SOME CITY FATHERS READY FOR SWAN SONG

Public Sentiment Seems to Want Commission Form of Government to Bring People Close to Power--Mayor Lane and Some Councilmen Favor Plan.

Public sentiment is veering towards a commission form of government for Portland to such an extent that when the members of the charter commission meet they will undoubtedly find many members firmly rooted in favor of a charter similar to the one in vogue at Des Moines, Iowa. This sentiment has been freely expressed about the city hall for more than two weeks and not a day goes by that citizens calling for information regarding street improvements or other business in which they are engaged with the city, do not express a desire for a complete change from the present methods to the plan of Des Moines.

"Great heavens," exclaimed one citizen at the meeting of the street committee Friday: "I have been here six times trying to find out what is going to be done in the matter of a street extension covering about two blocks. So far I have been unable to discover whether the councilmen will grant the extension. I know that I have lost three days' wages by coming up here and that I will be unable to come any more. If they put the extension through all right; if not, all right. I feel like a person with a very acute case of seasickness, who does not care whether he lives or dies."

While this is but one case out of many, it serves to illustrate the frame of mind of people who are compelled to visit the city hall several times to transact trivial business. A man standing nearby overheard the remark of the disgruntled property owner and tried to cheer him up by saying that he first grew discouraged about the time of his sixth visit to the hall on a piece of small business but had grown to rather like the visits after more than a year's effort to secure a street improvement. The disgruntled one fled with a remark to the effect that in such a way loafers are made.

Push Clubs Want It.

But not only private individuals but the push clubs and other civic organizations strongly favor the commission form of government. In Des Moines the change was brought about by the business men who had grown tired of the antiquated system with its delays and evil practices. Such a movement seems to be on foot in Portland if outward indications can be taken as an expression of the real sentiment of the city.

Of the 15 men appointed on the charter commission only three have so far accepted their appointments. These are Sigel Grutze, Henry E. McGinn and Frederick V. Holman. Although City Auditor Barbur urged each appointee to either accept or reject the honor conferred upon him at an early date the replies have been slow.

Mayor Lane favors the commission form of government and said yesterday that he believes it to be the final solution of municipal government. The idea of placing the responsibility in the hands of three or five men and holding them directly responsible to the people he declares to be the only feasible manner of securing to the people their desires.

Further, Mayor Lane contends that the people are entitled to know at all times just how their money is being spent, and according to the Des Moines charter a monthly statement is issued to the people.

Despite the fact that the councilmen would lose their positions by the adoption of a commission form of government, several of them have expressed themselves in favor of the plan. These men say that their experience in the council has taught them that city business cannot be satisfactorily done with the present system and further state that they will urge a change to a commission form of government.

Mayor Lane Socks It.

Mayor Lane's announcement yesterday that he had notified the heads of the city departments to have their annual estimates in by October 1, is considered one of the most important steps that has ever been taken in giving the people a voice in the expenditure of their own money. By having the estimates prepared by October 1 the mayor and councilmen will have three months in which to study the estimates, learn the purposes for which the money will be spent and at the same time secure the sentiment of the people in regard to the manner in which they want the money spent.

Heretofore the estimates have been made up in December and rushed through the council without even being properly checked up. When the people came along a few months later to ask for an appropriation for a certain thing they were informed that all the money had been appropriated and they could not have their wishes granted. With the new plan proposed by the mayor the fault will lie with the people if they do not spend their money as they see fit.

PLAN COURT QUARTERS

County Court Is Now Considering the Levying of a Special Tax to Build New Courthouse—Need of Two More Judges.

"Yes, we have reached the point where we must consider the building of a new courthouse. We must take it up, and we will take it up, when the consideration of the new tax levy is begun. There is little doubt in my mind but that the proposition of bonding the county would not be constitutional, so the money must come by tax levy."

This is the way in which County Judge Webster yesterday outlined his views on the subject of a new county building. This is the first time that a member of the county court has distinctly stated that the matter will be up for early consideration. There is now something more than "talk" in the courthouse proposition.

The congestion of business in the circuit court, with an urgent need in the near future for two more judges and the crowding in nearly every department makes it necessary to consider what the county will do, and to act before the situation becomes intolerable.

Judge Webster has some positive views as to how the new courthouse should be built. He believes that it should have a steel frame, something on the plan of a town-town office building, without "spires and frescoes." He regards the courthouse as a workshop, and says that if he has anything to do with its construction he will hew to the line on strict business principles. He thinks that the building should be at least four stories high at the start, with the county jail preferably on the top story, but the structure to be so built that additional stories may be added as required by the growing needs of a great county.

Build for the Future.

"There is no need of a $1,000,000 building," said Judge Webster. "The county has certain work to perform, and it must have a building in which this work is done. I believe we should build for the future, and at the start provide room for the expansion of business that will surely be needed. But we do not need an ornamental palace. What we want is a workshop and I see no reason why a courthouse should not be built on business lines.

"Heretofore we have not taken up the courthouse proposition, because we had other things that were of great importance to consider first. For one thing, I wanted to see the work of road building put on a successful basis. Now the benefits are apparent, and the movement will go ahead. A new courthouse is needed, and we must now take that up for consideration."

One of the propositions that is being given consideration is the sale of the block where the courthouse now stands and the acquisition by the county of the block to the south, across Madison street from the city hall. Negotiations would have to be carried on with three or four owners of property in that block and it is possible that it could not be secured on terms that the county would consider reasonable. But several of the county officials regard the block between the courthouse and the city hall as the logical location for the new building.

Chance for County Jail.

An interesting suggestion in this connection is that the city might desire to purchase the old courthouse for use as a city jail, municipal court and overflow house from the city hall. Or the block might be deemed desirable by the government as a location for a new federal building. If it were acquired by the city the city hall, courthouse and municipal court might be connected by viaducts over Madison and Main streets. There is an inter-relationship between the work that would be done in these three buildings, and the grouping in three contiguous blocks, with a passage from one to the other, would possess many business advantages.

County Clerk Fields has prepared statistics that show the enormous growth of business in the circuit court in the last six years. From 1902 to 1905 the number of cases filed in one year more than doubled. In 1906 and 1907 there was only a small variation from 1905, but the figures for the first six months of 1908 indicate that this year will show another big jump. If a like speed is maintained for the remaining six months this year, there will be over 500 cases more than last year. But there are no more circuit judges than there were in 1902, and the bank holidays last year added to the congestion. There is no hope that the four judges will ever be able to catch up the work again.

Increase in Cases.

In 1902 the number of cases filed was 789. In 1903 the number increased to 1,097. In 1904 to 1,843, in 1905 to 1,585, in 1906 receded to 1,513, in 1907 rose to 1,532, and for the first six months of 1908 stands at 1,076.

A steady increase in the number of divorces is shown—every year a few more. In 1902 there were 141, in 1903 there were 198, in 1904 up to 225, in 1905 rising to 285, in 1906 a gain of only five, in 1907 a jump to 328 and for the first six months of 1908 there were 201.

WATER FOR MT. SCOTT

Eugene Capitalist Will Ask the County Commissioners Also for Franchises for Gas Works — Plenty of Money Behind Project.

B. S. Kelsay, a capitalist of Eugene, will tomorrow ask the county commissioners to grant him a franchise or permit for a water system and gas works to supply the Mount Scott district. He has outlined a big scheme for solving the water problem for the entire Mount Scott district by the construction of a reservoir of 6,000,000 gallons on Mount Scott with a gravity flow to all parts of the district.

Kelsay's representative declares that he has ample financial backing and is prepared to put up a bond for the faithful performance of his promises. He is said to be willing to have prices fixed to conform to prices per hydrant and per 1,000 gallons fixed by the water board of the city of Portland. A tentative franchise that has been drawn also offers to fix prices on gas to conform to cost of similar service in other communities, not at any time to exceed 15 cents per 1,000 feet.

Among other things, Kelsay offers to install 20 fire plugs, hydrants and stand pipes in the business sections of the Mount Scott district without charge, and to furnish free water for fire purposes during the life of the franchise. The time for which the franchise is asked is 25 years.

Water for Thousands.

Mr. Kelsay is said to have others associated with him in the project, one being a prominent business man of the Mount Scott section, but the promoters are not yet ready to divulge the names of the others interested. The company when formed is to be known as the Mount Scott Water, Gas & Power company. It is asserted that the company expects to have water enough to supply 100,000 people.

As much of the annexation sentiment in the Mount Scott district has arisen because of the shortage of the water supply, it has been suggested that the Kelsay plan is a move to forestall the annexationists, who are preparing to have the question of entering the city of Portland submitted to popular vote again at the November election. But the Kelsay interests deny that they have any such purpose in view. In fact, they assert that they do not expect particular opposition from annexation sentiment, though expecting a hard fight from owners of the private water systems that now supply the district.

Reservoir on Mount Scott.

The precise location of the proposed reservoir is at present a secret, but it is somewhere on Mount Scott, and said to be 80 feet higher than the district to be supplied, which extends from Lents Junction to Forty-eighth street. It is stated that the location of the proposed plant and reservoir has been surveyed and options secured on the property, so that work may be begun as soon as the county commissioners grant permission for the laying of water and gas mains. A portion of the water supply is to come from springs and the remainder by pumping. Johnson creek was considered as a source of supply, but the water was found to be unfit for domestic uses.

It is stated that the cost of the plant will be in the vicinity of $35,000. Tomorrow morning eight petitions are to be started in different parts of the Mount Scott district in support of the request for permission to lay mains and operate. The petition for franchises will be filed with the county commissioners in the morning by J. A. Finch, who will ask for the appointment of a committee of one or more of the commissioners to consider it.

Commissioner Lightner said last night that he does not understand that the commissioners have any franchise-granting power in such matters or have a right to fix prices to be charged for water or gas. He was not prepared to say whether or not the matter would receive favorable consideration, as he had not seen the petition. He said that the commissioners would not grant an exclusive franchise in any event. The whole matter was new to him, he said, and the name of Kelsay was unfamiliar to him.

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Smart 1908 Fall Models

arriving daily; our display is sure to interest you: no one manufacturer is given the right of way in this institution, but at least a dozen of the best makers in America are conspicuously represented.

Tomorrow will be a good opportunity to study the new styles and models for Fall, 1908-09. Ready for inspection, sure of public approval.

Fall Suits $15 to $40

FINDS HER TURKISH RUGS IN LOOT OF GARDEN HOSE THIEF

Mrs. J. P. O'Brien, wife of the manager of the Harriman lines in Oregon, yesterday identified two Turkish rugs in the possession of the police as those recently stolen from her house.

These rugs were the most valuable articles among the wagonload of loot found in the home of Frederick Strong, the wheelman garden hose thief, on Northrup near Eighteenth street yesterday morning.

The police are seeking Strong, though his movements since leaping the back fence of 128 North Eighteenth street early Friday morning to escape a policeman are a mystery. His wife says she will do all in her power to help the detectives find her recreant husband.

Strong drove a delivery wagon for Andrew Kan for a short time, but during the four or five months he has been in Portland has done little steady work. His wife told the detectives, who found her deeply humiliated at the plight of her husband, that when he returned with a rug or a chair or a piece of hose he always declared he had made a purchase at an auction house or a store that was selling bargains.

When Strong jumped over the fence at 5 o'clock Friday morning his Panama hat blew off. On the inside of the crown was written "Strong" in purple ink. Detectives Jones and Tichenor set out to find the owner. Before noon yesterday they had been in his house and found a large quantity of goods answering the descriptions of articles reported stolen. These were brought to the police station in a capacious wagon, and are now being identified by the rightful owners.

Strong apparently prowled about North Portland in the early morning and picked up what was left outside the better class residences. He found two good rugs at 72 North Twentieth, the O'Brien residence, but nearly all the other articles are of less value.

SOUNDS LIKE MUSIC, MUDGE'S PNEUMATONE ALL SAME WHISTLE

There's a new musical instrument in the field, and henceforth when symphonies are written to tax the capacity of every instrument ever known the composer will have to reckon with the pneumatone. It's a simple little thing, smaller than its name, and it's the invention of a Portland man, C. S. Mudge.

When your promising son whistles until you think the roof will leap off, don't tell him that it's a useless waste of wind, but instead encourage him, and he may become a pneumatone artist and travel about the country in a private car and be interviewed and dissected by the musical mighty. For the pneumatone is bound to come, according to Mr. Mudge.

Mr. Mudge, the inventor and proprietor of the pneumatone, began inventing it when he was a small boy. He whistled on blades of grass like Pan and made sweet sounds. The trouble was that the blades of grass and the leaves were too ephemeral. The strongest of them would burst after a few trills. So Mr. Mudge set about to find something that would vibrate and yet be substantial. He hit upon a very thin round disc of celluloid, and had it placed in a holder of brass coated with aluminum. That made his pneumatone. The result astonished even Mr. Mudge. When he whistled against the celluloid disc sweet clear notes floated out. He found that anything he could whistle could be played by the pneumatone. It's tones are much the same as those of a clarinet. They chord with a guitar, violin or any other musical instrument. They have a range two octaves higher than a clarinet, although not quite so low. There is also a little slide in the face of the aluminum handle, which helps to raise and lower the tone by increasing the length of vibrations of the disc. Mr. Mudge is having his pneumatones manufactured and intends selling them in Portland and other places.

EXHAUSTION

Made Worse By Coffee Drinking.

There's a delusion about coffee which many persons, not necessarily chemists only, are fast finding out.

That exhaustion from long hours of hard mental or physical work is increased by the reaction of coffee, rather than relieved, is a well known fact. A prominent music professor found the true state of the coffee evil, and also the remedy. His wife tells his experience:

"For over 30 years my husband taught music 6 days a week and 12 to 14 hours a day. None too robust, such constant work made a drain on his strength so that he was often quite exhausted by Saturday night.

"He formed the habit of drinking strong coffee regularly with his meals. Occasionally when he did not have his coffee he would suffer from headache, nervousness and weakness. This alarmed him and me also, for we feared he was becoming a slave to coffee.

"About that time we heard of Postum and decided to try it. At first we did not like it, but soon learned it should be boiled 15 minutes after boiling commences, and then when served hot with cream and a little sugar, it was a drink fit for kings.

"My husband found he was gaining in weight while using Postum. He was rid of constipation, his headache disappeared and his nerves became strong.

"Now at 61 he is still able to work at teaching, selling instruments or superintending the farm, and can out-work many younger men.

"He has never gone back to coffee and says he never will. Recommending Postum to others is one of his hobbies. We are happy to say all our children drink Postum and are fond of it."

Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read "The Road to Wellville" in pkgs. "There's a Reason."

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.

BURGLAR GETS AWAY THROUGH A WINDOW

In at the door and out at the window sums up Mrs. G. Barton's experience with a supposed burglar yesterday noon.

Mrs. Barton, who lives at 846 Belmont street, has reported to the police that at 12:30 yesterday morning a man whom she takes to be a burglar entered the basement of her house, coming in through the door. Before he had time to burgle, however, he was frightened away by her son, taking his hasty departure by means of a convenient window. Mrs. Barton says that so far as she has been able to ascertain, he took nothing else.

SAYS PAINT WAS SMEARED ON WALLS

A warrant was issued out of the municipal court yesterday for the arrest of J. W. Rutherford, a real estate dealer.

R. E. Case charges Rutherford with damaging the walls of a house at 750 East Salmon street, rented by Case to Rutherford. After living in it for 10 days Rutherford asked for the amount of his advance rent payment, claiming that he had painted a portion of the house. Case told him, so he says, that no painting was needed. Then according to the complaint, Rutherford smeared the walls with paint, seriously damaging the house's appearance.

If there is one thing calculated to make a man forget his old troubles it is a new one.

HABIT OF MARRYING HAS HOLD ON NELSON

Getting married appears to be either an obsession with Albert Nelson or else a matter of business. Whichever it is, he will have to answer to the charge of bigamy if the police succeed in catching him.

A warrant for Nelson's arrest is in the hands of the city marshal of Hood River, who has asked the Portland police to keep a lookout for the man, as he is supposed to be hiding in this city.

Although Nelson has a wife and child in Kalama, Wash., he recently married another woman in Hood River. Since then he has become engaged to still a third and expected to marry her, when the Hood River police interfered. Nelson heard that he was wanted and made a quick get-away. The police here suspect that he is a professional in the marrying game and expect to hear of other wives scattered about the country mourning a missing husband who answers to Nelson's description.

When not engaged in accumulating wives Nelson divides his energies, according to the season, among the three occupations of logging, fishing and hop-picking.

DR. COURTNEY'S BAIL HAS BEEN REDUCED

Detective Hellyer was expected to reach the city last night, having in custody Dr. J. S. Courtney, but as it is known he expected to stop over one day in Des Moines, Iowa, today will almost certainly see the arrival of the doctor and the detective. Dr. Courtney was brought from Indianapolis to face a charge of manslaughter.

Dr. Courtney's attorney, J. H. Stevenson, appeared in the municipal court yesterday and succeeded in having the bail which will be demanded reduced from $10,000 to $7,500.

ADLER SAYS HE IS NO ANARCHIST

Adolph Adler, who is in the county jail awaiting trial on the charge of attempting to extort $400 from Sig Sichel by means of a threatening letter, is much concerned over reports that he is an anarchist, and is fortifying himself to repel the accusation. He has just received from Josef Sojka, United States consul general at Brunn, Austria, an affidavit which states that Adler was treasurer of sick benefit society in Brunn from 1897 to 1903 and that during that time he was not a member of any anarchistic organization, and had not been prosecuted for any crime. This document he hopes to use in his defense. Meantime his attorney is trying to defeat the information filed against him on technical objections.

CLEARED $8,000 FROM 7 ACRES OF APPLES

Another Record of Remarkable Income From Small Orchard

B. F. Tussing makes affidavit that from his seven-acre orchard last year he picked and sold 4,000 boxes of apples for which he received $10,000. An investment of only $1,000 will purchase ten acres of growing orchard in the immediate vicinity of Mr. Tussing's place, which, in five years' time, will produce similar results. We have purchased 880 acres of this choice land which we are setting to orchard, a limited amount of which we will offer for sale at $100 per acre under the following improvement contract without additional cost or expense to purchaser. We will improve the land, set it to commercial orchard and care for same in every manner for a period of five years, during which time we will pay all taxes, water, maintenance and every item of expense incidental to the property, and in addition we will pay purchaser a substantial cash rental annually during said time and return original purchase price in cash if not wholly satisfactory. We secure our contracts by a Bond and a Deed of Trust. INTERSTATE FARM AND ORCHARD COMPANY, 319 Chamber of Commerce Bldg. Phone Home A-2121.

WOMAN FINDER HANGS ON TO PRIZE

Warrant Broker Welches on Reward and Mrs. McFarland Sees Inside of Jail.

After a hearing of three hours in the municipal court yesterday afternoon, Judge Van Zante took under advisement the case of Mrs. Catherine McFarland, charged by Mose M. Bloch with larceny. It is believed that the case will be passed up to the grand jury.

Bloch, who is a warrant broker, lost a wallet containing a number of warrants on Sconton street. Mrs. McFarland, the wife of an O. R. & N. employe, found the wallet. This was 10 days ago.

Bloch at last advertised for his warrants. Mrs. McFarland went to the courthouse to meet him, but failed. She left her telephone number. Bloch then advertised a reward of $150, but he admitted on the stand yesterday that he did not do so in good faith. Mrs. McFarland testified that when she went up to the courthouse she heard that a warrant was out for her husband's arrest, so she went home and the wallet was concealed in the cellar.

When Bloch and two officers went to the McFarland home on the east side Mrs. McFarland refused to turn over the wallet minus the reward, of which she had paid by this time, was forthcoming. Bloch declared her demands exorbitant. The detectives had a search warrant, but did not use it. Mrs. McFarland says some time in jail, preferring to go rather than surrender the warrants and lose the reward. Her attorneys have possession of them now.

BOND READY FOR RELEASE OF BOY

All is ready for furnishing bond early tomorrow morning for Jackson Reid, the 13-year old boy who shot and killed G. F. De Mars. The bondsmen went to the court house yesterday afternoon, expecting to secure the boy's release, but both Judge Cleland and Judge Gantenbein had gone home and efforts to find them in time to have bond approved were ineffectual.

Young Reid's bond for $5,000 probably will be approved this morning and he will be released from jail. As his attorneys have demanded a jury trial, he will be at liberty until September, at the earliest. The bondsmen offered for him, and the amounts in which they are to qualify, are as follows: H. V. Reed $1,000, Thomas N. Fitchard $1,000, D. Kuratli $1,000, G. S. Reid $1,000, G. R. Reid $500 and R. A. Reid $500.

The demand for a jury trial means that a jury of six men in the juvenile court will try out the question as to whether or not Jackson Reid, by reason of his act, is a delinquent child. They will not pass on the question of guilt or innocence, except as it is involved in the question of delinquency. Then, if the boy is declared delinquent, Judge Gantenbein may retain jurisdiction in the juvenile court and dispose of the case according to his judgment, or may remand the boy to the circuit court for trial on the charge of murder.

If the case is kept in the juvenile court the boy might be committed to the reform school and remain until he reaches his majority. If sent to the circuit court for trial and convicted he could be sentenced to hang if found guilty in the first degree. If found guilty in the second degree or guilty of manslaughter he could not be confined in a penitentiary because of the law against the confinement of boys of tender years with adult criminals, but he might be remanded to the reform school, as there is said to be a precedent for such a course in a case from another county.

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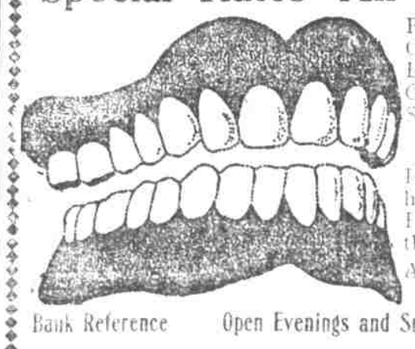

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PERSONALS.

United States senator Levi Ankeny of Walla Walla and Mrs. Ankeny are at the Hotel Portland, having arrived last evening.

E. L. Youmans of Stevenson, Wash., is at the Cornelius.

R. A. Croese, a mining man of Spokane, is at the Oregon.

C. C. O'Malley, a mining man of Cresco, Iowa, is at the Cornelius.

Martin H. Hollman, vice-president and cashier of the Merchants' National bank, Los Angeles, is at the Portland.

E. Barnickel left last night on a month's visit to his brother at Scranton, Pa.

Frank E. Edwards, formerly an instructor at the Oregon Agricultural college in Corvallis, is at the Imperial accompanied by his family. Mr. Edwards is now living in San Luis Obispo, Cal.

F. L. Stewart of the State Bank of Keiso, is at the Oregon.

J. D. Conyers of Pullman, Wash., is at the Perkins.

Mrs. Matt Mosgrove of Milton is at the Perkins. Mr. Mosgrove is expected to arrive in Portland during the week for a visit.

Rev. John Rayen Welch, after two and a half years' of successful work, has resigned the pastorate of the Fourth Presbyterian church, First and Clifton streets, on account of his health, and has taken charge of the work at Reedville and Tualatin.

After a month in Alaska sketching, hunting and fishing, Charles E. Templeton has returned from his summer vacation spent in the far north. During his trip Mr. Templeton secured some exceedingly good subjects in Indian and Alaskan views. While hunting he secured a deer within a few miles of the beach at Sitka and found the trout fishing particularly good. He was accompanied by his mother, Mrs. C. E. Templeton, and by his sister.

Tomorrow, Monday, will positively be the last day for discount on your water and gas bills. Portland Gas Company.