

COUNCIL MEETING

Warm Debate Over the Question of Open or Closed Town.

MINISTERS HAVE PETITION

Ask That Dance Halls Be Closed on Grounds of Public Morality—Usual Grist of Smaller Measures Are Passed.

The city council met in regular session last night with all members present. After the reading of the minutes of the meeting a number of petitions were taken up.

Petitions for retail liquor licenses by Johnson and Egstrom of the Anchor saloon and August Danielson were read and referred to the committee on Police and Health. An application for wholesale liquor license from H. Weinhard Brewing Company went to the same committee.

A petition for the improvement of Franklin Avenue from 17th to 23rd street was referred to the committee on Streets and Public Ways.

A petition signed by twelve Astoria ministers asking that the dance halls be closed was referred to the Committee on Health and Police.

A petition by the North Pacific Brewing Company to construct an oil tank of less than 5,000 gallons capacity under ground on 20th street near Franklin was referred to the committee on Fire and Water.

A petition asking that a survey be made and grade established on 17th or 14th streets near Summit avenue was read. Upon a motion the petition was granted and the city engineer was ordered to draw up plans for said grade.

Five petitions asking that ordinance 3321 prohibiting oil tanks within the city limits, be repealed were referred to the committee on Fire and Water.

The petition of the Women's Club, requesting that signs which they fixed on the telegraph poles in the business districts calling attention to the ordinances against spitting on the sidewalks and throwing fruit rinds thereon and which were destroyed in painting the poles, be replaced by the city council, was referred to the city council with power to act in the matter by getting such notices as they might deem proper.

The following petition was handed in by the associated ministers of Astoria:

Astoria, Oregon, Feb. 1, 1907.
To the Honorable, the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Astoria: Gentlemen—We, the undersigned ministers of the gospel of the City of Astoria, respectfully represent as follows:

That, according to our information, there is on the ordinance books of this city, an ordinance to prevent and punish the keeping of public dance halls within the city of Astoria.

That we are informed and believe that there are several of such public dance halls now operating and doing business in this city, and that once every month, and not oftener, the proprietors of each dance hall are arrested, and if they fail to appear, the bail of each one, which we understand, to be uniformly fixed at \$50, is forfeited to the city, and nothing further is done to punish the offenders. We further understand that when any employe of these dance halls is arrested, the owners claim that they are in effect paying a monthly license, and therefore they are entitled to employ persons to run and operate the same, and to be protected in their business. This, when the very fact of their forfeiting bail plainly shows that they are violating the law and not operating under it.

That within the past few weeks the

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E. W. Groves

life of a young girl, a stranger in our city, and entitled to the protection of its laws, has been sacrificed in one of these vile and unlawful places of business. That, according to the public press, not only this girl, but the young man who took her there, were both under age.

That such a state of affairs is a disgrace to our city and a menace to the future of every child in it.

That, according to the public press, the police commissioners of this city have signified their willingness to close all these places if the common council desires them to do so.

We therefore in the name of morality and common decency request that the council uphold the law which itself has passed, and direct the police commission to at once close and keep closed every public dance hall in the city of Astoria.

O. E. Haahel, Bethania Lutheran church; C. C. Rarick, First M. E. church; Wm. S. Gilbert, Presbyterian church; G. E. Moorehouse, Congregational church; Elias Gjerding, Norwegian-Danish Methodist church; William Seymour Short, rector Grace church; John Waters, rector St. Mary's Catholic church; John H. Junniam, the Apostolic Lutheran church; Gustave E. Rydquist, First Lutheran church; T. P. Moward, Alderbrook church; S. K. Diebel, acting representative, First Baptist church; Peter M. Ellefssen, Seamen's Chaplain.

The report of the Police Commission regarding the increase of pay of the police department and stating that the

present system of keeping a wide-open town was possibly inadvisable, was read.

Evidently the members of the council had quietly been preparing for this report and the somewhat equivocal statement it contained in regard to an open town.

Councilman Belland was the first to speak. He stated that in his opinion the report showed that the three men of the Police Commission had enough crimes on their conscience and wished to throw the blame of further lawlessness upon the city council. He referred to the murder of Blanche Day and the general tone of the dance hall in Astoria, and ended with a motion that the Police Commission be ordered to close the dance halls.

Councilman Kaboth called attention to the fact that the police report was signed but by two members and that the report said that the third member was sick and absent from town, and desired that the matter be referred to the committee on Health and Police.

Several short speeches were made to the effect that the matter was one that belonged to the Police Commission.

Councilman Logan then arose and went into the matter in an extended speech. He pointed out that both Mr. Page and Mr. Ford of the Police Commission had sold out their property interests here and no longer feared monetary loss by their actions. They lacked the moral courage to go ahead and wished to place the responsibility of

any move on the common council. He recalled the fact that in the past the Police Commission had refused to obey an order of the city council to close a certain dance hall. They had delayed this matter until after the assessments for the year had been made and then brought it up, knowing that the council could not carry out any street improvements if deprived of the revenue from those engaged in lawless occupations. He declared that the council had placed itself upon record in this matter already. That they had drafted a city charter which would give them control over these places, a charter that is awaiting the inspection of the Supreme Court before being acted under.

He added that the police commission in a small city is about as useful to the city as the verminiform appendix is to man—and about as troublesome.

Councilman Hansen said: "If they do not do their duty, let them resign and we will put in some one that will."

Councilman Morton made a motion that the auditor be ordered to instruct the Police Commission that their duties were defined in the city ordinances and to call their attention to the certain page specifying these duties.

The following bills were ordered paid after having received the approval of the committees to which they were referred: Johnson & Morrison, \$1.25; L. Dielman, \$7.50; H. Humbeld, \$45; street department pay-roll, \$270; city

(Concluded on page 6)

REAL BARGAINS

The man with the money laying idle in the bank bringing him no income is making a sad mistake. It is a safe proposition to buy property from us. We have hundreds of good things that will almost double your money in six months. Look over this list. We have good farms, business chances, Astoria and Warrenton property that are real bargains.

BUY DIRT NOW

—\$11,500—
will buy one of the best dairy farms in this section of the country, well located, modern improved and paying now about \$2,500 a year net profit. For sale for a limited time only. Terms reasonable.

\$5,500.
For a fine business lot near waterfront on 6th street. A very valuable piece of ground and a good investment.

\$500 Each.
Four fine residence lots on Jerome Avenue near 17th. A fine view of the whole country. These lots will be worth \$1,000 each in less than six months. Will sell one or all. A fine chance to get a choice residence lot at a low price.

\$2,000.
A fine business chance for a couple of young men. Good paying, well established cigar store and pool room. Present owner's health so poor he is forced to sell and leave this country. You'll have to hurry.

\$3,000
for two fine residence lots 50x100 near Senator Fulton's home. These lots are easily worth \$2,000 each. If you want a first class home site, this is your chance. Will sell one or both.

\$400.
We have for sale one lot right at the depot at Warrenton, that will be worth \$1,000 in less than 60 days; \$300 cash, balance to suit. Now if you are awake grab this.

\$5,500.
A great bargain, 100x100 feet, corner 3rd and Bond, with two story building on it. This is a piece of property that will bring big profits in the near future.

\$3,000.
Corner lot, 50x100, with new two-story building with twenty rooms, all furnished with store room on ground floor. Building cost \$2,750 without furniture or lot. This piece of property is worth \$4,000 at the lowest estimate. Good side walks, basement, electric lights and near car line in Alderbrook. This is a good bargain for some one. Easy terms.

—\$3,850—
A choice piece of property well located, modern flat, 9 rooms, hot and cold water, three lots 50x150 on corner, improved streets; also small house on property. This property will net 10 per cent on the investment. What better do you want? For full particulars call at our office.

—\$1,500—
for a well established and prosperous drug store. Present owners must sell at once. This is a chance for some young man with a small capital to make a start. Good location, everything new. Further particulars furnished at this office.

—\$1,500—
will buy one of the choicest residence lots in the city of Astoria, located in the best residence district with a fine view of the whole surrounding country. This is a rare bargain for some one. A corner lot and is easily worth \$2,500.

—\$6,500—
Corner, 100x100, with four new five-room modern cottages on it, monthly rental of \$64; one-half cash, balance to suit. Room on ground to build more houses. Corner 12th and Franklin.

\$1,650.
Modern 9-room house, lot 50x100, in Alderbrook. Easily worth \$2,000.

\$2,150.
Beautiful residence lot corner 12th and Grand, opposite Presbyterian church, 100 feet on 12th, 50 feet on Grand.

\$350 Each.
Two fine lots within two blocks of depot at Warrenton. Lots that will increase in value 100 per cent in less than 90 days. Cash.

\$2,500.
Well located timber claim in this county, spruce and fir. Cruises three million feet.

An Extra Good Bargain.
A little over 100 acres on the beach near Warrenton, right in line with the proposed railroad down the beach. This tract will be worth double the present price in 30 days; \$100 an acre. You'll have to hurry; \$7,000 cash, balance to suit purchaser. This is a chance for some one to make some money.

\$400
for a fine residence lot in Alderbrook. On improved street. Easy terms.

\$25,000
will buy one of the best pieces of water front obtainable. Good location and lots of room for a good big enterprise.

The F. N. Clark Company,
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F L BISHOP, Secretary. ASTORIA SAVINGS BANK, Treas.

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THE LATEST IMPROVED

Canning Machinery, Marine Engines and Boilers,

Complete Cannery Outfits Furnished.

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First National Bank of Astoria, Ore.

ESTABLISHED 1886.

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Oregon Restaurant

Is now open as an up-to-date house. Serves the best meals in the city. Everything strictly first class.

REGULAR HOME DINNER, 35c.
SUNDAY CHICKEN DINNER A SPECIALTY 50c.

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Wm. G. PATTERSON, Prop.
NINTH AND ASTOR STREETS.