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THE CITY DADS DO BUSINESS

MANY RESOLUTIONS ACTED ON

The Astorian Declared the City Official Paper—Parliamentary Confusion That Was Funny.

The city council met in regular session last night, and broke the record by transacting a big volume of miscellaneous business in considerably less than an hour. There was a little sessioning, too, in the way of a couple of debates which were of more than passing interest.

They began by granting retail liquor licenses to C. A. Campbell and John L. Carlson. Next they granted the petition of Peter Durrell for a transfer of his license to the northwest corner of Sixth and Astor streets, and then got down to good hard business. H. P. Olsen had a complaint against O. V. Haven because of the location of a dwelling in front of his (Olsen's) lot in suburban Alderbrook. This was referred without comment.

An official communication from County Clerk Wherity, stated that the aggregate valuation of the assessable property in the City of Astoria had been determined to be \$1,572,551.

The street superintendent, asked that he be granted 2,000 feet of lumber for the purpose of improving a section of the street at the junction of Harrison avenue and Thirty-fourth street.

Claims against the city were then submitted as follows: Daily News, 75c; Prael Transfer Company, \$7.50; F. W. Ferguson, \$1.50; Fisher Bros., 40c; Astoria Transfer Company, \$6.35; F. W. Ferguson, \$15. These were ordered paid, as was also another batch as follows:

Brenner & Holmes, \$1; Foard & Stokes, \$1; H. F. Prael Co., \$7.75; Astoria Box Co., \$12.25; Fisher Bros., \$12.50; C. A. Lineweber, \$4.50; Schofield & Hauke, \$24.50; H. F. Prael Co., \$24.25; S. H. Willett, \$19.05; Astoria Street Railway Co., \$5; Fisher Bros., \$7.50; West Shore Mills Co., \$8; A. V. Allen, \$23.15; Foard & Stokes Co., \$49.25; Brenner & Holmes \$11; A. V. Allen, \$22.53.

The committee reported that the bill of A. V. Allen had been incurred irregularly in that the groceries had not been previously ordered by the council, but the circumstances surrounding it were of an unusual nature and payment should be made. Mayor Bergman then explained that the bill had been incurred by the chief of police on his instructions. He stated that sometime ago when the smallpox quarantine was in force the discovery was made that a widow washerwoman named Hanson, who resides down on the waterfront, had been washing clothes for the smallpox patients. A quarantine was at once ordered to be established upon the house. Incidentally it was learned that the widow was the mother of seven children and was entirely destitute, there being no food in the house of any description. As soon as he learned of this condition of things he at once ordered that provisions be furnished them at the expense of the city, the mayor concluding by saying, "It was the only way around it, and I was not going to see a widow and her children starve in Astoria even were I to be compelled to pay for the necessary food out of my own pocket."

Councilman Parker arose to suggest that the case was properly a county charge and should have been referred accordingly. This, he said, constituted his only objection to the payment of the claim.

There was an impatient flash in the mayor's eyes as he faced Mr. Parker. Then he began:

"I have already said, gentlemen, I will pay the bill myself if you see fit to disallow it." Then to Mr. Parker, "But the county authorities were not in session and there was no way of getting action from that direction until they were in session. I'll tell you one thing; that if you should go without your good warm breakfast and did not know where in the world you were to get in you would mighty soon forget all about red tape, the county authorities and every thing else. No, sir; there is no reasonable excuse for anyone going hungry in Astoria, and they won't if it is in my power to help them."

With this the motion to allow the claim was passed, Mr. Parker voting favorable with the others.

The council then took up the matter of awarding contracts for the city printing, the Astorian receiving the contract to publish the city advertising for the coming year. J. S. Dellinger was awarded the job printing.

A resolution was then presented, of which Councilman Cook was the author, declaring intention to build a road at a point beginning at the western extremity of Bond street, thence running to a point 30 feet at right angles to the N. E. corner of block 2, in Taylor's Astoria; thence along the present existing trestle on Taylor avenue to its intersection with Kensington avenue.

The introduction of this resolution stirred up the amusing incident of the evening. The ball was started by Councilman Goddard, who opposed the resolution on the alleged ground of economy. He declared that the city could not afford the improvement at the present time and wound up with a retrospective and pathetic allusion to the time when Astoria warrants "were being hawked around for 65 cents on the dollar." "They're worth 100 cents now and, by the powers that be, we will keep them there," he declared.

"I had access in its worst form," writes Austin Hamer, Esq., of Seattle, Huntington Co., Pa. "I tried three doctors but got no relief. I thought it would set me wild. It itched and burned so badly. The neighbors thought I would never be cured. I took your Golden Medical Discovery and am now well."

be laid on the table. This brought Cook to his feet in a jiffy and after a long and impassioned speech, he offered an amendment to Goddard's motion moving that the matter be referred to the city attorney. The chair proceeded to put the amendment in regular order but some one thought that the original motion should first be put and a prolonged unparliamentary debate on the ethics of parliamentary law followed. In the midst of the amendment was put and voted upon and when the motion was amended straggled along matters assumed a worse shape than ever. Councilman Cook capped the climax by voting against his own resolution. Goddard then pulled himself together and suggested that the whole business be wiped off the slate and a new start made. This plan impressed Mayor Bergman with favor and the matter was finally cleaned up by turning it over to the city attorney.

The meeting then adjourned till next Monday night at 7:30, when the tax levy will be brought up and disposed of.

Councilmen Svensen and Scherneckau were absent.

BRYAN MAKING TROUBLE.
Politicians Consulting What to Do About His New York Visit.

NEW YORK, Jan. 15.—The Tribune says:

The democratic organizations in the city are in a bad tangle over William J. Bryan's approaching visit to New York. O. P. H. Belmont, who has no official position either under the city administration or any of the organizations, intends to entertain Mr. Bryan at dinner. At this dinner will be nearly all the prominent democrats of the state and the city. There will be representatives from over the state, from King's county, from Tammany and from the Chicago platform democrats.

The idea is to turn the dinner into a sort of love feast and harmonize all factions so that a solid and unanimous delegation may be sent to the next democratic national convention to vote for Bryan. This is all well as far as it goes, but the trouble brewing is over what official notice shall be taken of Mr. Bryan's presence by the Tammany organization and the Democratic club.

According to reports there are two plans under consideration. The first is favored by John W. Keller, president of the Democratic club, and contemplates a dinner at the club in Mr. Bryan's honor. Mr. Keller said he would certainly invite Mr. Bryan to come to dinner at the club as his guest, and if he accepted would invite a number of democrats to meet him. The discussion is as to whether this dinner shall partake of a formal political nature or be simply a personal welcome of Mr. Keller to Mr. Bryan. If it is a formal affair it cannot be, on account of the size of the club house, a large dinner. It can be made very important, however, by a carefully selected list of guests, and the plan is to make it a gathering of prominent democrats from all over the state and the city to welcome Mr. Bryan.

John F. Carroll, Mr. Croker's deputy and the leader of the Tammany organization in Mr. Croker's absence, does not relish this plan. Mr. Carroll is inclined to give the dinner at the Hotel Savoy, and make it a big one, with roasting speeches and enthusiasm galore. If this plan is adhered to, it would partake of the nature of a Tammany affair solely and Tammany would have the credit alone, as Tammany men would predominate and be in charge while at the Democratic club Tammany would have to share honors with others. This is the contention and it was said last night that money was being spent lavishly in cable tolls to get a ruling upon the controversy from the chief, who is now in England.

Whatever the decision is, it was said last night, a dinner will be given Mr. Bryan and he will be asked to speak. He will be allowed to say whatever he pleases, but it will be intimated to him that while Tammany does not ask him to abandon his free silver creed, there are other issues in which Tammany is more interested at the moment and which he will be asked to dilate upon at length.

Tammany's surrender to Bryan is complete and is emphasized by the fact that the organization wants him all to itself and does not want to share the honor of welcoming him with any one else. It has not been decided yet whether or not a rousing mass meeting will be held, at which Mr. Bryan will be asked to speak but this is regarded as unlikely.

From here Mr. Bryan will go to New England, where he will consult with George Fred Williams and others of his followers in that section of the country.

BOERS LEAVING LADYSMITH.
Indications That Important Changes in the Situation Have Transpired.

LONDON, Jan. 15.—Up to the present, the reported crossing of the Tugela river by General Warren's division remains but a rumor. Nevertheless, the whole tenor of such news

as has dribbled in from South Africa during the last 48 hours, indicates that a combined forward movement of a comprehensive character is proceeding. It is not necessary to believe the unconfirmed stories of the Boers being in full retreat from Colenso because it has been learned that a column is proceeding via Weenen to Helpmakaer to cut off their retreat; but at the same time, credible information from many sources indisputably point to momentous changes in the disposition of the republican forces.

Advices from Pietermaritzburg dated January 13 say that since their defeat on January 6 the Boers have been removing their guns from positions south of Ladysmith. The same dispatch confirms the report that the Thirteenth Hussars reached Groblerskloof without meeting the Boers. As the trenches at Groblerskloof were practically the strongest position held by the burghers, their vacation has considerably astonished the British. Merchants at Pietermaritzburg have received messages from Ladysmith saying: "Bring up jam, etc.," indicating that the Ladysmith agents anticipated the immediate opening of communications, while Ladysmith also telegraphed the belief prevalent there on January 13, that the Boers were moving and concentrating their forces elsewhere.

As corroborative of British activity in the direction of the relief of Ladysmith, a dispatch has been received in London from Buller to the effect that he expected all dispositions for a synchronous movement of the various columns against the beleaguered garrison would be completed this morning. Under these circumstances it is considered quite probable the advance on the beleaguered town has commenced, and that fighting is in progress. Optimists go so far as to say that it is expected Ladysmith will be relieved tonight, if all goes well.

ELM BRANCH LIBERLED.

SEATTLE, Jan. 15.—The Puget Sound Tug Boat Company today filed a claim for salvage against the steamship Elm Branch in the federal court. The company asks \$50,000 for services rendered in towing the Elm Branch into port after the latter vessel broke her propeller, off Cape Flattery.

DIDN'T RETURN TO PORTLAND.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 15.—Two United States transports, the Olympia and Pennsylvania, arrived here today from Manila. On board the Olympia was Colonel Vile, of the Fourth cavalry, who is to be retired as brigadier general.

BRYAN NOT COMING.

NORTH YAKIMA, Wash., Jan. 15. J. D. Medill, of this city, is in receipt of a letter from William J. Bryan, who says it is not now certain whether he can visit this state in February as he had intended.

Catarrh is Not Incurable

But it can not be cured by sprays, washes and inhaling mixtures which reach only the surface. The disease is in the blood, and can only be reached through the blood. S. S. S. is the only remedy which can have any effect upon Catarrh; it cures the disease permanently and forever rids the system of every trace of the vile complaint.

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Many have been taking local treatment for years, and find themselves worse now than ever. A trial of

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