

# INDEPENDENCE ENTERPRISE

SIXTEENTH YEAR

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## TRY TO SOLVE SEWER PROBLEM

THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMAN BOHANNON TALK

The Legality of the Sewerage Ordinance Questioned by Maor Jones While Ordinance Committee Thinks It Will Stand Test of Court.

The question of most importance before the people of Independence at this time is whether or not the city shall sell seventeen thousand of bonds or whatever portion of that amount necessary to construct a sewer system in the city in accordance with an ordinance passed by the city council providing for a system of sewers, the plans and specifications of which are now on file in the office of the city recorder of the city. This ordinance, it will be remembered, was vetoed by the mayor and in turn passed over his veto by the council. On the second day of July referendum petition, signed by sixty-three voters and directed to the city recorder was filed with the president of the council, the mayor and city recorder being absent from the city.

In accordance with the prayer of the said petition which asks that the question be submitted to the voters for their approval or disapproval, the city council, at an adjourned meeting, held last Saturday evening, July 10, passed an ordinance providing for a special election, to be held on Thursday, September 2, 1909, between the hours of 9 a. m. and 5 p. m. with an intermission of 45 minutes for dinner, the city hall being designated as the polling place for the said election.

As all public questions are of more or less interest to every voter of the city, it is the opinion of the Enterprise that the more publicity given them the better the voters interested will be able to vote intelligently on it, and in order to accomplish this end we offer the free use of the columns of this paper to anyone who desires to discuss the issue at question, irrespective of the side advocated.

As the question now stands there seems to be a difference of opinion between the mayor, on the one side, and the city council on the other, as to the correct procedure to be pursued by the city to legally establish it. The council is backed in its stand by the opinion of City Attorney Hayter, and Mayor Jones bases his objections to the methods adopted by the city council on the grounds that they are not in accordance with the charter of the city. Both the mayor and the members of the council have declared themselves in favor of sewerage of the city.

This week, just before Mayor Jones was leaving for the coast where he went to look after some private interests, he made the following statement to a representative of the Enterprise, which we give without comment:

"Personally I am heartily in favor of a sewer system for the city of Independence. I was elected to the office of mayor on that issue and am ready at all times to work for that end, provided that it is done in accordance with the provisions of the charter governing the city.

"In my opinion the council will gain nothing by an election, for any taxpayer, no matter how the election goes, may enjoin them from proceeding with the work."

In answer to the question requesting his authority for the statement, he referred to section 59 of chapter 7 of the special laws of the state of Oregon, entitled "An act to incorporate the city of Independence" passed by the 23d legislative assembly in regular session, 1905, which we give below:

"SECTION 59.—The council shall have power to lay down all necessary sewers and drains, and cause the same to be assessed on the property directly benefitted thereby, and the mode of procedure in assessing the costs of construction and collecting the same, shall be the same as provided in the sections herein for the improvements of streets; and the council may, by resolution, order the alteration or repair of any side-

walk and order the costs thereof assessed against the abutting property, the same as street improvements, without the formality of an ordinance."

"You will observe," said the mayor, "that it sets forth the exact manner in which the council shall proceed to lay down all necessary sewers and drains and my contention is that the ordinance passed by the council is not in conformity with the provisions of the city charter, and for that reason the city would be unable to get anyone to buy the bonds, as all bond buyers, before purchasing, satisfy themselves that the ordinance authorizing their issue is drawn up in strict accordance to the provisions of the charter." Continuing, he said:

"It is very unfortunate for the parties concerned that I, as mayor of the city, and members of the city council are not working harmoniously together as we should. Just who is at fault I am unable to say. In all probability, I am to some extent, while on the other hand I consider the council equally to blame. If it were possible for us to get together and bury our differences and pull hand-in-hand with each other inside of the required time by law dirt would be flying and work well under way on the sewer system which every one knows the town is sadly in need of."

"What would be the procedure to accomplish this" was the next question fired at him by the reporter.

"By repealing the ordinance recently passed by the council and passing another one drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the charter, providing for the laying of a system of sewers. It can all be done at the next regular meeting of the council by a suspension of the rules. As the plans and specifications are already drawn and adopted and the engineer who drew them up is here and ready to work, just as soon as the necessary time elapsed required for advertising, work could be commenced and pushed without interruption, thereby saving what money had already been expended in the pre-

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## ANNUAL COUNTY SCHOOL REPORT

The following is the annual report for the schools of Polk county, Oregon, for the school year 1908-'09:

No. pupils registered during the year	2825
No. of pupils dropped and afterward readmitted during year	1557
No. of pupils leaving one school and entering another during year	250
No. registered during the year	4631
No. pupils dropped during year	257
No. pupils remaining at end of school	2074
No. pupils over 4 and under 6	39
No. pupils over 6 and under 9	770
No. pupils over 12 and under 14	545
No. pupils over 14 and under 20	713
Total	2825
No. days taught during year	126
Whole No. days attendance	318574
Whole No. days absence	20660
Whole No. times late	3181
No. pupils neither absent nor tardy	10
Average No. pupils belonging	2692
Average daily attendance	2523
Per cent of attendance	94
No. visits by parents	870
No. visits by members school board	236

The following schools have been placed on the roll of honor for attendance, having made 95 per cent or more during the year: Ballston, Monmouth, Gooseneck, Cochran, Oakpoint, Popcorn, Upper Salt Creek, Lincoln, Etna, Sunny Slope, Mountain View, Rock Creek, Mistletoe.

Last year the per cent was 92 per cent and all schools were working to see if the attendance for this past year could not be brought up to 95 per cent. While the attendance did not reach 95 per cent it was considerably raised and it's thought that next year it will be raised above that per cent.

We are showing some specials in broken lines in men's Hats, \$3.00, \$2.50 and \$2.00 values at \$1.50 as long as they last.—Conkey, Walker & Lehman.

## SPECIAL ELECTION CALLED

HAVE PUT IT UP TO THE PEOPLE OF INDEPENDENCE

Special Election to be Held September 2, 1909, Called for the Purpose of Voting for the Issuance and Sale of Sewer Bonds.

The adjourned meeting of the city council took place Saturday evening as announced, Mayor Jones presiding and all councilmen present excepting Craven, city recorder and marshal being present.

By common consent the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with.

Under the head of unfinished business Councilman Bohannon, chairman of the ordinance committee, presented an ordinance calling for a special election to be held on Monday, August 30, 1909, for the purpose of re-dependence, Polk county, Oregon, for referring to the people of the city of Independence their approval or rejection, ordinance No. 194, entitled "An ordinance authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the city of Independence, Oregon, for the purpose of raising funds for the construction of a system of sewers in the city of Independence, Polk county, Oregon, passed by the city council on the 19th day of May, 1909, and vetoed by the mayor of the said city of Independence, Polk county, Oregon, on the 21 day of May, 1909, and passed over the mayor's veto on the 24 day of June, 1909."

On motion of Councilman Hanna the ordinance was placed on its first reading. Councilman Bohannon moved that the ordinance be read the second time by title only, and carried. Moved by Councilman Hanna and seconded by Councilman Hoffman that rules be suspended and that the ordinance be read for the third time and placed on its final passage. It being necessary to call the roll on a vote to suspend the rules the city recorder found the following result of the vote: Yes, Hubbard, Mix, Bohannon, Hanna and Hoffman, Craven absent. The vote being unanimous, it was so ordered. On motion of Councilman Hoffman the date of holding election was changed from Monday, August 30, 1909, to Tuesday, September 2, 1909. The reason for the change being made was that the law requires fifty days to intervene between the time of the passage of the ordinance and the date of the election.

F. A. Patterson, S. E. Irvine and I. H. Ingraham were designated as judges, and Carl Percival, S. E. Irvine and Wm. Kurre as clerks.

The ordinance was then placed on its final passage and passed by unanimous vote.

Under the head of new business, on motion of Councilman Hoffman the city recorder was authorized to procure a copy of the 1907 session laws.

The recorder stated that he had the application of Thomas Sullivan for a near beer license for the quarter ending September 30, which was accompanied by the city treasurer's receipt for \$75 and the necessary bond. On motion of Councilman Hanna the bond was approved by the city and the recorder was instructed to issue the license.

The bill of W. W. Rice for \$13.50 for painting the exterior of the city residence was ordered paid.

The council then adjourned.

Have the laundry wagon call for your laundry. 7-11

## PROSPECTING FOR OIL

Portland Parties at Work on the Whiteaker Farm  
A Portland syndicate, headed by S. M. McDaniel, are prospecting for oil on the Whiteaker place near Dallas. F. L. Zeigler, an expert driller from the Bakersfield district in California, has been on the grounds for several days and is now engaged erecting a large derrick that is the first part of the work toward commencing active operations. The syndicate is expected to arrive in Dallas in the

machinery has been purchased in Los Angeles and is now on the way and next week or so. It is all new and the best possible make for this kind of work. It will be capable of drilling a well to a depth of 5000 feet. If such a depth should become necessary. Both gentlemen are enthusiastic over the prospects, and Mr. Zeigler thinks the indications for the striking of oil the best he has encountered in all his many years of experience in different oil centers all over the United States.

## POLK COUNTY FIRST

Superintendent Seymour First to Send Annual Report

According to Salem Daily Statesman the Supt. of public schools of Polk county, H. C. Seymour, is the first superintendent to send in his annual report ending June 18th to J. H. Ackerman, state superintendent of public instruction. The report shows the schools to be in a flourishing condition. The school census is 4127 as compared to 269.82 in 1908.

The enrollment for 1909 was 2825; 1908, 2662. The average attendance for 1909 was 2528, and in 1908, 2341. Total receipts for 1909 were \$78,126.47, and for 1908, \$68,603.74 and disbursements for 1909, \$66,249.86 as against \$58,269.82 in 1908.

The report also shows that the average salaries for male teachers had advanced in the last year from \$60 to \$66. Supt. Seymour is to be commended upon for being the first county superintendent to file his report.

Mr. Johnson, who has just opened his steam laundry in this city, believes in patronizing home industry, and he not only believes in it but does it. He not only gets all his printing done at home but gets all the work connected with the installing of the machinery, done by residents of this city. The material used in the steam fittings was purchased from home merchants. It is to be hoped that our citizens will follow suit and give him whatever work they may have in the laundry line. 7-11

## ARE IMPROVING THEIR BIG FARM

W. E. Bevens, manager of the Jacobson-DeHaven Co's farm in the Highland district, about five miles south of town, was in the city Wednesday looking for carpenters and laying in supplies.

This farm is well-known in that section as one of the best grain farms in the Independence district. It was purchased a short time ago by that company, who have offices at McMinnville. It contains 289 acres 75 of which is in oats and the remainder is in hay.

The company is making vast improvements under the direction of Mr. Bevens, who is something of a rustler himself. At present there is being constructed a new barn 40x60 two stories high which will require 50,000 feet of lumber. As soon as this is finished they will commence the erection of an eight room house at a cost of about \$3000. W. L. Baker, an architect and builder of McMinnville, has the contract for the work and is pushing it to completion as fast as possible and he expects to complete the work in time to store away this year's crop. At present they have twelve men employed and expect to increase the force as soon as competent help can be secured, as the company has a number of other improvements under contemplation.

In speaking of the crop prospects Mr. Bevens said that they are excellent, in fact, as good as he has ever seen them. He was one of the few that adhered to the old rule of not cutting his hay until the first week after the Fourth, and as a consequence he did not have any hay down to be spoiled by the rain.

Just as he was getting into his buggy to leave for home he gave the reporter a quiet tip that there was going to be something doing out in his neighborhood in about two weeks in the shape of an old fashioned barn warming, one after the style of the good old days gone by, when the lads and lassies for miles around gathered together and danced from early evening to early morning, with a big feed at midnight.

We're Closing Out Odds and Ends and Broken Lots in All Departments at Greatly Reduced Prices

## Clothing Bargains

A big line of Men's high grade worsted Spring Suits at

20 Cent Per Discount

These are choice Spring patterns of the latest style.

Every Tan Shoe and Tan Oxford in the house

REDUCED 20 PER CENT

All sizes for men, women and children.

Our dress goods department offers a great special in

## Novelty Spring Dress Goods

at 75c per yard, reduced from our \$1.00, \$1.10, \$1.25 and \$1.40 lines

## Barnes' Cash Store

E. T. BARNES Prop., Salem

## FARMS FOR SALE

102 acres, one mile from town; 45 acres under cultivation; orchard; dug well; 25 acres timber, balance pasture; new modern 7-room house and good barn and fences. Terms. Price \$3800.

277 acres 10 miles from Independence 150 acres in cultivation. This is another of the good buys. Will sell at \$50 an acre.

324 acres 4 miles from Monmouth, 1 1/2 from railroad; 160 acres in cultivation. Good improvements. A good buy. \$30 an acre.

160 acres, within mile of town and railroad. A1 piece of land and fine country home. Rich sandy loam soil. Good improvements. Price \$15,500.

235 acres, almost all in cultivation at \$40 an acre.

## See Us for City Residences

12 room house and basement, barn, chicken houses, windmill and tanks, water system throughout. Dwelling is modern, with patent toilet, bath, laundry in basement, septic tank, etc. Range goes with property. Nothing better in Independence. \$4000.

9-room house and 2 lots in Monmouth desirable location; good improvements. Price \$1500.

An acre of land and 6-room house; good improvements, lumber on the ground for barn and other improvements and goes with place at \$750. Look this up.

CHAS. E. HICKS REAL ESTATE CO.