

FOREST GROVE PRESS

REGARDLESS OF EXPENSE

City Fathers Frame Municipal Matters to Suit Themselves

Council met in adjourned session Friday evening of last week, all members and officers present.

By resolution Second Avenue from First street to Fifth street was ordered paved with hard surface gravel bitulithic pavement. The remonstrance in the judgment of the council was not sufficiently signed to defeat the order.

Necessary steps for laying pavement on the one block of College Way were taken. "A" street pavement was abandoned.

Many interested citizens and property owners were present at the meeting and furnished entertainment with speeches and questions.

It appears that the council in selecting that part of Second avenue for pavement, omitted the one block connecting Main street with First street, for the reason that after a careful canvass of the entire street it was found that there would be sufficient remonstrances to defeat the entire street if that part had been incorporated. As it was, the council in its findings found that not quite the two-thirds necessary to defeat had signed the remonstrance. We are informed that the matter will be taken into court by those opposed. Much agitation of the matter is being made and there are threats of a recall election being called in the near future.

The resolutions passed were ordered printed in the News-Times, one member of the council openly declaring that the price charged by the News-Times, four cents a line, was reasonable. The Press had made an offer to print any and all ordinances or resolutions for two cents a line, but this offer of saving one-half the cost seems to be ignored so long as the public fund pays the bill. If this same attitude is taken in letting out paving and other contracts—and why not, the cost is paid from a similar source—it would be useless for competitive bidders to enter this exclusive field. The present adverse attitude of the citizens in reference to improving the streets seems to be taken from the apparent closely connected intimacy of the council with the Warren Construction Company.

It now looks as if but little improvement in the way of street paving will be done in the Grove this summer.

BUSINESS MEN'S BANQUET

The business men's banquet held at the K. P. hall last night proved a success. Some seventy-eight plates were served. This service was rendered by the Ladies' Working Society of the Congregational church, and the spread was most elaborate. Vocal and instrumental music was rendered. Many prominent business men from outside the city were present. Much interest was manifested, and another meeting within the next month was arranged for. So pleasing were the results that the same committee was retained to manage the next banquet.

MOTHERS' DAY

Wear a white carnation for Mother's sake, Sunday, May 12, in honor of the best mother that ever lived—your own. A white carnation for Mother's memory; a bright carnation for mothers living.

Humphreys Bros. Found Guilty

George and Charles Humphreys, brothers, who lived in the vicinity of Banks, were found guilty of murder in the first degree by the jury of the circuit court at Corvallis yesterday. Sentence will be pronounced by Judge Hamilton tomorrow.

Notice For Bids

Bids will be received at this office up to Saturday, May 11, at 10 a. m., for the wrecking and removal of the building on the north half of Lot two, Block 24, Forest Grove, known as the Stephenson lot, party making the bid to receive all the material therein and to leave the ground clear of all lumber, rubbish or other material.

Vocal Recital

Miss Goldie Peterson will be presented in recital Friday evening, May 3, in Marsh Hall at 8 p. m. by Mrs. Pauline Miller Chapman, the vocal director. Miss Peterson has developed a voice of sweetness and considerable dramatic quality. No admission fee is asked and the general public is cordially invited to attend the musicale.

Death of Mrs. Alexander

Mrs. Annie D. Alexander, wife of A. Alexander, died at Tuscon, Arizona, April 21. The remains were shipped to this place, where interment was made in the Forest View cemetery, April 30. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Thomas and Rev. Gould at the Congregational church.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander had for several months been in Arizona with the hope of restoring Mrs. Alexander's health.

Pleasant Afternoon Party

Miss Fay Templeton entertained twelve of her young friends Wednesday afternoon from four until six. The children spent the time in playing games, after which delicious refreshments were served. Those present were Mary Stockman, Maude Graham, Edyth Bunker, Lenore Deiks, Irene Hall, Opal Dixon, Irene Sappington, Margaret Martin, Jennie Creighton, Rene Moore, Hattie Watrous and the hostess.

Prices of Paving Cut One-Fourth

(From Evening Telegram)
Pendleton, Ore., April 30.—As a result of the circulating of a petition for Dolarway pavement by local property owners, a material reduction in price of pavement is promised Pendleton property owners. The Dolarway company makes a price of \$1.50 a yard. To meet this offer the Warren Construction Company now offers to lay a gravel bitulithic for \$1.48 a square yard. All the paving thus far laid has been by the Warren Construction Company with bitulithic at \$2.19 and \$2.12 a yard.

Holbrook Lodge No. 30, A. F. and A. M. Slated Communication this Saturday evening, May 4 at 7:30 p. m. Important business. Every member and visiting brother cordially invited. By order of the W. M.

A. BEN KORI, Sec'y.

2ND AVENUE CONTROVERSY

Citizen Charges "Double Dealings" by Those Who Favor Paving

Forest Grove, Ore., May 1, 1912.

Editor Forest Grove Press.

Dear Sir: In an article in the News-Times of April 18th it is stated: "The council has the well being and progress of the city at heart, and their efforts to beautify the town are made in all sincerity, and they have no desire to force upon the property holders something that they do not want."

We were under the impression, at one time, that this was so; but no one who was present at the last council meeting could doubt for a moment but that the council were determined to override any objection of the property holders; so much so that I was at first doubtful if it was a meeting of the city council, or a sort of "star chamber" convened to try the Second avenue property holders and condemn them to be paved. Many are under the impression that remonstrances covering a sufficient number of feet were not filed. This is a mistake. Remonstrances were filed within the time mentioned in the charter, covering 2520.82 feet. A two-thirds majority calls for, I think, about 2149.2 feet, leaving a balance in our favor above the required amount of 371.6 feet. Does not this show the wishes of the two-thirds majority?

The council then, with the assistance of the attorney of the paving company, proceeded to find technical flaws (which will have to be threshed out later) and succeeded in eliminating enough from the remonstrances to bring them under the required amount. The same gentleman then advised them that it was mandatory upon the council to order Second avenue paved. It was mandatory! And the mandate was the mandate of the Warren Construction Co. The remark of one of the council that "those who were best able to bear the burden were the ones who were raising the most objection" was, I think, uncalled for. There is a quotation starting "Judge not" with which the reverend gentleman may be familiar, and I do not think he knows any more about our financial affairs than we know about his.

I am told that the trustees of the Congregational church, at their meeting, voted against paving, but also voted against signing a remonstrance. No doubt some of the trustees were well aware that a remonstrance must be two thirds, and that by keeping off the remonstrance they were helping the paving. Also one prominent business man, who does not own any property in the district proposed to be paved, advised one party who went to him for advice that "there was no need to sign any remonstrance as Second avenue would not be paved anyhow," thus keeping this person off the remonstrance, but the next day the same gentleman went to see Mr. Jennings and advised him to sign a petition for paving. How is this for double dealing?

We are not "knockers," and I think have the well being of the city and the citizens at heart, quite as much as some of those who are advocating paving and getting paid for their work. We have had offers of all the financial and legal assistance that we may need, and are determined not to be forced into this debt if we can help it.

Very truly yours,
T. H. LITTLEHALES.

CITY NEWS NOTES

Edison and Victor talking machines and records for sale at the Bazaar.

For Sale—A young mare sound, true, gentle, well broken. V. V. Willis, 16 Third street.

For Sale—Steam prune dryer, one ton capacity, all complete. Price \$60. J. L. Loving, Gales Creek, Ore.

The American Protective Tariff League No. 339 Broadway New York, will furnish gratuitously information and facts on any phase of the tariff question, on postal card request.

Grace Newton, who so long waited on the customers at the Book Store, has accepted a position with the Forest Grove Studio, where she will be pleased to meet her many friends.

H. Lidyard, the First street shoemaker, has moved his shop across the street and is now with Sam Walker, where the two join efforts in mending the heel and sole. When in need of repairs call on them.

Next Wednesday evening the Congregational Brotherhood will hold the last meeting of the season. This will be a meeting in which women will participate as well as men, and all are invited. Supper at 6:30; tickets 25c. Intellectual as well as physical treat promised.

At the meeting of the fruit growers last Saturday, report on the subscription list showed some sixty individual farmers represented. The amount necessary for permanent organization had not yet been secured but only about \$600 was lacking, and without doubt the amount will be raised this week.

The seventh annual meeting of the Women's Home Missionary Society, Salem District, have been in session at the M. E. church yesterday and today. Many delegates are present, representing several local organizations throughout the district. The meeting is fairly well attended and much interest is manifested.

The ball game between Portland Academy and Forest Grove High School, played on the campus grounds Saturday resulted in a score of 6 to 12 in favor of the visitors. Our boys did well, but this being their first game they were overmatched. The next game on local grounds will be with McMinnville, and the members of the home team are training and propose to win.

Card of Thanks

To the friends of the late Mrs. A. C. Alexander: The beautiful floral tributes you bestowed, the sacred melodies you sung, the kind words, the hearty handshakes and your sympathizing presence were given because your hearts overflowed with love for one who having long since put her trust in Jesus and was being fashioned in His spirit and sweetened by His presence for her home in heaven, and you learned to love her as well as we. And may these sweet memories and God's blessing go with you one and all until He calls you to that home prepared for them who love Him. Sincerely thanking you,

A. C. ALEXANDER,
DICKSON FAMILY.

IN DEFENSE OF COUNCIL

Member Claims Body Is Actuated by Strong Sense of Duty

Mr. Editor: I feel it an unpleasant duty to attempt an answer to the anonymous letters published in the last issue of the Forest Grove Press and signed "Recall" and "A Question." It seems that the ones who gave us the writings were ashamed of their productions and withheld their real names.

I understand that Mr. Recall was formerly known as Mr. Littlehales and while under his former name was well and favorably known, but under his nom-de-plume he has made some serious charges against the city council which are not true and there is no excuse for the wrong statements given to the Press. He not only tells the people of Forest Grove of the crooked work the council has done but what they are planning to force the people to do in the future.

What a blessing to have a prophet in the city to sound a note of warning against a tricky council.

He says: "The council ordered First avenue paved; and then when the time for a remonstrance had expired, ordered the width of the paving increased to 42 feet, rather a tricky proceeding to say the least of it. It seems to be the determination of the council to get some paving done anyhow, with the hope that they may be able to force short lengths of pavement between streets already paved."

I am truly sorry for such a misstatement of facts, which ought not to be published, and if I were an editor I would never lower the standard of my paper and let it become a sewer to receive anonymous slush that comes from any source of that which is misleading.

There was a petition presented to the council to have First avenue paved 30 feet wide, and that was acted upon by the council. Then came the second petition to have it changed to 42 feet in width and it was also acted upon and the petition favored. Then came another petition to have it cut down to 30 feet and this petition was granted from First street east to Fifth street and from First street west 42 feet as the desire was presented. I think the council are still willing to grant a few more changes on First avenue if it is so desired and presented.

There was also a petition presented to pave Second avenue from First street east to Fifth street and it was acted upon by the council. Then came a remonstrance which was received and a careful estimate made by our city engineers of the number of feet covered by this remonstrance, and was found to be lacking in its requirements according to the city charter. Mr. Stokes, being the chief speaker for the remonstrance, told of the sad condition of the people living on the avenue and urged the council to accept the minority wishes who opposed the paving. His urging and threat was this in substance. That if the council would not perjure themselves,

which they would have to do, and violate their oath which they had taken to stand by the city charter, the opposers would boycott the business men who were on the council. That looks to me like a very serious threat to hang over business men who are conducting an honorable business in our city and depending on their business for their living.

Then another prophet arose, Mr. Kane, who said that while he was not effected by the paving of Second avenue he saw what was coming. He saw intersection paving forced in and the awful result of the work that would be done by the council. I do not know how he got the vision, without a shadow as large as a man's hand; it is surely a new revelation to me. I do not know of any such work being attempted and the city charter does not give any authority for such cruel and inhuman treatment, but this man can see it coming.

I still believe the council will stand by their pledge to honor the city charter, and if the people want a change, they will have to change the city charter. I, for one, was glad that we had men who in the face of threats and hisses would stand true to their pledge and vote accordingly. I have heard the council criticized for voting a resolution to pave without a petition to pave being first presented. This was done by request and a feeling that the streets acted upon, especially Pacific avenue, were sadly in need of repairs, leaving it with the people to say whether they wanted the paving or not. This is no departure from that done one year ago, or the right to do. First street was paved without a petition, at least I never heard of one, and none of these people claimed any injustice was done. The property owners had the right to object if they wished to.

I am sorry for criticisms, but even that should be no barrier to duty.

J. M. BARBER.

W. C. T. U. Institute

The W. C. T. U. Institute, to be held in the Methodist church Friday will present the following program:

Morning Session—11 a. m., workers' conference. 12:30 p. m., basket lunch.

Afternoon Session—2 o'clock, devotional, Mrs. E. T. Scroggs. Introductions. "The Place of the W. C. T. U. in the Suffrage Reform," Mrs. A. M. Boldrick. Discussion. Solo, Rev. D. T. Thomas. Suffrage quiz, leader, Mrs. K. B. Penfield. Question box, opened by Mrs. A. W. Unruh.

Evening Session—Music, High School Orchestra. Devotional, Rev. H. Gould. Music, men's quartet. Address, "The Moral Value of Woman's Vote," Mrs. Ada Wallace Unruh, state president.

Everyone interested either in the W. C. T. U. or the subject of equal suffrage is cordially invited to all the sessions. Come with your basket and enjoy the noon hour at dinner, and don't fail to hear the evening address by Mrs. Unruh.

Fruit Growers' Meeting

A meeting to elect directors of the Forest Grove Fruit Growers' Association will be held at the K. P. Hall, Forest Grove, Oregon, on June 3, 1912, at 2:30 o'clock p. m. H. C. Atwell, A. B. Craft, Robert Alexander, Corporators.