

For President - WILLIAM WYKINLEY, OF OREGON.

For Vice-President - THEODORE ROOSEVELT OF NEW YORK.

MAYOR DUFFY'S MESSAGE.

A Document Full of Reason and Good Intentions Regarding Our City's Future Welfare.

To the Honorable the Common Council of the City of Dalles, Oregon.

The law makes it my duty at this time to submit to you a general statement of the affairs of our city, and to recommend the adoption of such measures, as to me may seem expedient, proper and consistent with the city's needs and the welfare of its inhabitants.

I am pleased to state that there is a due observance of the law, and good order prevails; that our city as a whole is at present blessed with reasonable prosperity and our citizens generally with good health.

CITY DEPARTMENT.

The legislature of 1895, by special act, authorized Dalles City to issue and sell bonds, not to exceed in the aggregate \$50,000.00 with which to pay off the then outstanding indebtedness against the city, and to purchase of said authority and the provisions of said act city bonds to the amount of \$7,000.00 were duly issued and sold—that amount equalled the city's indebtedness then existing. These bonds were made payable in 25 years from the date of issuance and bore 6 per cent. interest payable semi-annually. Through oversight or inadvertence I assume the act of 1895 failed to provide a sinking fund with which to meet the payment of these bonds at maturity or to authorize the loaning of money saved for such purpose, in the meantime, much to the loss of the city, but the legislature of 1899 supplied this defect by creating a sinking fund and making it the duty of the council to annually set apart from the general fund and pay into said sinking fund not less than \$1000.00, which money is to be loaned by the treasurer under the direction of the council upon first class security and at such rate of interest as the council may deem proper.

I am gratified to learn that \$8000.00, or about that sum, has already been paid into the sinking fund, of which sum \$7500.00 is drawing six and eight per cent interest, some of it being in county warrants and city water bonds and the balance loaned to parties with gilt edge security.

I have seen fit to particularly mention this bonded debt of the city, not for the reason that I assume you are ignorant of these facts, but to especially impress us with the necessity of carefully and constantly guarding against the incurring of unnecessary expense in things we might wish to have but which are not imperatively demanded and we cannot, as mere convenience, afford, in conducting the affairs of the city, and in view of the heavy debt hanging over it, we should adopt the same strict methods and plan of economy that govern the prudent and successful business man in conducting his own business affairs—have those things done that are absolutely necessary for the health and prosperity of our citizens and to afford them ample security in their persons and property, and respect all others. The business life of communities is inescapably subjected to the same vicissitudes visited upon individuals,—we have good times and we have our bad times, and the time for us to provide for the day that will by and by surely come is when times are good and our citizens can more easily bear the burden of taxation. Our citizens are already heavily burdened with taxation for state, county and school purposes, aside from the burden of maintaining our city government, and we owe to them careful honest work in administering the affairs of the city to the end that their burdens will not be unnecessarily increased and every dollar that can be saved aside from necessary disbursements, be placed in the sinking fund to relieve them to that extent of the city's bonded debt.

By the charter act, passed by the legislative assembly of 1869, the council is authorized and empowered to establish a system of sewerage and to construct, re-lay, maintain and repair all necessary drains and sewers at its discretion, etc. On April 14, 1890, the common council passed special Ordinance No. 321, which was approved by the mayor on the 26th day of said month. This ordinance provides a plan or system of sewerage for the city. It is not my purpose to comment upon the merits or demerits of the ordinance or the plan or system con-

templated by it, but I call your attention to the fact that the property owners whose property would be affected by the enforcement of the ordinance are hereby opposed to it, and their opposition to the ordinance and the carrying out of its project has found enforcement by the citizens at large in terms so plainly pronounced as not to be understood. Whether the plan or system a good or bad is a matter of small importance; our citizens and property owners do not want it, and to ask their representatives should not attempt to force it upon them. I have no doubt the council acted in good faith in passing the ordinance, but under a misapprehension of the real sentiment and actual wishes of those who would have to shoulder the burden of expense it would entail in the construction of such a system of sewerage as the ordinance provides. I therefore recommend that said ordinance be repealed at an early day. We are merely representatives of those who have elected us to protect and subserve their interest, and except in case of an emergency we should never act contrary to their wishes, and especially so in matters seriously affecting property rights and casting upon them heavy burdens. There is another reason for urging the immediate repeal of said ordinance, on the 12th day of last month a large number of citizen taxpayers as complainants commenced a suit against the city to perpetually enjoin the city from further proceeding under said ordinance. If the suit is defended by the city it will be in opposition to the expressed wishes of a large majority of our citizens, at great expense to the city and with a strong probability that the ordinance and acts of the council thereunder cannot be upheld by the court on grounds which I do not care to discuss. The prompt repealing of the ordinance will have the effect to terminate said suit, the costs so far are merely nominal. That sewers will be repaired and new sewers constructed there can be no doubt, but, as I have suggested, such work should be done in harmony with the wishes of property owners, or if not, then because of a pressing necessity.

On the subject of providing street lights for the city I have no recommendation to make at this time further than to indulge in a brief suggestion. That the absence of street lights in the late fall and winter seasons is a great inconvenience, is a fact recognized by all, but we have managed to do without street lighting for a long period. I have no doubt that if the city were free, or practically so, from debt there would be an almost unanimous demand for lighting the streets of the city on a conservative and economic basis. In view of the city's financial condition it seems to me that no extensive system of street lighting can at present be afforded, and in no event should any attempt be made to generally or partially light the city without first obtaining the sanction of the taxpayers.

I favor a liberal policy, without extravagance or injustice to property owners, in the matter of repairing and maintaining our streets, sidewalks and cross walks in a good safe condition.

Our fire department is in competent and safe hands and is being and has been conducted in a manner worthy of the admiration of every good citizen. The fire department should receive such aid at your hands as may be actually necessary to maintain it for effective work, avoiding all unnecessary outlays.

With this branch of our city government you have very little if anything to do. Our water supply for domestic use and fire protection is under the supervision and control of the Water Commission, composed of prudent business men who are performing their duties satisfactorily in every respect. It is safe to say that with our present water supply our effective means for extinguishing fires, and the ready response of our energetic firemen our fair city is in no danger of being again laid in ashes.

We have now entered upon the work of a new year, and let us not forget the importance of that work and the solemn trust it imposes. I sincerely hope and believe that our associations will be pleasant and harmonious, and that if differences arise they will be honest differences of opinion, not hastily formed, but from mature and well considered judgment for the public good.

Respectfully submitted, E. B. DUFFY, Mayor, Dalles City, Oregon, July 1, 1908.

For the convenience of parties wanting ice in the afternoon, the Stadelman Ice Co. will carry a stock at their store, corner Third and Washington streets, phone No. 107; long distance 143. "Ring 'em up."

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During last May an infant child of our neighbor was suffering from cholera infantum. The factors had given us all hopes of recovery. I took a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy to the house, telling them I felt sure it would be good if used according to directions. In two days time the child had fully recovered. The child is now vigorous and healthy. I have recommended this remedy frequently and have never known it to fail.—Mrs. Curtis Baker, Brookwater, Ohio. Sold by Blaney & Houghton.

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Garden Hose

We have laid in a large stock of Garden Hose and are carrying the same brand of Hose that we have been carrying for the last five years, which is the celebrated Maltese Cross Brand. We carry the same brand of Hose that the Dalles City Fire Department has been using for the last twenty years. The Maltese Cross Brand is without doubt the best grade of Hose on the market. Call and get our prices before buying.

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ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, by an order of the county court of the state of Oregon for Wasco County, has been appointed administrator of the estate of Helen Bradford, deceased. All persons having claims against the estate of said deceased are to file a petition to pay, with the proper vouchers to go at the date of this notice, within six months from the date of this notice.

FRED W. WILSON, ATTORNEY AT LAW, THE DALLES, OREGON

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