in discussing the amendment, showed their usual anti-American animus. Count von Kanitz, the Agrarian leader, again argued that the United States could not afford a tariff war with Germany, saying it would be "downright suicide," owing to the heavy excess of American exports to Germany. The Vossische Zeitung answers this assertion by showing that the immense German imports of raw materials from the United States are necessary—cotton, 25,000,000 marks; corn, 14,000,000 marks; copper, 101,000,000 marks; lard, 69,000,000 marks; petroleum, 68,000,000 marks, etc.

The new electric railroad, which is partly elevated and partly underground, was formally opened today. Representatives of the Imperial, state and municipal governments participated in the trial trip.

IMPROVEMENT IS RAPID.

Teddy Roosevelt Will Be Taken to Washington in a Few Days.

GROTON, Mass., Feb. 15.—The latest reports from the sickroom from the three sick students are favorable. Mrs. Roosevelt stated this afternoon that her son was doing splendidly and that they were all extremely gratified with his improvement. The Potter and Gammell lads are also gaining, although their convalescence is not so rapid as in young Roosevelt's case. Should no new complications arise, it is Mrs. Roosevelt's belief that she will be able to take her son to Washington some time next week.

Miss Alice Roosevelt arrived at Groton this afternoon, accompanied by the steward of the White House. She was driven to the infirmary of the school, where she was cordially greeted by Mrs. Roosevelt and Teddy, the latter seeming delighted to see his sister. Mother and sister remained by the sick boy's bedside during nearly the entire afternoon and evening, leaving shortly before 9 o'clock for the residence of Dr. Gardner, their home while in Groton. There is every reason to believe the patient will pass a very comfortable night.

A medical review of young Roosevelt's case, obtained today, shows that the boy became ill as the result of cooling off suddenly after violent exercise. The first diagnosis showed acute lober pneumonia in both lungs, the left lung being the most seriously involved. The left lung soon became entirely affected and the right congested. It was a typical case of double pneumonia. Dr. Lambert, upon his arrival last Monday, found the lad seriously ill, with his pulse 120 and temperature 105, and the case had become complicated with acute pleuritis. The administration of oxygen was deemed necessary. This greatly relieved the patient. The second stage of the disease found the heart ineffective, but oxygen and powerful stimulants had the desired effect and on Tuesday the temperature dropped. Wednesday, the oxygen was discontinued. The third stage was entered with the vitality of the patient not greatly impaired. The heart gained in strength and the improvement was very steady.

The Pope's Cablegram.

ROME, Feb. 15.—The pope has cabled to President Roosevelt expressing hope for the speedy recovery of the latter's son.

Peculiar Freak of Fire.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Ex-Attorney-General John W. Griggs saw many thousand dollars' worth of his bonds and valuable papers destroyed in Paterson, N. J., just as he had seen them taken, still intact, from the ruins of the big fire. Those papers were in his private safe in his office, where his splendid law library was burned. The safe was taken from the ruins and the door pried open. Suddenly the papers burst into flames and were reduced to ashes. It is supposed gas had generated inside the safe. Among the papers were eight unregistered bonds, each of a face value of $1000.

Gartner Stewart, having offices near those of Mr. Griggs, lost $10,000 in the same manner. In an adjoining building were the offices of Katz Brothers, brewers. In their safe were bonds valued at $150,000. When the safe was opened its contents were found to be in ashes.

Lawyers are said to have lost $150,000 in books by destruction of their offices in last Sunday's flames. Few of them carried insurance.

Yerkes Seriously Ill.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—It is stated that Charles Yerkes, of Chicago, has been very ill for the last 10 days, says a London dispatch to the Tribune. He is reported to have been confined to his bed.

DEATH OF WILLIAM H. WEST.

FAMOUS MINSTREL SUCCUMBS TO INCURABLE MALADY.

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—William H. West, known to theater-goers for the past quarter of a century as "Billy" West, the minstrel, died here today of cancer, aged 45. Early in the week a cancerous growth, which his physicians ascribed to excessive smoking, was removed from his throat, but he never recovered from the effects of the operation.

Mr. West's home was in Utica, N. Y. His friends in Chicago estimate his estate at $500,000.

(Mr. West has made annual visits to Portland for many years, and had a wide circle of friends here. He was a man of charming personality, and while the various companies in which he was interested were in the city was always to be found surrounded by his Portland acquaintances, who entertained and were entertained by him. Starting many years ago as a song-and-dance man, West gradually rose to the front rank of minstrel managers. He was known as a man who never spared expense to give the public the very best entertainment that could be provided, and the most famous singers and comedians in minstrelsy have been in his employ. Although he started West with his company on its last tour, his malady become so severe that he was compelled to undergo an operation in San Francisco, and thus he did not visit Portland this Winter. His manager, A. B. Rickaby, who represented him here, said that while West was in a San Francisco hospital he often would say: "I have made half a million dollars in the show business, but perhaps you think I wouldn't be glad to drop every cent of it, give you the show, and take a job working for you at $20 a week—if I only could.")

WANT TAXES PUT UP

Umatilla Asked to Assess Corporations More.

$3,000,000 AMOUNT OF ADVANCE

Pendleton Commercial Club Wants Valuation of Other Property Increased $1,000,000 Over Last Year—Assessor Approves.

PENDLETON, Or., Feb. 15.—The Pendleton Commercial Club will make an effort to have the assessed valuation of Umatilla County increased $1,000,000 over that of the year just closed, and about three-fourths of this amount it proposes shall be charged to railroad and telephone companies. The club believes $10,000,000 is a fair estimate for the assessed valuation of Umatilla County. It has already secured the approval of Assessor George Buzan to its proposition, and on Monday will meet with County Judge Hartman and Assessor Buzan to talk the matter over. The Commercial Club has been considering this matter of assessment for some time. In telling how it arrived at the conclusion that railroad and telephone companies should be assessed more, a member of the board of managers said:

"We have figured over the values of the various kinds of property, and have attempted to formulate a plan that will place upon all property its just share of the total of money raised each year for the support of government, county and state. We find that the total assessment of the railroads running through the county is now about $1,000,000. In arriving at the principle of how taxes should be levied, we applied the test of profit-bearing qualities. We found that the O. R. & N. Co., for example, is earning a net income at a good rate of interest upon a capitalization of $80,000 a mile. We believed that if this road was assessed at $20,000 a mile, or one-fourth of its apparent valuation, according to the earning power of the road, we would be doing right.

"In considering the telephone companies, we worked on the same principle, and found that they are earning vastly more than the amount for which they are assessed. The new plan of assessment also involves some increases in valuation of other forms of property, and yet the major part of the increase will be in the larger assessments of the railroad and telephone lines, which would be raised from a little more than $1,000,000 to about $3,000,000, and then, perhaps, $1,000,000 added from other sources.

"An essential feature in the proposition is to make these increases in assessments, and then lower the tax rates from 28 mills to about 20, which would yield more revenue and enable the early payment of the county's indebtedness. It is the earnest desire to clear away all county debts as soon as possible."

Assessor Buzan has already planned for the most vigorous campaign of property-hunting that was ever prosecuted in Umatilla County. He has selected 20 men living in the various districts of the county who are acquainted with the owners of property. He states that he will send them out to unearth everything that under the laws should pay taxes into the public treasury. This he will do regardless of any action upon the proposition of the Commercial Club, in which he heartily concurs.

THE DEATH ROLL.

Miss Ella Star.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Ella Star, a well-known contributor to newspapers and periodicals, is dead at Fishkill, after an illness of several months. She was for three years editor of Frank Leslie's Young Folks, and contributed to Judge and Life. She also spent some time abroad as a newspaper correspondent.

Rev. J. F. C. Lochner.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Feb. 15.—Rev. J. F. C. Lochner, one of the most prominent Lutheran ministers in the United States, is dead from a strok of apoplexy, which he suffered several days ago, aged 90 years.

Death of a Harvard Professor.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Feb. 15.—Professor Mayer Wald, professor of law in the Harvard Law School, is dead from heart disease.

Death of a Danish Minister.

COPENHAGEN, Feb. 15.—Herr Hoerup, the Minister of Public Works, who has been suffering from cancer, is dead.

Dr. Mueller's Mission.

BRUSSELS, Feb. 15.—It is said the desire to keep secret the departure of Dr. Mueller, ex-Consul of the Orange Free State in Holland, for the United States was so keen that the Boer emissary booked his passage under an assumed name. According to information from responsible Boer quarters, Mr. Kruger's letter to President Roosevelt, of which Dr. Mueller is the bearer, does not appeal for intervention, but expresses regret that he is unable at present to congratulate President Roosevelt personally on his accession to office, and concludes with a gratifying allusion to the numerous invitations to visit the great Republic which have arrived and are still arriving.

Besides reorganizing the Boer propaganda in the United States, Dr. Mueller will direct his efforts principally to obtaining Government prohibition of the exportation of articles regarded by the Boers as contraband of war, thus indirectly eliciting an opinion on the war from the United States Government.

THE HAGUE, Feb. 15.—The members of the Boer delegation have left The Hague, but have not announced their destination. It is rumored that they have started for the United States.

Riding Academy Destroyed.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The building on Central Park, West, occupied for many years by Durland's Riding Academy, was destroyed and its neighbor, the Poillon apartment house, slightly damaged today by a fire that threatened for a time to prove more disastrous. The first firemen to attack the burning building were caught in a "back draught" and several were badly hurt. Robert Manning was seriously injured. The old academy was built 15 years ago by Boston capitalists at a cost of $100,000.

Ibsen Will Write Again.

CHRISTIANIA, Feb. 15.—After a year's complete rest, Henrik Ibsen has so far recovered his health that his physicians have sanctioned his resumption of work, and the dramatist has started a new play.