

REPORT ON SEWER IS SCANDALOUS

City Engineer Elliott, Responsible to the People for the Manner in Which Work Was Done, Seeks to Put Blame on His Subordinates.

CONTRACTORS PROCEEDED WITHOUT SUPERVISION

In One Place, Where the Bottom Was Not Even Built in the Sewer, the Defense Is That It Was Due to an Oversight.

With the disclosure of the true state of affairs surrounding the Tanner creek sewer the shadow of scandal is deepening and bids fair to envelop not only Contractor Riner and Inspector James Caywood, but City Engineer Elliott and his assistant, George Scoggins.

Every effort possible is being made to save City Engineer Elliott. Rumors are being freely circulated that the Republican leaders of this city are using their utmost endeavors to protect him and to shoulder the blame upon some other individual. City Engineer Elliott in his report and in his testimony before the council committee attempts to lay all the blame upon Inspector Caywood.

He says he had the greatest confidence in the city engineer, and when told that the contractor was building a good sewer he believed his promise.

He excuses himself by saying that he has so much work to look after that it is impossible to make more than a casual inspection of any one piece of work and that he has to trust to the competency and integrity of his inspectors that the work is being properly performed.

On the other hand, Mr. Caywood says that the blame should not rest on him alone. In an interview today he stated that he was under W. Braden, another member of the city engineer's department, while doing the work. He states that Braden was frequently in the sewer and went over the work.

According to Caywood, George Scoggins visited the sewer almost every night during its construction, and that City Engineer Elliott was there very frequently. If the city engineer attempted to lay the blame on him he says he will make a written statement disclosing everything he knows about the sewer. Besides the city engineer stated to the executive board that he knew of his own knowledge the work was all right.

Caywood's Side of It.

Mr. Caywood states that he followed instructions in constructing the sewer, and that frequently he turned men off whom he found to be incompetent.

At yesterday's session of the committee the reports that a pool existed among the contractors at the time the bids were first asked was substantiated by the testimony of M. Reinstein and E. W. Riner, formerly partners, known under the firm name of the Independent Construction company. Both witnesses admitted there was a pool. The sum of \$3,990 was to be set aside by Mr. Reinstein who financed the company, to be divided among other contractors in the pool. The pool was broken at the time the bids were all rejected and new bids asked by the city executive board.

Reinstein was to get two-thirds of the profits of the building of the sewer because he financed the company and put up the money for the pool. Each of the contractors in the pool were to receive certain sums of money. R. M. Riner, the father of E. W. Riner, broke the pool by a lower bid. Later he took his son, E. W. Riner, in with him on the contract.

From the report of the committee of experts and from the testimony of the witnesses brought before the council committee it appears that the contractors intended to defraud the property owners, and that they were allowed to do an inferior piece of work on the big drain under the very eyes of the city engineer's department.

Rumors which were current yesterday that political influence is being brought to bear to shield City Engineer Elliott

are circulated freely today. It is known that leaders of the Republican forces in this city are exerting every effort in his behalf. Just what influence he will have over the committee is a question. It is not known on whom the committee will fasten the responsibility.

While the testimony of the witnesses is very damaging to Contractor Riner and Inspector Caywood, it is equally damaging to City Engineer Elliott and to his chief assistant, George Scoggins. The committee is making out its report today, and tomorrow afternoon will submit it to the city council at a special meeting.

In his report and also in his testimony before the council committee City Engineer Elliott attempted to fasten the entire blame upon Inspector Caywood. He says that he has had so much work on hand that it has been impossible for him to attend personally to the inspection, other than to occasionally visit the work and then he could see nothing wrong. In his report he says:

"I will state that at various times when complaints were made to me by the inspector in charge of the work, I was neglecting and neglecting to properly perform the work. I instructed him to discharge anyone on the work who was guilty at any time of doing anything that was not up to the requirements of the specifications."

"I desire further to state that in no class of work does responsibility for obtaining results rest more on the inspector in charge than in the construction of sewers as in this case."

"Work once done may be inspected only by outward appearances, except the work be torn up again for the purpose. Mr. Elliott expected in the report of the experts. He states that every time he visited the sewer, the work done and the material used were in accordance with the plans and specifications. He said, however, that casual inspection could determine nothing at variance with the requirements. Defects which may have existed were not apparent."

"Assurance was given by me," he continued, "by the inspector in charge that the work was being performed on all parts of the sewer satisfactorily and in accordance with the plans and specifications."

"Owing to the nature of the work only that portion would be inspected on my visits where the work was progressing, the remainder being placed on the inspector in charge, that those portions which were unable to be seen were being properly done."

"On this particular piece of work the inspector in charge, at the time of what I deemed his special fitness, he being a brick and stone mason, the only one on the civil service list experienced in the construction of brick and stone work."

"Having been led to believe by the assurance of the inspector that the work was properly done and apparently so at all times when I visited the same, and that the rumors of a pool among the contractors were unfounded, I requested that an investigation of the work be made by the council."

"I took the Inspector's Word."

In his testimony before the council committee Mr. Elliott expected in the report of the sewer occasionally, and that apparently everything was properly done. He took Inspector Caywood's word when the latter stated that he was holding the contract under the plans and specifications. He said he had implicit faith and confidence in Caywood, and took his word for everything.

"If the report of the committee of experts is found to be correct," queried W. B. Ayer, "do you consider that the sewer was properly constructed?"

Mr. Elliott—No, sir. If those things exist, I think they should be remedied before the sewer is accepted.

Mr. Ayer—Do you think the city's interests are properly safeguarded by accepting a job having the defects claimed there?

Mr. Elliott—No, sir; I never would have accepted the job if I had known those things existed.

To a question asked by L. J. Goldsmith if he had to accept the report of the inspector that is furnished him by the civil service commission, he refused to answer.

George Scoggins, the assistant city engineer, testified that the contractors met their work during the entire 24 hours of each day while the construction of the sewer was going on. Although the inspector was not there all the time, he was expected to be on hand whenever the workers were laying brick. He said they laid the brick whenever they were ready for it.

In regard to the criticism that his specifications were stuffed, he said this was impossible, as there was no opportunity of stuffing them.

Caywood's Damaging Evidence.

James Caywood, the inspector, was the chief witness before the council committee. His testimony was exceedingly damaging, not only to himself, but to the entire engineering department. He confessed that he did not know how many barrels of cement were used in the work. He never counted them, but he could state approximately. He stated that he gave instructions to the workmen how to mix the cement, but he was not certain that they had done that way properly. He said he could not be there all the time, but that he averaged about 16 hours a day. The remaining 14 hours work was carried on without an inspector. To a question as to what he thought of the durability of the sewer, he stated:

"Gentlemen, I think the sewer is as well constructed as any sewer, so far as the brick laying is concerned, and I have been on several sewers. I think the sewer will stand at Alder street where this bottom is left out. I will take the responsibility of saying that it was an oversight. It was overlooked."

When shown a sample of the concrete which was taken from the sewer, he admitted that it was not good. He said he could not see why the bricks were loose; he had discharged two or three men for laying brick improperly.

He did not know that the contractors had followed his instructions, regarding the invert to the old sewer, which was left in place. Stone and concrete were to have been placed under the arch walls according to his instructions, and when told that no concrete had been placed there he stated that he had given orders to that effect, but he did not

MAINE CLOTHING AND CHICAGO SHOES STORES

165 1/2-167 FIRST STREET, BETWEEN MORRISON AND YAMHILL

WEINSTEIN'S THANKSGIVING OFFERING

Our Thanksgiving Offering

WITH EVERY 50¢ PURCHASE EVERY DAY THIS WEEK we will give a numbered coupon. AT 8:30 P. M. SATURDAY EVE. those interested will meet at our store and select a plan of drawing the lucky number (duplicate number); the lucky holder can have without a single reserve

CHOICE OF ANY SUIT OR OVERCOAT In Our Large Stock Absolutely Free!
WHAT MORE COULD YOU ASK?

Postponed

On account of a majority of our patrons being unable to get here Wednesday afternoon at 4 p. m., and many others who wanted to buy but could not attend the drawing for the suit of clothes until Friday or Saturday, we have decided to extend the contest until

SATURDAY, NOV. 26, 8:30 P. M.

Our patrons holding coupons for the drawing will please take notice. A coupon with any 50c purchase until 8:30 p. m. Saturday.

OVERSTOCKED!

TOO MANY GOODS A late season—and the fact that we are anxious to make a change January 1, 1905, causes us to get generous as the Thanksgiving approaches, and instead of the ax falling on Mr. Turkey, it falls on PRICES here and in many instances are CUT HALF IN TWO. We are slaughtering our \$30,000 stock of Clothing, Shoes, Furnishings, etc. New goods arriving daily that we are slashing prices on.

YOUR CAR FARE PAID

If you will visit our store and buy \$1 worth of merchandise we will pay your car fare cheerfully. Will any other firm do the same? If the value and quality are not here when you look, don't buy. Isn't that fair? If you are, and you do, you save your car fare.

N. & S. WEINSTEIN

165 1/2-167 FIRST ST., BET. MORRISON AND YAMHILL

All Cars Stop Within Ten Steps of Our Door.

Transfers to All Parts of the City.

MAIL ORDERS AND WHOLESALE

We pay particular attention to mail orders and will carefully fill every order from this stock as advertised. Write us and we'll show you what great care and attention is paid to this department. We do a wholesale business and our customers who want to replenish their stock should come in and see the special bargains we can offer.

FATHER WHO GAVE SON LIQUOR IS IN HIDING

Evidently fearing the consequences of supplying his 14-year-old son with liquor, Al Hinds is said to have hidden himself. So far the police have been unable to locate him.

For this reason Police Judge Hogus postponed the trial of Charles Maier, the saloonkeeper charged with selling beer to the boy, until Friday. Maier gave bonds yesterday.

"I was hunting on Sunday, and was not near the saloon at all," said Maier. "I understand the beer was sold to the boy by the barkeeper. I have discharged the man and will never give him employment again."

While the authorities are convinced that Maier is telling the truth, they say that as beer was sold by his agent he is responsible as the owner of the saloon.

Mr. Sigler—"I was working for the city, yes. You asked me if I thought that sewer ought to be paid for, and I say yes."

Mr. Sigler—"In the face of all these defects, which you have partly acknowledged exist? You have not denied they exist?"

Mr. Sigler—"Well, on your statement, Mr. Caywood, you would be willing to accept a job of work after it was finished, and a report of this kind had been made upon it."

Mr. Sigler—"Yes, I think I would."

E. W. Riner, interested with his father, R. M. Riner, in the contract, testified regarding the work and attempted to throw the blame of the poor work on the drain upon his enemies. He stated that threats had been made that he would have trouble before the work was completed. He affirmed that he had been "jobbed." He said that he was willing to go into the sewer with any fair engineer appointed by the council and repair the defects. Many of the defects pointed out by the experts were not there, and the absence of the block pavements at the Alder street manhole was simply an oversight.

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QUESTION OF THE DAY: HOW MUCH ARE TURKEYS?

For awhile this morning it looked as if there would be a break in the prices on turkeys, but the market steadied and nothing under 25 cents is being asked for good birds at the retail market.

Some "culls" continue to be sold for 22 and 24 cents.

The receipts today were very large.

As matters now stand, the market has about equal chance of going up or down. Tomorrow morning's receipts will tell the tale.

Yes, They're Here LOTS OF PIANOS

Come in and look them over—if you find anything that suits you we can make the price and terms so that they will appeal to you. Aside from the large shipments of new pianos just received, we have several special bargains in used instruments. It will pay you to investigate, as the opportunity may not come again.

Prices from \$90 up. Terms—Most any way to suit.

Soule Bros. Piano Co.

Steinway and other pianos. 372-374 MORRISON STREET CORNER WHEAT BARR.

RAID MADE ON ANOTHER CHINESE LOTTERY DEN

Another Chinese lottery den was raided last night by Deputy Sheriff Hollingsworth and four Chinamen were caught. They were arrested and brought to the county jail, where this morning they were placed under \$1,000 bonds.

The building entered was at the corner of Second and Alder streets. When the deputy sheriff pushed his way into the room, after traveling a long, dark hallway, he found Lee Foo, Chen Yen, Ah See and Ah Joe busily engaged in drawing the little paper balls from the big vessel, which they immediately dropped and attempted to escape. All the paraphernalia was captured, even the drawn tickets scattered on the floor.

OFFICER TAYLOR'S ASSAILANTS GUILTY

William Morgan and George Bowen, who started out one night a month ago to engage in the hold-up business, but made a mistake and tackled Officer Tom Taylor, were sentenced to a term of nine months each in the county jail by Judge Cleland this morning. Their trial before a jury last week resulted in a verdict of simple assault. The court, in passing sentence, said the crime intended was very serious and gave the heavy sentence, the maximum being one year in jail.

WANT TO BE AUDITORS AND CLERKS

Nineteen applicants for positions as deputy auditors and clerks appeared for competitive examination before the civil service commission today. The result of the examination will not be made known for several days. Seven subjects were included in the examination. The

BURGLARS FAIL TO GET ANY BOOTY HERE

Two daring thieves entered the home of J. Todd, at 61 East Eighth street, at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. They were seen by a neighbor, according to the report of Patrolman White, who knocked on the door and frightened them away before they had time enough to do more than break open two children's banks and secure small amounts.

The thieves first rang the front door bell, and receiving no reply went to the rear door and knocked. There being no response, they entered the house. No member of the family was at home. When the neighbor knocked they bounded down a stairway and ran out the rear door in the direction of Millwaukie street. Detectives Snow and Kerrigan are investigating the affair.

DAVID KUNS IS DEAD

David Kuns, the Troutdale farmer who was struck by an O. R. N. train yesterday morning, about two miles out of town, died at St. Vincent's hospital yesterday afternoon as the result of his injuries. Death was directly due to a clot of blood forming at the base of the skull, which was fractured. His wife was with him when he died, and is left to support four little children. Kuns was one of the best known farmers in the region of Troutdale.

MR. KUNER WILL FIT ON FEBRUARY

Oskar Huber, director of works of the Lewis and Clark exposition, left last evening for St. Louis in response to a telegram from President Goode. The object of the trip is to obtain statuary and other features for the 1905 fair, and Mr. Huber will remain on the ground until the present exposition is closed, selecting what is most needed for the local show. During his absence W. B. Scott will be acting director of works.

SEATTLE'S TAX SUBSIDY

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Seattle, Wash., Nov. 22.—The finance committee of the city council, which for the past week has been considering the tax levy for the coming year, is face to face with 17 mills, an increase of 4 1/2 mills over the present rate.

A Guaranteed Cure for Piles

Itching, blood, bleeding or protruding piles. Your druggist may give you a treatment that will cure you in 6 to 14 days. 50c.

BLAZIER GUILTY

(Continued from Page One.)

lection of a jury and all preliminary proceedings in the case until it came to the cross examination of the defendant, Eugene Blazier, when District Attorney Manning took charge, with the result that there was a rupture between the two attorneys on the side of the prosecution.

Manning had announced the conclusion of the cross examination, when McGinn asked if he might be allowed to ask a question or two.

"No, you can't," said Manning. "The cross examination has closed."

McGinn then appealed to the court for permission to ask the questions, but the court ruled that the district attorney had charge of the case.

"Then you ask him," said McGinn, turning to Manning, "whether he owns the Paris house."

"No, I don't want to," said Manning. "Ask him if he sold that at the same time he sold his gambling business," said McGinn.

"Will you please leave the room until I have concluded this case?" yelled Manning to McGinn, and the latter said he would.

Immediately upon the reconvening of the court this afternoon the case of the state vs. Gus Erickson was called. This is the last of the gambling cases scheduled for this term and will probably be concluded tomorrow.

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"All roads lead to Fame," said Golden Gate, "but I shall meet queer people as I go. Not everyone cares for high-grade coffee; some prefer the cheap, rank kinds. Some dealers prefer to handle bulk goods instead of coffee packed in aroma tight tins. I'm uniform in quality; I was aged in my native country; I'm smooth drinking—rich—aromatic; I'm full weight (honest). With all this in my favor I cannot fail to please. 'I'm 'sold on merit,' merit will win!"

Nothing does with GOLDEN GATE COFFEE but satisfaction. No prices—no coupons—no creosote. I and 2 lb. aroma-tight tins. Never sold in bulk.

J. A. Folger & Co.
Established Half a Century
San Francisco

TWO GOOD THINGS TO BE SMOKING OF THANKSGIVING

GOLDEN GATE COFFEE

92-ER-S