

COMPARATIVE FINANCE

OPERATIONS OF CITY COUNCILS UNDER OLD AND NEW CHARTERS.

A Saving of Nearly \$22,000 Claimed by Present Officials—Figures of Record Offered in Evidence.

(From Daily Statesman, Nov. 17.)

When, by the grace of Republican leadership and Republican votes, the citizens of Salem placed a non-partisan administration in charge of the affairs of this city two years ago, it was with the avowed purpose of rehabilitating the then unsatisfactory condition of municipal finances. This was the primary cause for the movement, and now, after the men who were then entrusted with the task of restoring these balances and guarding the public credit, have reached the closing hours of their terms of office, it is just and expedient, from a business standpoint, that due inquiry be made into their conduct of affairs, in order that the taxpayer of Salem may know whether, or not, the trust then imposed has been honestly and successfully discharged.

There is but one source of information on this head, and that is the records of the city; but it is not enough to take from these books the details of the operations of the present council, for from such a statement alone, the interested citizen could draw no parallel by which to prove that the work of the present incumbents was any improvement over that of their predecessors, and hence, a comparative presentation has been made and submitted to the Statesman (with request for publication), as between the totals left by the administration of 1897-1898 and the results obtained from the administration about to close. And in this behalf, the following figures taken directly from the public records of the city, are here appended.

WARRANT INDEBTEDNESS.

For 1897.....	\$27,922 33
For 1898.....	20,777 39
Total, 1897-8.....	\$48,699 72

Deducting from this total the City Hall expense, as an item with which the then council cannot be justly charged.....

9,804 13

Leaves a total warrant expense for 1897-8 of.....

\$38,895 59	
For 1899.....	16,987 00
For 1900.....	15,124 57
Total, 1899-1900.....	\$32,111 57

Deducting from this total the small-box expense of 1899, as an item of expense with which this council cannot be justly charged.....

2,300 00

Leaves a total warrant expense for 1899-1900 of.....

\$29,811 57

Or a direct saving in current expense in favor of the present administration, of.....

9,084 02

CASH REVENUES, RECORDER'S OFFICE.

For 1897.....	\$ 6,738 30
For 1898.....	7,654 07
Total, 1897-98.....	\$14,392 37

For 1899.....

8,908 00

For 1900.....

11,813 39

* Total, 1899-1900.....

\$20,721 39

Excess of cash receipts to credit of present administration.....

\$ 6,329 02

FLOATING INDEBTEDNESS.

Warrants out when this council took hold of the city government, (approximately).....

\$23,040 00

Warrants out and uncalled by the treasurer, up to Dec. 1, 1900.....

4,380 00

CRIMINAL COST BILLS:

YEARS.	No. Cases	Recorder's Fees	Marshal's Fees	Fines Paid	Net Cost
1897.....	146	\$ 385 65	\$ 237 95	\$ 20 00	\$1463 60
1898.....	123	\$ 323 85	\$ 204 55	\$ 47 20	\$1911 20
Totals.....	269	\$ 709 50	\$ 442 50	\$ 67 20	\$3374 80
1899.....	28	\$ 236 80	\$ 112 70	\$ 270 60	\$ 49 50
1900.....	29	\$ 188 00	\$ 88 40	\$ 35 00	\$ 231 40
Totals.....	57	\$ 424 80	\$ 201 10	\$ 305 60	\$ 480 90

RECAPITULATION.

1897-1898, total fees drawn by Recorder and Marshal.....

\$ 3,552 00

1897-1898, total fines and forfeitures returned.....

77 20

1897-1898, net cost.....

\$ 3,474 80

1899-1900, total fees drawn by said officers.....

\$ 905 90

1899-1900, total fines and forfeitures returned.....

395 00

1899-1900, net cost.....

\$ 510 90

Amount to credit of present administration.....

\$ 3,173 70

ITEMS OF MONEYS SAVED TO THE TAXPAYERS BY THE PRESENT COUNCIL:

Decrease in warrant expense.....

\$ 9,084 02

Increase in cash receipts.....

6,329 02

Interest charges saved by reduction from 8 per cent. to 4 per cent. on the floating debt, for 15 months, by the issuance of the home-loan bonds.....

3,250 00

Decrease in fees of Marshal and Recorder in the matter of criminal cost bills drawn from the County Court.....

3,173 70

Total of moneys saved, directly and indirectly, in the past two years.....

\$21,836 74

*Included in this total is the sum of \$2,875, received from the sale of the block of land to the United States Government. This is treated as a direct cash asset because it was employed in abating the general warrant indebtedness of this city.

†This sum of \$965.00, drawn from the county treasury, was turned into the city treasury and did not cease to

be an asset of the tax payers of the city.

THE POPULAR TWO-SHADES.

Both French and English milliners make great use of folded velvets in two colors of two distinct shades of one color on their most fashionable models. Some of the hats are demure little affairs in two shades of gray with a soft low crown of cream-white velvet. The brims of all the new hats are, this season, the objective point for the greatest decoration, and folds and draperies of silk or velvet, large, fluffy ostrich plumes, huge velvet poppies, roses, orchids, etc., are arranged over the entire brim of the hat in the most picturesque fashion. Round hats of plain black taffeta, somewhat in broadened sailor shape, are tucked all over in standing rows, bound with velvet or piped with color. Velvet in shade of violet dahlia, vert Russe, vieux rose, black and green is similarly used, with crowns of tulle, heavy white silk brocaded with shaded roses and foliage; or there is a garniture of black net with cream applique figures forming a brim decoration of folds, loops and choix. Shades of rich yellow see in the assortment are used for relieving the dense effect of some of the handsome black velvet hats, with a repetition of the color at the neck and waist of the smart black tailor costumes.

NEW SCHOOL BOOKS

COMMISSION TO BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR

To Select Text Books—Many Recommendations Received for Members of the Board.

(From Daily Statesman, Nov. 17.)

At the time draws nearer when Gov. T. T. Geer will be compelled to appoint a text book commission, letters are beginning to come in, urging prominent educators and others for members of the commission. Among these persons recommended educators, of course, predominate, though others are named for appointment. Among the latest ones recommended are:

Prof. E. D. Resdler, city superintendent of the Eugene schools, who is recommended, by E. Schwarzschild, of Eugene.

Mrs. Nora T. Burney, of Portland, by Hon. Chas. B. Moores, of Oregon City.

Hon. George H. Durham, of Portland, recommended in a strong letter to Governor Geer by Senator William Smith, of Baker county. The fact of Senator Smith's unswerving Democracy, and Mr. Durham's well-known Republicanism, makes the suggestion doubly of weight.

Other recommendations made were: Professor C. A. Hitchcock, principal of the public school at Ashland for some years, and prior to that time in a like position at Independence. He was recommended without his knowledge by Speaker E. V. Carter, of Ashland.

W. Wright, of Canyonville, Douglas county, recommended by ex-Judge J. C. Fullerton, Senator Marsters and a numerous signed petition from Douglas and Jackson counties. Mr. Wright's letter shows him to be a complete master of penmanship in theory and practice.

F. B. Hamlin, of Roseburg, Superintendent of School for Douglas county and First Lieutenant in Company B, Second Oregon Volunteers, recommended by Representative R. A. Emmit, of Keno.

W. H. Barry, of Portland, a member of the Multnomah Typographical Union, who is recommended by the Federated Trades Assembly, J. A. Peshman, president, and A. A. Bailey, secretary; also by the Multnomah Typographical Union, T. L. Johnson, president, and W. D. Torrey, secretary. His appointment is urged as a representative of the working classes.

Professor W. H. Stalker, principal of the Baker City public schools for some years, recommended by J. A. Churchill, City Superintendent at Baker City; Marvin F. Davis, Postmaster at Union; C. H. Chapman, former president of the State University.

The Oregon Teachers' Monthly, for November, in discussing the proposition, has the following article:

"The book commission which is to be appointed by the Governor in January is an all important topic of interest to the educational forces of the state. It may be a difficult matter to find suitable persons who are willing to serve on this commission because, no matter how honest and conscientious these persons may be, they will probably be criticized and accused of being in league with book trusts. The members of this commission should be above criticism and suspicion, and should be thoroughly competent to perform the task before them. We firmly believe that the majority of the commission should be prominent educators of the state who have made the schools and school text books a study. Is it not reasonable to think that teachers would be better qualified to select good school books than any other class of citizens? Not many farmers would want the average teacher, preacher, or lawyer to select a team of horses for them or their farming implements, and there are good reasons why they should not. No physician would want a teacher or farmer, no matter how intelligent, to fill his prescriptions or select his surgical instruments for him. No mechanic would allow anyone outside his own trade to select the tools he is to work with. So it ought to be with the teacher. He has the interest of the schools more at heart than any other class and why should he not have the selection of the books with which he is to accomplish the most good in the work of making honest and intelligent citizens of the children of the state? It is to be most sincerely hoped that, at least, three of this commission will be teachers. In October we gave a list of names all of whom we believe thoroughly competent to perform the work of the commission with honesty and integrity. We have in mind others who would be no less diligent and conscientious in the performance of that duty if appointed. They are: Prof. C. A. Hitchcock, city superintendent of the Ashland public schools;



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Miss Lovetta Smith, of the training department of the State Normal school at Monmouth; Prof. D. A. Grant, principal of the Park school, Portland; Mrs. A. E. Ivanhoe, of the La Grande public schools; and Hon. L. B. Resdler, of Pendleton. We could trust the selection of school books in the hands of these people and feel that only such books as were worthy and suitable would be selected."

THE DEWEY ARCH.

Workmen Remove the Structure While Relic Hunters Hang About.

NEW YORK, Nov. 16.—A dozen men with pickaxes, crowbars and shovels, appeared at Madison Square at midnight to begin the work of removing the Dewey arch. In a few minutes the laborers pulled away the heavy coating of staff around the base of the pedestal situated on the Park side, near Twenty-fifth street. A crowd collected around the men. Relic-hunters by the score appeared, and each sought to obtain some section of the sculptured figure of "Victory," which ornaments the front of all the columns.

The skeleton of the column was laid bare in a few minutes, and the wood-work was torn apart and laid on the sidewalk. The work was done under the direction of a foreman of the Department of Streets and Highways.

A PROSPEROUS CONDITION. Receipts of the Government Exceed the Expenditures.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16.—At a Cabinet meeting today Secretary Gage announced his estimate, complete, would show an excess of receipts over expenditures, for the present fiscal year, of \$80,000,000, and an excess of receipts for the fiscal year ending July 1, 1902, of \$30,000,000.

REMARKABLE LAPSE.

The recent terrible accident on the S. P. railroad can, it seems, be ascribed to no other cause than that of carelessness. Of course, all humanity is prone to err, and it is not so strange that a man could make the mistake that Conductor Cloyd did, but that Engineer Drennan should be similarly afflicted with lapse of memory of the fact that they were running against a regular train almost passes comprehension. The injured engineer should be able to give some further explanation if he recovers sufficiently. We are told that only a few days before this accident, a similar one was narrowly averted near Grants Pass. A south bound freight started out from Grants Pass and met another only a few miles up the track. It happened that the trains met where it was possible to stop before the collision took place. This occurrence, in connection with the terrible accident a few days later, would seem to indicate that criminal recklessness is not so rare among train crews as it might be. It is, only fair, however, to mention a recent change in the time card, which could easily cause confusion in the minds of those accustomed to the old one, and that to men who, like the trainmen, work at all hours of the day and night it is a much easier matter to mistake the days of the week than the general public realizes.—Grants Pass Courier.

THREE MILLIONS.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Nov. 16.—The steamer Mariposa, which arrived today from Australia, brought \$3,000,000 in gold.

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