

THE MUNICIPALITY.

The Public Improvements During the Year 1889.

THE OFFICERS OF THE CITY.

The Progressive Council Elected for the Purpose of Improvement have not Shirked their duty, and a Rapid Growth is the result, Contrary to the Archaic Ideas of the Silitarians.

Upon the election of the officers whose portraits adorn this page, the municipal affairs of this city received a new life. This council was elected by the people for the sole purpose of accomplishing some improvement of a public nature. Business men were picked by the nominating convention and they were elected. All of them own property in this city and are identified with it. To a person who saw the city some years ago, one look now would tell them that the people did wisely in putting these men in the position of trust they now hold. They have not shirked their duty. The public improvements were few and far between and it was the policy of former councils to get along with as little expenditure of money as possible. Through this higgledy policy the city was a sight to behold. The gentle and sweet scented town crown aimed at large, broke down fences and during the dry season consumed the shade trees. Sidewalks were broken and a general air of deplorable prevailed everywhere. In the evening, blackened chimneys attempted to light the wayfarer home, but did not succeed. Our streets were dusty in summer and muddy in winter. In fact the town was the ideal sleepy hamlet, but all this changed. Water is now flowing in right main mains throughout the city. The grass is green all the year around because of it. The town covers are relegated to their stables or pastures outside the city limits; the streets and sidewalks have been repaved; electric lights about every corner and out the ways of modern scientific development all around. Progress and prosperity everywhere. The general aspect of the city has changed, the people are alive in every sense of the word, and many are beautifying their homes by means of the appliances for the same, furnished by the city. The idea of running a town without a tax levy for its improvement has been proved to be fallacious, for upon the new order of things being promulgated the city began to expand, people began to move here and build homes. Our citizens who were large property owners near the outskirts of the city opened up their land to settlement, made broad avenues and placed the lots upon the market for sale. The wisdom of the change is seen upon every hand, and to the council who wrought all this, praise should be extended by both present and future citizens of this city, for they surely opened up to greatness this heretofore stupid and sleepy town. In order that future citizens of this city may know the cost of these luxurious necessities of life we publish the rates for both water and light.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Rate. Includes Electric Light Rate, Water Rate, and various utility charges.

during the past year that they elected to serve another year. The only change taking place was in the treasurer's office, J. W. Cows, of the McMinnville National Bank, is now treasurer. He has held the position since February, J. L. Rogers resigning.

THE CHURCHES. Six Denominations Represented by Six Church Edifices. McMinnville from a moral point should be the superior of the average small city of the coast. Six denominations are represented here each of them having a church house, and a good membership. The denominations doing active work in this city are the Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist, Catholic and Christian. The Episcopal church at present is without a pastor. The M. E. South is represented by Rev. Moses and the creation of a church for that denomination will soon begin. The membership is already large.

THE SOCIETIES. Nearly all the secret and benevolent societies represented. A large number of the citizens of this city are members of some secret or benevolent society which is represented here. All are in a flourishing condition and are well kept up. Their treasuries are in a good condition and their future prospects are good.

THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY. The Garden Spot of the World. A Paradise. Our readers after reading the article on Yamhill county would not doubt like to know something about the valley in which it is situated. The Willamette valley—pronounced Willam-et—is the principal valley of the state and constitutes the wealthiest portion of Oregon.

MEMORIALS GRANGE. The grangers of this section are a well organized body and have in operation a general merchandise store and an implement depot. The membership is large and an interest is taken in the organization. They own the property upon which their building is situated. All the substantial farmers of this vicinity are members.

AMUSEMENTS. Garrison's Opera House Patronized by Good Troops. The theatrical group part of the people have a good house in which to sit and see the best companies on the road, Garrison's opera house, in the heart of the business part of the city, is capable of seating 600 people. The stage is large and has fine scenery allowing the best companies to produce their plays in a metropolitan style. The house is lighted by electricity and is well ventilated. Two means of exit makes it safe should a fire break out suddenly. Rogers & Heath are the lessees and managers and nothing but first-class performances are allowed in the house.

OAK PARK ADDITION. A beautiful tract of land within five minutes walk of business center. Our best addition is Oak Park and as the country in the vicinity of McMinnville is the choicest of all the beautiful and fruitful Willamette valley, so is its Oak Park addition the choicest portion of McMinnville.



Portraits of City Council members: E. Wright, Councilman; Geo. W. Jones, Councilman; F. Barwickoff, Councilman; J. J. Spencer, Recorder; S. A. Jennings, Mayor; J. L. Rogers, Treasurer; C. D. Johnson, Councilman; Geo. W. Bart, Councilman; Chas. Gleason, Councilman; Massachussetts is in nearly the same position as elsewhere, the government lands are held at the price of \$1.25 per acre, or in case of lands within the limits of railroad grants at double this price.

school building is located on the Lafayette county road, just at the edge of the addition of which this road forms the eastern boundary line. No better evidence of the character and rapidity of the growth of our city is needed than is found in the fact that this new school building, which was erected last summer at an expenditure of \$10,000—three times the cost of the old structure is already crowded to its full capacity and the necessity of building a still larger one is being agitated. The location of the school indicates plainly the direction in which our city is growing. And this is as it should be. Oak Park is high and healthy, assuring good drainage. A splendid picture of Mt. Hood and the Cascade range may be seen to the eastward while on the west the undulating forested foothills of the Coast range, lies mapped out in full view. The company developing Oak Park laid out the tract in full sized lots, 50x100 feet, with good wide streets and alleys as befitted so choice a site. It is the company's policy to develop and permanently beautify the neighborhood, and thus increase the future value of the property, a result in which every purchaser must participate. As a natural result of this a great many lots have been sold and prices have been steadily advancing but the tract is a large one and there are some choice sites left which are offered upon prices and terms which should encourage everyone to buy, who seeks a good investment or a pleasant home. Several tasteful cottages were built at Oak Park last fall and very many more will be erected next summer; indeed, several are already under contract. Among the builders is Mr. John Grant, well favorably known, who will erect a handsome residence for himself. The first promoter of Oak Park was Fred. Barwickoff, of the McMinnville Flouring Mills Co. He is one of the few persons who do not always insist that their pictures don't do them justice and has found no fault with his portrait as given in another column.