

POLITICAL FORUM

Friends of the Two Mayoralty Candidates Advance Arguments for Consideration of Marshfield Voters.

(All communications must be in The Times office by 10 o'clock a. m. to secure publication the same day. This is necessary in order that they can be handled without preventing the handling of telegraph and other important news.)

FOR SMITH

LEAGUE'S SIDE.

The Straw opera at the Masonic hall Saturday eve was well attended, a large number of ladies and children being present to listen to the discussion of folk lore of Coos Bay and old Virginia. The moving pictures furnished the youngsters with amusement who demonstrated their approval by whistling and stamping of feet. Incidentally a careful ob-

server might have noticed here and there an administration advocate who had come with heavy heart to pay his last obsequies to the present administration.

What about the \$60,000 indebtedness, good people will you vote next Tuesday to place an administration in office who have placed our city in its present predicament.

If you are in doubt about the situation, just read over the report of W. F. Squires, the expert who tried to straighten out the city records, as it is on file in the city recorder's office:

"MARSHFIELD, OREGON, April 10, 1908.

"To Councilmen F. A. Sacchi, J. H. Flanagan and H. Lockhart, auditor's committee of City of Marshfield:

"Gentlemen: Following your directions I have to report that I have examined records and accounts of Recorder and respectfully submit the following partial report:

"The only record regularly kept in this office since Jan. 1st, 1906, is the record of the proceedings of the Common Council. Entries for receipts and disbursements were made in the recorder's ledger for the first two quarters of 1906, but none have been made since. There is no record of warrants issued other than the stubs.

"No docket of liens or any other record of special assessments have been kept and the clause in each ordinance making a levy for street improvement, relating to and ordering same recorded in the docket of liens has been ignored.

"The last entry in the record of licenses collected is June 12, 1906. No account of licenses collected has been kept since that date and the only means of ascertaining the status of the license in the license business is by referring to the receipt stubs of the Treasurer (and even there, in nearly every instance, the period for which payment is made is not stated) or to the application for license on file. The file at present contains but six applications and bonds for liquor licenses for current period and from an examination of the record of the proceedings of the Common Council it appears that these or any other liquor licenses have not been granted by the council, the last record of liquor license granted being made in 1907, for a period of months. Furthermore no official license has been issued and the only evidence held by liquor dealers that they have, or have not paid a license is a receipt from the Treasurer. There is no means of telling when the previous license expired, or if there be any intervening time between the expiration of the former and the beginning of the present license.

"Ordinances enacted by the Common Council have not been recorded except by title in record of the proceedings of that body. The original copy of each ordinance is allowed to be taken from the office by officials of the city and at present there are only about a dozen copies of the three hundred odd ordinances, in this office. No index or other means of referring to an ordinance or ordinances on any subject is kept.

"There is no record of the real property or other assets belonging to the city kept in this office. There is on file a deed to the city for some real estate deeded the city dated Oct. 16, 1907, and for which a warrant for payment was ordered drawn, but same does not bear indorsement of the county clerk, that it has been duly recorded in his office.

"There is no record of city surveys kept in this office as required by charter.

"There is no record of fines and forfeitures of any proceedings in the Recorder's court which would enable the ascertaining of what revenue is obtained from that source.

"The system proposed for the future contemplates the installing of a complete arrangement for making and preserving details of all transactions of, and authorized by the Common Council in the Recorder's office.

"Heretofore it appears that all of the accounting and most of the recording has been done partly in the office of the City Attorney and partly in that of the Treasurer. It is important that provision be made for carrying on the business and recording and accounting the affairs of the city in the office of the City Recorder, by a thoroughly competent and efficient person, and for the proper safe-guarding of the records and accounts.

"Respectfully submitted,

"W. F. SQUIRE."

Come out and hear the issues of the campaign discussed to-night at the I. O. O. F. Hall on Front street.

Avoid a second mortgage on your homes by voting for I. S. Smith for mayor next Tuesday.

CITIZENS' LEAGUE.

STATEMENT BY I. S. SMITH.

Marshfield, Or., Dec. 6, '09.

Editor Times:

I am informed that the administration politicians are still trying to make political capital out of the un-

FOR STRAW

TO THE RESCUE OF MR. BUTLER.

Editor Times:

In the endeavor to neutralize the ill-effects of the effort made to mislead the public as to the City's financial condition, the League says: "Any school boy who can read would know that Butler simply signed the article complained of as secretary of the League, and that it does not necessarily follow that he had anything to do with its composition."

Be that as it may, every school boy and every citizen knew that Mr. Butler was city recorder. And the League impeaches its secretary's intelligence when it would convey the impression that he signed the document without knowledge of its contents. This is the more improbable when we consider the fact that Mr. Butler is a member of the League's publicity committee.

But wherein lies any essential difference between Mr. Butler as City Recorder, Mr. Butler as League secretary, Mr. Butler as publicity committee man and Mr. Butler as an individual?

The public gave full credence to the statement, as it had a right to do, on the strength of Mr. Butler's signature.

The statement was misleading, as it suppressed vital facts, and if the League wishes to relieve Mr. Butler as a candidate for re-election, from all responsibility, and assume the burden of self-confessed misrepresentation, well and good.

Another and additional expenditure made by the reckless administration and omitted from the list first published, was something like \$1,000 for the repair of the crown sheet and the purchase of a new boiler for the fire engine. The hundred-dollar-a-month engineer discovered that the machine was practically worthless for sustained effort. It was repaired temporarily at the railroad shops, pending the making of a new boiler at the east.

We quote the following from the League article of yesterday:

"They further state that the wedge that was placed against progress. We admit that it was placed against the kind of progress that the administration was then dealing in. Let us see what some of this progress was: First on the list was a pension of \$50 per month for the recorder while the administration hired a competent man at \$100 per month to do the work. Next on the list was a man in the fire engine room whose principal duty was the keeping up of a coal fire in a small heater, salary \$100 per month. This is progress number two. Next on the list was a body guard for night watch Condron, salary \$90 per month. This is progress number three. Next on the list two helpers to the city engineers office, salary \$4 per day. Progress number four. Yes, we own the coin; we were then and we are now opposed to progress of this kind. We would not now have our homes mortgaged for the dollars that went into their pockets if the administration's progress had been of the true kind."

Let us take up these items in their order. They deserve attention because they confessedly represent the sum total of the League's accomplishments along lines of retrenchment and "progress."

We will dispose of the "Upton pen-fortunate incident in connection with the collapse of my store building at the corner of Broadway and Hall avenue, by making the false statement that Mr. Eddy drew a set of plans for me and that I returned them to him and used my own plans; Mr. Editor, I fully realize that the facts relating to this matter will be misrepresented by the opposition no matter how plain a statement I may make; here are the facts:

Eddy & Reed, architects drew a set of plans for me and I never used them for the reason that Mr. Cayou, who was awarded the contract refused to use the Eddy plans, but proposed to, and did draw his own plans and specifications which were used in the construction of the building. The two sets of plans were identical, so far as the dimensions of any and all material were concerned, and differed but slightly in other respects. As to the material being too small, the studding was 2x4, rafters 2x4, sleepers 2x12, joist 2x16, sills 8x8, underpinning 8x8, mud-sills 4x12 white cedar. With this explanation I will leave the matter to the voters of Marshfield who, I believe are in favor of honesty and fairness between man and man.

Respectfully,

I. S. SMITH.

sion" by conceding reckless extravagance in paying Mr. Upton's salary during the last two months of his term of office, and while a competent man was being paid \$100 a month. We must concede something, and Mr. Upton is willing that this concession be made at his expense.

And now as to the fire engineer, to whom was paid \$100 a month, and "whose principal duty was the keeping of a coal fire in a small heater."

Mr. Rook, who drew down this princely stipend, was a young, sober, level-headed and skillful engineer. He found the fire engine room and much of the apparatus in a bad way. He made a complete cleanup of his department, and as a mechanic made many repairs which he found to be necessary. He discovered the alarming fact that we had no fire engine capable of sustaining an efficient work. The crown sheet was burned out, and the boiler was condemned. He made temporary repairs at the railroad machine shops, and the administration promptly ordered a new boiler from the factory in the east. He was ever on duty—day and night—having taken up living quarters only three doors from his post of duty. The people felt secure while he was chief that the old engine

would give a good account of herself when called upon. This engine was and is relied upon to protect our danger zone—our "conflagration district," as insurance men say—which easily holds half a million dollars' worth of immediately perishable property. Indeed it is almost its sole reliance. Here was no place to cut wages! What would men say—men of retrenchment and "progress" of this sort? Would they not be impelled to mob somebody? Would Albrecht, Coke and Nelson view the smoking embers with an easy conscience? The money paid to Tommy Rook was the best money the City ever expended. Straw said in his message that you cannot get good men for cheap wages, and that City is not now paying the League engineer a sufficient wage if he is the right man for the place. This "cut-rate" wage system was inaugurated by Albrecht, Coke and Nelson, and they seem to be proud of their baby.

A body guard was never provided for Nightwatchman Condron, but if one was necessary, it was money well spent. Now that the Condron "brainstorm" has subsided, there are some people who realize that the net results of his activities were worth while.

The city engineer never had two

helpers at \$4 a day. He had two helpers who were employed when field work was necessary, and these were paid \$2.50 a day. He did have assistance from a civil engineer when necessary, who was paid \$5 a day. There was no cut-rate "progress" here either.

It was against this sort of "progress" that the League councilmen placed their "wedge."

"Dare you tell us why city warrants sold at 1 per cent premium during Sengstacken's administration and after the present administration had succeeded, they were sold at a discount of from 15 to 25 per cent."

This is another misleading statement—half of the truth, as is usual with the League publicity committee. Warrants did sell at a premium during Sengstacken's administration, and they also sold at a premium during Straw's first administration and well into his second administration. And they never sold at a discount until the League made its vicious assault upon that administration and deliberately destroyed the city's credit by the publication of these half truths, and subsequently repudiated the city's honest debts when they voted down the bond issue.

ADMINISTRATION CLUB.

VOTE FOR GEO. GOODRUM YOUR BOSOM FRIEND

And if elected he will conduct a Tog Shop and please everybody. It takes patronage to run a shop where you can get all kinds of High Class Furnishings and I assure you if you cast a vote for your bosom friend he will, at all times, supply you with what you want at the right price.

REMEMBER

YES X 50 BROADWAY

NO X ALL OTHERS

TO THE VOTERS

If you want the men who have charge of your job, to have control of your home then elect the representatives of the big Corporations. If not then vote for the man for the People.

F. S. RIEBE
The Socialist Choice For
Councilman