

WORK TO BE CONTINUED

Government Engineers Favorable to Improvement of Cut-Off Channel in Upper Harbor.

PROTEST IS TURNED DOWN

Major Langfitt Says New Opening Is Much More Practical Than One Formerly in Use There.

The efforts of the Astoria Chamber of Commerce to have abandoned work on what is known as the cut-off channel has been unsuccessful thus far, although the matter will not be dropped. The cut-off channel is of recent creation. Formerly the channel at the eastern end of the harbor followed the shore almost to the Tongue, but the cut-off opened up near the Sylvia de Grasse reef and the dredge Ladd immediately commenced work there. Lower Astoria harbor at once commenced filling below and protest was filed against the work of deepening this cut-off channel.

The chamber has received replies to its letters from Robert Shaw Oliver, acting secretary of war, and Brigadier-General Mackenzie, chief of engineers, U. S. A. Mr. Oliver refers to Major Langfitt's report upon the subject, while General Mackenzie adds that "any attempt to revert the old channel would unquestionably excite opposition among those interested in the deep water shipping trade of Portland and other points above Astoria, and could hardly fail to have an unfortunate effect, if successful."

The report of Major Langfitt, which followed the protest of the chamber, is inclosed by General Mackenzie. It is as follows:

"A petition dated January 6, 1902, was sent to this office by a number of licensed masters and pilots engaged in piloting deep-draft vessels between Portland and Astoria, requesting that the dredge Ladd be put to work on the cut-off channel complained of in the petition. Authority was asked to do the work in a letter to the chief of engineers dated January 3, 1903, and approved by him. The reasons set forth in my letter in favor of opening this channel and abandoning the channel by Sylvia de Grasse reef and the cut above Tongue Point still hold good. Briefly stated, they were:

"That the depth along this new channel had been increasing naturally, and with but little work there, the pilots claimed, they would be enabled to avoid the bad portion of the old Sylvia de Grasse reef; that, even with the improvement of Sylvia de Grasse reef, then contemplated and under the contract, the new channel, they claimed, would be better, with some dredging, than the old.

"Taking the statements of the petition of the Astoria Chamber of Commerce in detail, I would make the following remarks:

"First—The water seems to flow much more naturally along the new channel than through the old crossing, as is shown by the relative amount of dredging required to keep them open. During the two years following the opening of this cut, from August 24, 1902, to August 24, 1904, the total dredging done on the

channel was 109 days, and, with the exception of a short period when there was only 17 1/2 feet, the ruling depth at mean low water has been 18 1/2 and 20 feet. As compared with this, the old crossing shows very unfavorably, for the latter has required almost as much dredging each year and would shoal up quickly to about 16 feet as soon as dredging stopped.

"Second—The old channel by Sylvia de Grasse reef is tortuous and dangerous, as it winds around the reef. To increase the depth along the Astoria front would be very expensive, as many places are rocky.

"Third—What may be the causes of the shoaling of the harbor of Astoria it is impossible to say with the information at hand, but it can hardly be due to the dredging of the new channel, as the work is so arranged that dredging is done on the lower portion only during flood tide.

"In conclusion, I would say that the actual dredging out of this new channel has not only confirmed all that was expected, but has given the greatest satisfaction to all parties interested in navigation between Portland and the sea. To return to the old route would mean greater expense every year for less results and more danger to vessels."

OFFERED TO CITY PUPILS.

Commercial Gymnasium May Be Placed at Their Disposal.

At a special meeting of the board of directors of the Commercial Club last night, high school students were asked to make an effort to form a large class in physical culture. The club has ample gymnasium facilities, and if enough pupils can be induced to join the class the gymnasium will unquestionably be set aside for the use of the school boys and girls. The high school students promised to take up the matter with City Superintendent Clark. The directors granted the girls of the high school use of the gymnasium Friday night, when a vaudeville entertainment will be held. Four new members were admitted last evening. There is considerable talk of installing tennis alleys at the club, and at an adjourned meeting to be held Thursday night the report of a special committee appointed to investigate the proposal will be received. Tennis is now being generally bowled, and, while cocked-hat will continue to be the standard game at the club, it is believed many will take up with the other game. The club is in flourishing condition at present and every week is adding materially to its membership.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Burke were in the city yesterday from Cathlamet. William Bell left last night for White Sulphur springs to spend a few weeks. Will S. Martin, a well known Portland traveling man, was in the city yesterday. Mrs. A. G. Hardesty, of Chicago, has arrived in the city and will spend the winter with her son, M. F. Hardesty. Senator and Mrs. J. G. Megler, of Brookfield, were in the city yesterday. They returned home on the night boat. Will Clinton will return immediately from Valdez, Alaska, to assume charge of the business affairs of his father, the late Nicholas Clinton. Yesterday County Clerk Clinton wired his brother at Valdez. The message was sent at 11 o'clock, and three hours later a reply was received.

White Star and Cunard line tickets for Europe sold at Kallunki's candy store.

COST WOULD BE NOMINAL

Pressed Brick City Hall Could Be Erected for \$15,000, Says One of the Contractors.

MUCH DEPENDS ON PLANS

If Plain Building Is Desired Alterations Would Entail Outlay That Would Be Justified.

The proposal for the erection of a brick city hall meets with popular approval. Since the matter was brought before the city council many taxpayers have expressed themselves favorably upon the contemplated change in the plans, and it is believed that the brick building will be provided for. Mr. Ferguson, one of the contractors, was asked yesterday whether or not it would be possible now to provide for an alteration such as has been suggested. He made an affirmative reply, saying it would probably be possible to countermand the lumber orders at very little expense.

"As to the cost of a brick building in excess of the cost of a wooden structure, it would be difficult to make an estimate without doing some figuring," said Mr. Ferguson. "I believe, however, that a pressed brick building could be erected at a cost of about \$15,000 in excess of the contract price of the wooden structure. A plain brick building would cost about \$10,000 more. These figures are not given to you as accurate, for I have not figured the difference in cost.

"The excess expense attached to the construction of a brick building would depend largely on the design used. If a plain building, such as I would favor, were to be planned, the cost would not be great, but a lot of fancy work would entail considerable expense. It depends entirely upon what the city wants."

Several considerations have prompted the suggestion that brick be used. The new city hall will be surrounded by wooden structures, and fire would make short work of a wooden city hall. The danger would be greatly lessened if brick were used. A wooden building would be temporary in character, while a brick structure would be permanent. So far as the cost is concerned, the city could better now incur an obligation of this sort than at any other time in its history. The debt is about \$150,000, so there is ample leeway. It is estimated that the cost of the building contracted for would be about \$40,000, while a pressed brick structure, which would be permanent and a credit to the city, could be built for \$55,000.

STANDING ROOM ONLY.

Hedrick's Unable to Hold Crowd That Sought Admittance.

At Hedrick's theater last night the attendance record was broken, for the S. R. O. sign was in evidence from the second act of the first show until the concluding performance. The patrons of 10-cent theaters rarely get so evenly balanced a bill as the one at Hedrick's this week—elegant scenes, fine costumes, plenty of comedy, the cleverest ring and trapeze act ever seen here, together with the Chinese musical act, which also enjoys the dis-

OVERCOATS

The Kind That Wear! The Kind That Hold the Shape!

We keep them pressed for you FREE OF CHARGE

HERMAN WISE

Astoria's Great Clothier.

inction of excelling any other similar novelty. The moving pictures and illustrated song were, as usual, up to date, and the verdict of the crowd was that the bill was never equaled for the money.

Tonight will afford theatergoers the last opportunity of seeing this splendid show, as there will be a complete change of acts on Thursday.

There will be two Saturday matinees. Everybody attending will be presented with a zobophone. On Sunday afternoon another candy matinee will be given.

KNOK MAKES HIS REPLY.

Scores Parker and Cleveland for Their Recent "Trust" Speeches.

Washington, Oct. 25.—Senator Knox, who until recently was attorney-general, tonight issued a statement in answer to Parker's speech on trusts and Cleveland's remarks on the same topic. The statement is lengthy and is a caustic arraignment of Judge Parker, D. B. Hill and New York democrats.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

Parker House.
Fred Osborn, Hammond.
L. L. Long, Portland.
W. E. Clancy, Chinook, Wash.
M. Anderson, Chinook, Wash.
R. B. Magruder, Portland.
M. W. Pillsbury, Portland.
August Gor, Portland.
J. B. Stillwell, Portland.
Henry Johnson, Nasel, Wash.
P. J. Young, McGowan, Wash.
W. C. Snow, Portland.
C. M. de Somer, Portland.
A. F. Edwards, Portland.

Card of Thanks.

To the many kind friends whose attention and sympathy have been offered me in my affliction, and especially to the members of the Eagles and Red Men, I desire to express my sincere thanks and appreciation.

LEE HERRING.

Try the New Size LA IMPERIAL CIGAR

Made from the cream of Havana crop

We sold 20,000 in September, the largest sale of any Cigar on the market.

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We realize that most people who wear shoes want style as well as quality, therefore you can't afford to buy your shoes before looking over our line of shoes.

Prices for men: \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.25, \$2.50, \$3.00 and the famous White House shoes \$3.50.

Ladies shoes from \$1.00 to \$3.25.

Our line of infant's, children's and misses' shoes is especially strong, prices from 25c to \$2.00 in Box Calf, Kangaroo, Vici and Patent Leather.

We have solved the School Shoe Problem. Buy your boys the Good for "Bad Boys Shoe" or the "District 76" and you will realize we are telling the truth.



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This is where we lead. We carry the Puritan Brand—Each garment well made, clean and durable. Now is the time to prepare for cold weather.

- Children's Cotton Fleece Vests and Pants from 14c to 35c.
 - Children's and Misses' Woolen Garments from 25c to 75c.
 - Boy's Heavy Fleece Lined Garments 25c a garment.
 - Ladies' Cotton Heavy Fleece Lined 25c a garment.
 - Ladies' Woolen Garments from 48c to \$1.75.
 - Ladies' Silk Garments from \$2.00 to \$3.50.
 - Men's Heavy Cotton Fleece Lined \$1.00 a suit.
 - Men's Woolen \$1.50 to \$3.80 a suit.
 - Men's All Wool Garments, an excellent value \$3.80 a suit.
- We also show a strong line of Flannel Night Gowns.

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