

DOINGS OF CITY COUNCIL

PLAN TO CUT MORE SALARIES

Councilman Cople Proposes Further Retrenchment—Matter Tabled

Further slashing in city salaries were proposed last night by Chairman Cople of the finance committee of the Council in his program of retrenchment. His additional program was as follows:

Reduce salary of city engineer from \$150 to \$125 per month.

Reduce salary of street commissioner from \$100 to \$80 per month.

Reduce salary of city inspector from \$75 to \$60 per month.

Require banks to pay two per cent interest on city balances of over \$1000 at end of each month.

Mr. Cople said that they disliked to do this, but that they were up against a condition and couldn't see any other way out of it.

Councilman Ferguson immediately objected to a reduction of salaries. He said that it was a bad advertisement for the city and also that if the city expected good service, it had to expect to pay for it.

Councilman Evertsen said that the inspector was taking in about sufficient money for permits to pay his wages and he didn't think a man could support a family on \$60 per month.

Mr. Ferguson said that the city could not get a man to do the work that Street Commissioner Lawhorne is doing for \$80 per month and said that Mr. Lawhorne would quit rather than stand the reduction.

Cople retorted that a year ago when the salaries were raised, he opposed it. He said that he was opposed to another bond issue for current expenses. He said that now the city is paying out \$2700 per year interest on a bond issue that was floated for that purpose. Furthermore, he declared that the city is paying far higher salaries now than anyone else for the kind of work it is getting.

Abolish Council's Pay. Councilman Ferguson said that it was all right to retrench, but he thought that they were going at it in the wrong way. He said that something else could be trimmed out.

Councilman Cople wanted to know what could be cut out.

"For one thing, we can wipe out the fees of the Councilmen and that will save the city \$500 per year," retorted Ferguson. "I will be glad to serve a year without pay."

"All right, I am with you," replied Cople. "What else?"

Mr. Ferguson said that he had not had time to study the situation.

Mr. Cople then stated that Mr. Ferguson would not pay a personal employe \$100 per month for doing the work the street commissioner is doing, nor would he pay \$2 per day for the work the inspector is doing. He said that he (Cople) could find plenty of capable men to do the city work at the reduced salaries and said that he would guarantee to personally make up any loss the city might suffer. He said that it was easy to raise salaries, but blamed hard to cut them.

Councilman Ferguson said that he would rather abolish the jobs than cut the salaries. He said that if the city couldn't afford the men, then do without them. He said that the city must expect good work and pay accordingly.

Councilman Wilson wanted to know why there was any disgrace attached to cutting salaries.

Mr. Cople said that plenty of men were supporting families in Marshfield on less than the wages

specified and Councilman Evertsen couldn't see it that way. Finally it was decided to table the proposed reductions until more of the Councilmen were present, both Carl Albrecht and Alva Doll being absent.

In the discussion, Councilman Cople said that Marshal Carter had accepted the reduction in his salary and that John Johnson had offered to do the street commissioners' work and that of the inspector for the reduced salary.

Will Quit Job. It is stated that City Engineer Buckingham will resign rather than serve at the proposed reduction in salary.

No action was taken on the proposition of Councilman Ferguson to have the Councilmen serve without pay.

PEST HOUSE IS COUNCIL PEST

Council Kick on Expense of Fitting it Up—Other Proceedings

More bills for furnishing and fixing up the city pest house came in last night and Councilman Cople and the others protested vigorously against them. Councilman Cople referred to it as a "floating palace" and said that he thought that the best thing the city could do would be to take it out in the Bay and sink it before any more expense was added. He said that although the float house originally cost only \$190, bills for fixing it up amounted now to about \$500.

Mayor Allen said that he thought the city could have gone back in the woods and fitted up an isolated pest house that would have been adequate for a couple of hundred dollars.

Mr. Cople's proposal to take it across the Bay met with instant approval from Henry Sengstacken, who was present. Mr. Sengstacken has been objecting to the pest house being near his property and he said that on behalf of the Port Commission he would give immediate consent.

Chairman Wilson of the Health Committee said that Dr. Straw had gone ahead and ordered the things and it was suggested by Councilman Evertsen and others that Dr. Straw be notified not to incur any more bills without the approval of the Council.

Cathcart's Claim. S. B. Cathcart was present again about the drainage of his property when the dredge fill is made in the north arm of Mill Slough. Mayor Allen said that was the Port Commission's business and Mr. Cathcart said that Commissioner A. H. Powers told him it was the Council's. He said he wanted to be fair about it but that he wanted to have some assurance that his place would not be left like it was at Fourth and Golden.

Councilman Wilson wanted to know how much the fill would damage him and Mr. Cathcart replied that it would be at least \$400 providing that he was furnished drainage after the fill was made and if not it would be more.

City Engineer Buckingham said that the iron pipes that were being put in for a drain would be adequate after the fill is made. He said that they would last at least five years.

Mr. Cathcart wanted a wooden drain box put in but Mr. Buckingham said that would cost at least \$1800, as Manager Miller of the dredge Seattle insisted that the wooden drains be anchored with piling.

Councilman Cople said that he thought that the city owed it to the residents to protect them in cases of this kind. He said that it wasn't right to have Cathcart's property damaged in order to help the prop-

erty of somebody else and he believed that it was up to the Council to have the engineer provide for adequate drainage. He said that they did not want another case like that at Fourth and Golden.

Peter Scott, who was present, said that it was a shame the way that section was left. He said the sewer was still stopped up and that the mud and water made it a regular cesspool.

City Engineer Buckingham declared that the sewer was working and that the water had gone down about nine inches or a foot. He said that the reason a drain was not put in there was on account of the expense and also because the original plan was just to have the streets filled.

Regarding Mr. Cathcart's claim, Mr. Brusche said that he understood that the Port Commission realized that Mr. Cathcart would suffer damages and were ready to pay him some.

Other Claims In. Mayor Allen said that he had received a claim from Mrs. Walter Micklen of South Marshfield for \$500 damage sustained by the fill there.

Councilman Evertsen said that Mr. Crawford was still after damages for the loss of his garden. City Engineer Buckingham said that Mr. Crawford should get after the parties who were responsible for not repairing the dike along Coal Bank Inlet.

Routine Business. Juratsch & Dooley were ordered refunded \$15 of their license on the Orpheum Theater.

The assessment for the improvement of Pine avenue in North Fernside was fixed at \$2.58 per front foot.

The Alder avenue wharf was deferred until Claude Nasburg could be heard, Eugene O'Connell urging early action on it.

A rebate of \$271.64 was ordered paid to the property owners on Seventh between Flanagan and Golden.

The bond of Hugh Sneddon for the Eagle saloon, signed by Jas. Bering and August Friczen, was accepted.

The grade of Second street from Curtis to Hall was formally established.

The grade on Eighth from Date to Fir was established.

City Engineer Buckingham was

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GRADE PROBLEM IS TAKEN UP

The question of the grades on Central avenue and South Sixth street was brought up at last night's Council meeting by F. K. Gettins, who said that they would be unable to start the construction of the new Conway building at Sixth and Central until this was done. He said that they had just found that the grade proposed last fall had not been established and they wanted quick action.

City Engineer Buckingham said that the Central avenue grade could be established quickly, but that the grade on South Sixth street could not be established so quickly because it would mean the establishment of new grades in Anderson and Bennett avenues. He said that this would be difficult and it would probably require several weeks to get the proper levels. He said that it could not be rushed for the benefit of Sixth street, as he regarded Anderson and Bennett avenues the most important thoroughfares and hasty work that might damage them would be serious to the city.

Finally the Council ordered him to prepare grades on these streets and it is likely that property owners on Bennett and Anderson avenues will get busy and see that the grades on those streets are made satisfactory.

G. W. Tribbey was present and urged that Central avenue be left at the level of his house now. He said that he had raised his house twice to meet proposed grades and he did not like to have to go the expense of it again. The grade proposed last fall would meet the requirement. Councilman Ferguson remarked that the city could not make everything conform with Tribbey's house.

Central Avenue. A. Y. Myers asked that the Council have whatever portion of Central avenue that is raised put on the established grade. He said that

it was desired in order to get as much dredge fill as possible raised so that the street could be surfaced.

City Engineer Buckingham said that all of the street that would have to be raised would be from Fourth street west to near Sixth where it is near grade now.

Finally it was decided to raise this to the established grade as the cost will be little more than the expense of raising it out of the ground. Bids on it will be opened Monday night, and the contractor required to do the work in ten days.

Commercial Avenue. A new grade for Commercial avenue was ordered established. It provides for a raise of one foot to the block from Fifth to Eighth and two and one-half feet between Eighth and Ninth. This will mean a raise in the present bridge of about three and one-half feet at Eighth street.

A question about taking out part of the curve in the street at Ninth was raised. It will cost about \$200 to do this work and it is questionable whether this can be justified out of the repair assessment. The work was left up to the City Attorney to decide and bids on the work will be opened soon.

City Engineer Buckingham proposed that the street be raised near Eighth street, as he said that it was proposed to put a sewer through Perham Park to Perham Park connecting with Commercial at Eighth, and as this would probably be done this summer, it would be changing the intersection again.

The Council finally decided to have all of Commercial raised from Fifth to Ninth.

Delay Hard Paving. City Engineer Buckingham said that it would be impossible to do hard paving on any of the streets dredge fill in less than two years.

This was in answer to the proposal of some to have Broadway street improved from Donnelly to Commercial this year. It was suggested that they probably would want hard paving. Councilman Cople said that he was opposed to the bridge construction and Mr. Sneddon said it was out of the question to put hard paving on the fill.

AMONG THE SICK

The young son of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Drews is reported quite ill at their home in West Marshfield.

Mrs. C. M. Milligan is reported quite sick at their home in Perham Park.

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CHAS. SNEDDON, Sr.

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