

## MASON WILL MANAGE NON-PARTISAN BODY; WILL GUARD CAPITAL

Character and Fitness of All  
Candidates Will Be Given  
Investigation.

### PRINCIPLES ANNOUNCED

Attempt Will Be Made to Check Ten-  
ancy to Try Out Freak Laws  
in This State.

George C. Mason, of the Hurley-Mason company, has accepted the position as manager of the Non-Partisan League, a new political organization having for its purpose, according to a prepared amendment by Mr. Mason, "to prevent the enactment of laws that prohibit the investment of capital in Oregon; to check the tendency to try out freak laws in this state, and to investigate the character and fitness of all candidates for public office."

The following set of principles has been promulgated by the organization: "The principal objects and purposes of this league are to investigate records and standing of candidates for municipal, county and state offices; to give publicity to such records; to make recommendations as to the fitness of candidates for office; to thoroughly investigate all legislation that is proposed by initiative petition, or by referendum; to carefully watch all legislative proceedings; to make reports to the members of this association, and to the public generally, on all such legislation, with necessary and proper toward insuring proper, to consult with the mayor and commissioners of the city of Portland, and the state executive officers, in order that public affairs may be administered economically, efficiently, honestly and for the best interests of the citizens of the city of Portland, and the state at large; to do all things necessary and proper toward insuring to the city and state an honest, economical and efficient administration of state, county and municipal affairs."

In announcing his retirement from the Hurley-Mason company, Mr. Mason issued the following statement:

To Open Headquarters.

"Our principles state pretty clearly the way we hope to accomplish this result, and we believe, by having a man on the job all the time, we can do something to effect results."

"We will open headquarters May 1 in the Northwestern Bank building, and we will welcome there all who believe in our principles. We want the assistance of the newspapers and we welcome publicity. We are going to play the game in the open, for we believe that is the way to win."

"We want all possible reliable information relative to the character and ability of those men who have announced themselves candidates for office. We want this whether it is for or against the man, so that we can make it public in the broadest manner."

Tests to Be Applied.

"The test of the value of such information is first as to its authenticity, and second as to the extent to which it indicates the character of the man. We would rather judge a man by what he has done than by what he promises to do. In assisting us with this sort of information you are helping yourselves to a better and more efficient government."

The following are the officers and directors of the league: President, Fletcher Linn; Secretary, Arthur Callan; Treasurer, George Lawrence Jr.; Everett Ames, Henry L. Corbett, E. C. Knapp, James H. Kerr, Amadeo Smith, T. N. Stoppach, Frank Ransom, D. A. Pattullo, A. H. Averill, George C. Mason and A. D. Katz.

## SEVEN KILLED WHEN STRIKERS CAPTURE CAMP IN COLORADO

(Continued From Page One)

The mines in the Walsenburg district except the Walsen mine, the most formidable fortified mine in the state.

## MILITIA SLAUGHTERED IN CHARGE AGAINST WALSBERG RIOTERS

Denver, April 29.—At 1:30 o'clock this afternoon Governor Ammons issued reports of a serious clash at Walsenburg between strikers and militiamen had just reached him. He understood, he said, that the clash was precipitated when Colonel Vordeburg ordered the state troops to charge the strikers, who were entrenched on a ridge west of the town.

"One report indicates that five militiamen were killed," said the governor. "Another says that 10 soldiers were sent to capture one section of strikers and that only two returned alive. The other eight were said to have been left dead on the field."

Officials of the United Mine Workers of America here admitted they had received reports that eight soldiers were slain at Walsenburg.

It was impossible to confirm reports, as the wire service was badly disrupted.

Regulars Have Machine Guns.

With Captain E. U. Parker in command, troops E and H of the Twelfth United States cavalry passed through Denver at 3 a. m. today en route to Canon City from Fort Russell. The troops carried the latest rifles and had two machine guns.

At 1 o'clock this morning a detachment of the Fifth cavalry left Fort Leavenworth for Trinidad. Major William Holbrook was in command.

Comparative quiet prevailed throughout the strike zone today.

Militiamen reached Louisville last

## STREET PAVING IS SUBJECT DISCUSSED BY COUNCIL TODAY

Commissioner Dieck's New  
Specifications to Be Con-  
sidered Friday.

### PROCEEDINGS ARE HALTED

Fremont Settlement Is Called Off;  
Members Argue Over Letting of Con-  
tract to the Lowest Bidder.

Street paving and paving specifications were the subject of discussion by the city council this morning and afternoon. The subject was discussed by Commissioner Dieck going over to Friday and the discontinuance of all proceedings for the improvement of Fremont street from Williams avenue to Vancouver avenue.

The lowest bid received for the improvement of Fremont street was for concrete but as the result of petition of 75 per cent of the property owners, Commissioner Dieck recommended that the contract be awarded to the Barber Asphalt company for gravel bituminous.

This was opposed by Commissioner Bigelow, who contended that the contract provides that the contract should be awarded to the lowest bidder. Commissioner Dieck contended that the same stand as did Mayor Albee, who stated that while he thought a petition signed by 100 per cent should be given some consideration, he was in favor of letting the contract go to the lowest bidder.

When the new paving specifications came up for discussion, Commissioner Bigelow asked if a report had been returned from City Attorney La Roche as to the elimination of the name of "blue sky" or corporation in the petition. Commissioner Dieck replied that the question did not directly affect the specification under discussion, while Commissioner Bigelow retorted that it was directly essential.

The city attorney stated that his office had not finished its investigation, but would have a report for the council at its meeting Friday, when final action will be taken.

Telephone Rate Is Target

Commissioner Dieck Speaks in De-  
fense of the Resolution.

The Telephone and Telegraph company will be required to furnish two-line five-party telephone service to residents for \$1.25 a month, if the council adopts a resolution introduced by Will H. Daly, commissioner of public utilities, before the body this morning.

In defense of his resolution Commissioner Daly stated that the franchise of the company provides for such service but the company has discontinued it, claiming that it could eliminate all its cheap rates as long as it did not charge more than the highest rate allowed under the franchise. Action will be had on the resolution a week from Friday.

Are Exempt From Payment

Sylvan Owners Are Not Included  
in Assessments.

Property owners of Sylvan, southwest of Portland will not be required to pay assessments for the cost of constructing the Canyon road sewer, if the scheme of Commissioner Dieck is found feasible by City Attorney La Roche. The total assessment of the Sylvan district is about \$7800, but as the supreme court has held that Sylvan is not a part of Portland the residents, according to Commissioner Dieck, can not be required to pay their share of the cost, although they will receive benefits.

In his report to the council, Commissioner Dieck points out that the property owners within the city can not be required to pay a larger assessment than originally fixed. He asks that the \$7800 be paid from the general fund, and that the city make an investigation to see what can be done without an appropriation from the general fund.

Licenses to Be Considered

First Step Toward Universal System  
Will Be Taken Friday.

The first step toward a universal license system for all those using parts of streets or sidewalks for other than public travel will be taken by the council Friday morning on recommendation of C. A. Bigelow, commissioner of finance, when first and second readings will be had of an ordinance providing for the licensing of all gasoline filling stations or places where gasoline, kerosene and other explosive and lubricating oil is sold.

The ordinance provides that a semi-annual license fee of \$6 shall be paid to the city. The new movement will bring several thousands of dollars into the city treasury and will, it is believed, as there are now a large number of them scattered in the streets throughout the city.

Says a Mistake Was Made

Howard Holmes Asks Hearing on  
Civil Service Matter.

Contending that a mistake has been made in the marking of the papers, Howard Holmes, temporary head of the department of highways and bridges, yesterday wrote a letter to the municipal civil service board asking that he be given a hearing and an opportunity to point out the mistakes. Holmes took the examination for the position, but did not secure a passing grade. The matter has been the subject of considerable comment among the members of the board. City Commissioner Dieck and the city hall employees.

Holmes points out that one of the questions asked was for the description of a highway plan as used by the city. In his letter he stated that he himself prepared the original highway plan, which was adopted by the council at the examination, when he made an exact duplicate, he received far lower rating than the others.

Petition for Pardon Denied.

John Parker will not get out of jail, for the council this morning on recommendation of Mayor Albee refused to recognize a petition asking for his pardon. Parker was convicted of vagrancy and on appeal to the supreme court was required to serve 90 days in jail. He is at the Linnton rockpile.

New Ruling in Effect.

No city employees are to receive pay during the time they are off duty on account of injury or illness unless the injury is received while in performance of their work. This was the decision of the council.

## POLITICAL PLOT OF DIABOLICAL NATURE IS "NIPPED IN THE BUD"

Attempt About to Be Made to  
Capture Press Club Break-  
fast Discovered in Time.

A dark hued plot, that a dozen candidates for office conspired in, was discovered and frustrated today. They had forgotten for the moment their antagonisms and had been holding secret meetings after night perfecting their plans.

By sufficient show of force they expected to be able to capture the Press club breakfast at noon in the Hotel Portland next Sunday and turn it to their own uses. They had expected to overcome and depose each of the chairmen and sub-chairmen who had been appointed by the Press club with especial reference to their ability in the harassment of candidates. They had expected to forbid other candidates, who had come for the purpose of seeing if they could endure the Press club grilling, the privilege of the floor and right of trial by jury.

Plot Is Discovered.

Rumors that a plot was brewing and was about to be hatched had persistently reached the Press club management but search for the perpetrators had been futile and would have been in vain except for a weakness of the plotters themselves.

They had agreed that one of the 12 should be chairman. But they could not agree on which. Each wanted to be "which." They tried to form rings and cliques but failed because of the predominance of candidatorial individualism. Each then decided if he couldn't be chairman, none of the others should be. Each wrote anonymously to the committee in charge of the Press club breakfast and gave the game away.

Harmony Seems Certain.

The committee's gratitude for the information was not nearly so great as their disapprobation of the candidates' treachery to each other, and their names would have been used here except for the fact that the letter was anonymous and no member of the committee is a handwriting expert.

Prospect of carrying out the unenviable Sunday program was abandoned with a certainty and the promise of harmony was increased by the acceptance of an invitation to sing on the part of the Ad Club quartet, which has been especially written for the occasion will be rendered by the noted four—Hoose, Emerson, Whip and Bowman—and these, with other features, give warrant for the expression of a veteran yesterday: "I would rather attend the Press club breakfast than any other function in the world."

Journal Want Ads being results.

NAME OF PORTLAND  
WOMAN FIGURES IN  
THE GRIFFITHS CASE

The name of Mrs. Virginia Bramhall, a wealthy widow, who is highly connected here and in the east, plays an important part in the financial dealings and difficulties of Captain Joseph Griffiths of the United States army, alleged embezzler of government funds from the quartermaster's office of the Pacific division, who was sentenced in Oakland shortly after midnight.

Mrs. Bramhall, who resides at one of the exclusive family hotels of Portland, is now under arrest in San Francisco, where it is rumored she went to see the captain before he departed for the antipodes.

Mrs. Bramhall is a woman about 60 years old and during the last three years has given a good deal of money to Griffiths for investment. It is said that she advanced him \$17,000 to aid in financing his Colonial Timber company scheme by which he hoped to profit handsomely, and after his arrest in Seattle early in March for embezzling \$9000 of the government funds she went to Seattle and took apartments in the Hotel Perry. She remained two weeks and while there she raised several thousand dollars, it is said, in an effort to settle for his alleged defalcations and free him from prosecution.

Then she was informed by army officers of high authority that her efforts would come to naught, and gave up the attempt and returned to Portland.

When she was under arrest in his apartments at the Hotel Perry Griffiths was supposed to be without funds. However, when she made his get away he apparently was well supplied with money.

Shortly before he left he penned a note to his wife, who resides on Duane street, in which he stated that he was in San Francisco, and who has loyally stood by him. At the same time it is said he notified Mrs. Bramhall here that he was preparing to take his departure.

Since then, Mrs. Griffiths, so rumor has it, has heard no word from him. She is still in Portland and continues her attitude of loyalty.

Mrs. Bramhall left her apartments in Portland Friday afternoon a few minutes before the Shasta Limited started for California. The day before it is said she received a long-distance telephone call from Captain Griffiths, presumably from California.

At the hotel she said she would be gone several days and left all her belongings save a few things for traveling. She said she was going to Seattle, but declined to leave any other address. Since then nothing has been heard of her.

Captain Griffiths is about 45 years old and met Mrs. Bramhall in Portland several years ago at an exclusive social function. He frequently called upon her and finally interested her in his Colonial Timber company, and she purchased stock and is today one of the heaviest stockholders in the company.

Following Griffiths' escape from Seattle, his brother officers immediately decided to find him and Colonel Arthur Yates, who stands to lose \$1500 which he entrusted to Griffiths, was selected to hunt him down. He came to Portland about two weeks ago, and at the time had a check for \$800, drawn on a bank at Calexico, N. M., and signed by "V. Bramhall," in his possession. The check was made payable to the Colonial Timber company, and as soon as she saw it Mrs. Bramhall declared to be a forgery. The check was found among the effects of Captain Griffiths which he overlooked when he fled from Seattle.

CURTIS FUNERAL FRIDAY

Funeral services for the late William Spencer Curtis, son of Francis E. D. Curtis of the Sunnyside school, who died yesterday morning, will be held at Finley's chapel, Fifth and Montgomery streets, at 2 o'clock Friday afternoon. Interment will be made in the Spanish-American War Veterans lot at Riverview cemetery.

A full military service will be held at the grave under the auspices of the veterans, their chaplain officiating. Mr. Curtis served as corporal in Company F, Third Oregon Infantry.

Spanish and American Cooking

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## Hall Packed to Hear Candidates

Staten Political Society Address 1900  
Members of Irish-American Fellow-  
ship Club Last Night.

Sixteen candidates for political honors addressed more than 1200 members of the Irish-American Fellowship club at a big open meeting held in Alisky hall last night. The hall was packed.

John Manning, candidate for governor on the Democratic ticket, was the principal speaker. While many more candidates were present, they were unable to speak. Others heard besides Mr. Manning were Dr. Andrew C. Smith, candidate for state representative; Andy Weinberger, candidate for constable; J. A. Madsen, for labor commissioner; Dr. Sam Slocum, for coroner; Peter H. D'Arcy, for supreme court justice; George M. Brown of Roseburg, for attorney general; John Driscoll and Rufus C. Holman for county commissioner; Wilson T. Hume, representative; George M. McBride for state senator; Oscar W. Horne and Everett Logan for representative and Arthur C. Dayton and Joseph A. Jones for district judge.

John Kenney acted as chairman. The organization now has a membership of more than 2000, according to Mr. Kenney. The names of the candidates will be held before the primary election.

Governor Simply  
Called Patrolman

Governor West did not strike an in-  
toxicated automobilist in front of the  
Seward hotel last evening, as the Ore-  
gonian stated this morning. What  
really happened was that the governor  
represented by a patrolman to take charge  
of the man, who was swearing and  
using other improper language in the  
presence of women.

Patrolman B. F. Hunt answered the call, but considerably after the governor called. When the patrolman arrived, Governor West was somewhat impatient over the delay, and stated to Hunt that if he had known it took so long to get an officer he would have handled the intoxicated man. When the patrolman finally arrived, the automobilist had started his engine and gone.

"Why didn't he call for the cavalry?" abruptly inquired Chief of Police Clark this morning. "Governor West has no reason to complain. Last fall he coddled the street speakers and that other tough bunch and told them to go ahead. He thought he could handle it, but he couldn't. Why didn't he handle that fellow last night?"

Trusty Is Missing.

Walla Walla, Wash., April 23.—Charles Sharp, convict trusty, who has been missing from the state penitentiary, is still at large. Officials now believe that in a fit of melancholy, from which he often suffered, he took his life.

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