

MAYOR AND COUNCIL SQUABBLE OVER LIGHT

Solons Finally Vote 8 to 6 to Adopt Report of Committee Recommending Letting of Five-Year Contract With Electric Company.

There was a lively scene in the council chamber yesterday afternoon when Mayor Lane's fight to release the city from the grip of the electric light monopoly led to a division of opinion among all councilmen who accept favors from the Portland Railway, Light & Power company and of Councilman Cellars in particular.

Mr. Cellars is chairman of the council lighting committee which sent in its report recommending that the city let a five year contract with the light company.

This report was adopted by a vote of 8 to 6, in spite of the bitter speeches made against it by Councilman Kellaher and the mayor.

Before making his final plea that the council take steps to install a distributing system the mayor targeted Councilman Cellars, who has been making a fight for the light company, and in a voice trembling with passion shouted:

"I protest against the right of any councilman who receives favors from the Portland Railway, Light & Power company to vote on this question at all. If the chairman of the lighting committee has taken emoluments from the company I deeply protest his right to vote."

"Yes," replied Mr. Cellars wrathfully, "I don't deny that I have received tickets from the company. I don't care for it either. But I didn't sneak down an alley to give them back. You recall a little incident, don't you, about some of Mr. Josselyn's cigars once, didn't you?"

Gave Back the Cigars.

"I didn't know from whom the cigars came," he said, "until after some of the cigars had been smoked. When I found out who was the giver I took them back, you bet, and rammed them down my throat. Call the roll, but I still deny this man's right to vote on a question which so vitally touches the interest of the people."

Councilman Kellaher opened the discussion on the report by declaring that it was foolish for the city to give the company a five year contract.

"To this, and you will bottle up, absolutely exclude all competition. I would favor entering into a contract for only one year," he said, "and that President Josselyn would entertain a one year proposal."

"The company would agree to a one year contract," said Mr. Cellars, answering a question asked by Mr. Kellaher, "but it could not afford to make any extensions of the present system."

Councilman Cellars then proceeded to summarize the lighting question from the viewpoint of the corporation. He said the executive board had acted in a high handed and unfair manner when it withheld \$186 of the money due the company every month. He said that no one had ever intimated that the company had not lived up to its contract in every respect and that the board had arbitrarily cut down the bills without consulting the city attorney as to its right to do so.

Answers to Voters.

"Why, I am astounded," cried the councilman, "that Mr. Greene would recklessly challenge the company to a lawsuit without asking the advice of the man who received a majority of 10,000 votes for the position of legal adviser to the city officials. The unwarranted action of the board is an insult to every one of these voters."

"It would be a nice thing if we could get a one year lighting contract, but we can't. I am informed by the gas company that it would not think of signing an agreement to light the city for a period of less than 10 years, as the expense of putting in distributing apparatus would be so heavy."

"Portland is not paying a high price for light. Statistics given me show that 27 large cities of the United States are paying more."

"In these cities that you mention how is the power obtained?" asked Councilman Kellaher. "Is it artificial or natural?"

"Philadelphia," replied Cellars, "cheap coal is utilized to generate the current."

The corporation champion then told of a trip to Seattle and his inspection of the municipal lighting plant there. He said that the electrical system of that city, which was installed by the city, was far superior to those in use over in the Puget sound area. A few questions from the councilmen brought out the admission by Mr. Cellars that service which in Seattle costs but 6 cents costs here 15 cents.

Quality of Lights.

Councilman Vaughn interrupted the discussion by observing that as he understood it the question was whether or not the company complied with its contract.

"It seems that there is some doubt as to this," he went on, "Mayor Lane says the city did not get what it contracted for. If so the question submitted to our city attorney by the board was based on a false assumption that the contract had been complied with by the company."

"We are not complying with the contract," volunteered the mayor. "We called for a certain amount of current to give a certain amount of light, and we are not getting it. The old lamp would give out a far greater amount of light if it were aided by the same mechanical contrivance as the new one."

"Well, if that's the case let's assume so and see what the city attorney will say," he said.

Mr. Kavanagh declared that in such a case the board would certainly have a right to withhold payment. "But where the city consented to a change that guaranteed equal illumination and where this was furnished by the change," he said, "then I think the contract has been complied with if the lamp is operated to its full capacity."

On being pressed for an answer to the question as to whether or not the lights now in use are better than the old lamps the mayor finally admitted that perhaps the new light is better in a way.

"The light is distributed better, but we do not get nearly so much of it," he said.

Mayor Attacks Trusts.

"Now, gentlemen, before you take a final vote on this I want to say a few words more," and so speaking Mayor Lane rose and poured forth a vigorous attack on all lighting trusts, and the Portland trust in particular.

"I want to help the city out of the grip of the monopoly by taking an equal responsibility with the executive board in refusing to let a five year contract," he said. "If you want to continue to pay the present high price, but make a contract for only one year. By that time we will have competition if you get a distribution system."

"Hold this matter in abeyance awhile. Don't put the city in a hole. We are paying far too much for light, and we can not afford it. We have only half the number of lights we ought to have, and to properly illuminate the streets it will take more than \$200,000 a year at present rates. We are paying too dear for the whistles."

"I will further say that we can install our own plant and system for a first cost of not to exceed \$160 a lamp. This would give us 2000 lights for \$320,000, which would cost us only 25 cents an hour, which the city pays for building lights is 2 1/2 cents an hour, and that the company furnishes some of its customers illumination for 3/4 of a cent an hour. I don't care to give the name of this person, as the information was confidential."

As the mayor made these statements he turned to Oskar Huber of the light company. Huber denied that light was supplied for 3/4 of a cent. He admitted that Meier & Frank pay only 1 1/4 cents, however.

Ald. M. C. Wire, district superintendent Eugene district. Address, Bishop C. W. Smith, resident bishop, Portland, Or.

RAILROADS ACTIVE AROUND PASCO, WASH.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Pasco, Wash., Dec. 24.—From the activity displayed by the railroads in this vicinity, it is evident that the Columbia river valley will be the center of many active railroad operations during the coming year. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, the Northern Pacific, North Coast, the Kennebec & Northern and the Northern & Southern, together with the Priest Rapids electric lines, have all been surveyed through the valley, and on three of these lines actual work of construction will soon begin. Two large steam shovels are now at work on the North Coast between Kiona and Richmond and engineers are engaged in running lines between Kennebec and Kiona.

550 High Pupils in Linn.

Albany, Or., Dec. 24.—The high school board held a meeting at the courthouse yesterday afternoon. It was found that about 550 students are in the high school grades in this county; that the cost per capita will average about \$16. The new law will be taken up gradually. This will give students the advantage of any school in the county at the latter's expense.

The General Demand of the Well-Informed of the World has always been for a simple, pleasant and efficient liquid laxative remedy of known value; a laxative which physicians could sanction for family use because its component parts are known to them to be wholesome and truly beneficial in effect, acceptable to the system and gentle, yet prompt, in action.

In supplying that demand with its excellent combination of Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna, the California Fig Syrup Co. proceeds along ethical lines and relies on the merits of the laxative for its remarkable success.

That is one of many reasons why Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna is given the preference by the Well-Informed. To get its beneficial effects always by the genuine—manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co., only, and for sale by all leading druggists. Price fifty cents per bottle.

TEA

You find it always alike: Schilling's Best. Last year, this year, next year.

Your grocer returns your money if you don't like it; we pay him.

METHODISTS O WOULD INSTITUTE

Churchmen Will Confer on the Home Missions and Church Extension.

The Oregon Methodist conference will hold its home mission and church extension institute at Centenary church, East Pine and Ninth streets, Tuesday and Wednesday of next week. Prominent Methodists of Portland and other towns in the state will speak. There will be the usual reports from all branches of the work. The first session will be held Tuesday morning at 9:30. The program will be as follows:

The field—The Geography and topography of the Oregon conference. R. E. Dunlap, district superintendent Klamath district; reports from mission charges, by men on the field.

The Church at Work—Agencies: Women's Home Mission society; Home Place and Mission in Methodism. Mrs. C. L. Weaver; Women's Missionary League; Home Place and Mission in the Oregon Conference. Mrs. W. W. West; The Laymen's Association as a Permanent Factor in Oregon Methodism. Hon. R. A. Booth, president Oregon Laymen's association.

Sunday School Work; Its Relations to Home Missions and Church Extension. J. T. Abbott, S. S. missionary, Oregon conference.

How to Interest the Epworth League in Home Missions. W. H. Warren, president Portland District League; The District Superintendent and Pastor as Leaders of the Epworth League in Home Missions. C. T. Wilson, secretary home missions and church extension, Portland district.

Publishing and Circulation in Home Missions and Church Extension. The Difficulties of Securing Pastors for Home Missions. Reports of the district superintendents.

The Problems of the City—The City Evangelization Union and Church Extension to the Non-English Speaking People. T. E. McDaniels; How Home Mission Work Among Foreign Born Peoples is Related to Foreign Missions and the World's Evangelization; German work. R. E. Hertzler; Swedish work. John O. H. Norwegian-Danish. H. P. Nelson; Chinese, Chan Sing Ki; Japanese. H. B. Johnson.

Wednesday—How to Create the Missionary Spirit; "America for Christ"; Advantages of Conventions and Conferences. R. C. Blackwell, secretary home missions and church extension, Salem district; The Work of the Board of Church Extension in the Oregon Conference. by F. R. Akin; The Relations Between Our Denominational Schools and Our Church Benevolence. Rev. Fletcher Homan, D. D., president Wisconsin conference; How to Enter into Competition With Other Denominations? How to Enlist the Cooperation of the Indifferent. J. D. Gilliam, district superintendent, La Grande district.

The Evil of Apologizing for Our Benevolence. Ald. J. T. Abbott, district superintendent Vancouver district; Are We Ever Justified in Surrendering a Field? Walton Shinn, district superintendent, The Dalles district; What is the Purpose of Giving Missionary Money to the Home Field? R. E. Rowland, district superintendent Salem district; What constitutes a Mission Charge and When Should it Cease to Receive Missionary

NO SYMPATHY FOR GULLIBLE

The council yesterday afternoon granted S. Masaroufsky, an auctioneer well known in police circles, a license to continue in business on Burnside street. The plea was made that the man has a large family to support. Councilman Driscoll, who urged that the license be granted, said it made no difference to him if Masaroufsky did bunk the public. "Any one who allows himself to become an easy mark ought to be bunned," observed Mr. Driscoll. At the same session the liquor license committee's report on transfers was adopted.

An ordinance from the health and police committee, regulating the sale of firearms, was referred back to the committee. The lively stable exclusion measure was referred back to this committee also.

Water rates recommended for next year by the water board were frowned down by the council, which passed an ordinance continuing practically the same rates in effect as are now scheduled with the exception that schools are given a 25 per cent discount.

Thanks the Public.

F. A. Gunn, manager of Lennon's, says that the business of this store this Christmas shopping season has so far exceeded that of last year that he feels very grateful to the Portland public for their generous patronage. We are asked to invest ourselves. The motive, after all which must move the church, is not proportionate giving or systematic giving, but the heathen needs of the heathen at home or the heathen abroad. It is the example and direct command

Bishop Scadding's Christmas Message to Episcopalians

A merry Christmas to you one and all, my dear members of our diocesan family. At this joyous season my heart goes out in loving greeting to all our clergy and laity, to the faithful in active city parish, to friends without the diocese, to the patient and sometimes discouraged workers in our district missions, to ranchers far away who can have no opportunity to make their Christmas communions, to our auxiliary women, and the dear children, to the occasional worshiper with us, and also to those baptized and confirmed members of our father's family who rarely, if ever, "praise God in congregation"—to all may God give in abundance the cheer and consolations of the Christmas truth. How all thoughts of self, of our successes and failures, of the indifference of friends, of the unresponsiveness of fellow workers, of false judgments of our actions, and misinterpretations of our motives, take to themselves wings and fly away, and our hearts glow with joy and love when we meditate on the marvel of the incarnation, on the great wonder of the love of God. The world apart from Christ gives us no adequate assurance that God is love, although Robert Browning has taught us to say "He that greatest love, shall he not love?" But that God is love—it is this that our Lord commanded.

It is this love which furnishes the motive power to carry out the object of the incarnation, expressed in the command of Christ "As the Father hath sent me, even so send I." The call of the incarnation to you and me is personal and complete. We are asked to invest ourselves. The motive, after all which must move the church, is not proportionate giving or systematic giving, but the heathen needs of the heathen at home or the heathen abroad. It is the example and direct command

WASHINGTON SCHOOL LAWS IN CONFLICT

(United Press Leased Wire.)

Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 24.—The Tacoma board of education is in a quandary as to the enforcement of the state vaccination law. The board finds that if the law is enforced to the letter and all the children who have not been successfully vaccinated are excluded from the school, it will be violating another state law providing for the compulsory attendance of all children between the ages of 8 and 15 years.

The law will take effect January 14

ASKS COUNCIL FOR ORDERS

City Attorney Announces Hopeless Defeat in Suit of ex-Detectives.

How can a Portland detective be fired so that he will starve?

This is the question that Mayor Lane addressed to City Attorney Kavanagh at the council session yesterday afternoon. The city attorney had asked the council what was its wish with regard to the decision of the state circuit court that Detectives Snow, Carpenter, Day and Reeling were entitled to about \$4000 back pay which was refused them by the executive board and the mayor.

City Attorney Kavanagh asked the council if it wished him to appeal the case to the supreme court. He said the city had no chance of winning. Compensation was suggested by some of the council, but no official action was taken.

The suit of the detectives for salary from the time they were reinstated by the civil service commission until the court made the decision in their favor will come up for settlement next month and the city may have still another suit on its hands after that, according to the advice of the city attorney.

Mayor Lane and the executive board came in for another tongue lashing on the part of the council. Cellars and Willis were especially loud in their denunciations of the executive branch of the city government. They declared that the city attorney should have been consulted before involving the city in a series of expensive lawsuits.

Office Open Friday Forenoon—Christmas

Will You Take an Auto Ride to Swinton on Christmas—Tomorrow?

Perhaps you've been housed up pretty closely right up to Christmas—didn't have a chance to get away to see things—SWINTON among them. Come to our office tomorrow forenoon and take an auto ride to SWINTON at our expense. By going you do not obligate yourself a cent's worth, understand. You'll have the pleasure of an auto ride, will see how very fast this old town of ours is growing, and you'll bring back a dandy appetite for your Christmas dinner. This auto ride will give you an opportunity to see SWINTON face to face—to see the best piece of investment property in this neck of the woods. If you were lucky enough to receive a "money gift" you can do no better than invest it in a SWINTON lot. A little over three months ago we placed 1000 lots on sale—today there are LESS THAN 100 LEFT. Others have invested in SWINTON and made a turn at a handsome profit already—why wouldn't it be a good thing for you to do likewise while you can? Perhaps there's some member of your family who is a wage-earner and whom you want to encourage in thrifty and frugal habits. Make a payment and take a contract and make them keep up the small monthly payment of 2 per cent. Money that would otherwise be frittered away for trifles will be placed where it will double in a little while. We could go on forever and a day and then not tell you all the reasons for investing in real estate of proven good quality—and SWINTON surely has that quality above all others. Streets are graded to city engineer's stakes, water mains in front of each lot, all brush cleared off—you see what you get. Interested? Then let us take you out tomorrow and show you what SWINTON really is.

N. B.—Remember that there's an advance of 10 per cent on the price of SWINTON lots due in a few days.

Columbia Trust Company

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