

ATTEMPT TO CROISANIZE SCHOOL BOARD FAILS

Director Croisan of the School Board Awards Contract Without Authority and is Accused of "Paying a Damnable Political Debt"

What appears to be a somewhat bold and bald-faced attempt to Croisanize the Salem school board and to pay political debts out of the educational fund, has cropped out in the school affairs of Salem and bids fair to fail.

The trouble is over a contract for the laying of a cement floor in the North Salem school that was let by Mr. Croisan, a member of the board, who acted on his own hook and without any authority from either the board or the committee that had the matter in charge.

Mr. Croisan is a member of the school board; but is not, and never was a member of the committee to which was referred the North Salem school business.

As a result, Gus Kerberker, said to be a political follower for Croisan, has gone ahead and has practically completed the cement work and no contract has ever been awarded except by Mr. Croisan.

"The whole story is that it is some more of Ed Croisan's methods of paying a damnable political debt, and I for one will not stand for it," said Dr. H. C. Epley, one of the members of the board this morning; "and furthermore, the work is a rotten botch job and will have to be taken up and done over."

"I am chairman of the committee," said A. A. Lee, of the school board, and Mr. Smith is the other member, and I will not stand for this kind of business. Mr. Croisan is not a member of the committee and has never had any authority to take any action in the matter."

Some time ago the school board decided to pave the basement of the North Salem school with cement and Lee and Smith were appointed a committee to ask for bids. Two bids were received, one from Mr. Kerberker, whose bid was 10 1/4 cents per square foot, and the other was

from another firm offering to do the work for the lump sum of \$575.

Those bids were handed in some time prior to the meeting that was to have been held ten days ago. In the meantime, Dr. W. H. Byrd met Mr. Croisan on the street and absent-mindedly told him he thought that he was a member of that committee, and he should look into the paving matter. Mr. Croisan called on Mr. Lee and was told that he was no member, but Mr. Lee said that he was willing to be courteous, and went over the bids and plans with Croisan. The matter was to have come up at the regular meeting Saturday night, ten days ago. There was no meeting that night.

The bids being framed differently, the committee had not decided what to do and had informed Kerberker that he must measure up the job and put in a bid for a stipulated amount. He made his calculations and presented a new bid to Mr. Croisan, who last Sunday a week ago, gave him the contract, or at least told him to go ahead and do the work.

Mr. Kerberker went to work and the job is nearly complete.

The board held a special meeting last Saturday night to elect teachers to fill vacancies and just before adjournment, Dr. Epley asked the question: "What about the North Salem school cement floor?"

"I gave him the contract," said Mr. Croisan; he was the lowest bidder."

Somebody made a motion to adjourn, which carried and oil was poured on the troubled waters for the time being.

The next regular meeting of the board will be held Saturday night and the indications are there will be troublous times.

The board is composed of Dr. W. H. Byrd, Ed Croisan, A. A. Lee, Dr. H. C. Epley and Hamlin Smith.

MORE DOORS CLOSE

Real Estate Trust Company Flooded With Forged Papers; Totalling Millions

Philadelphia, Aug. 28.—The real estate trust company closed its doors this afternoon. It is rumored there are forged papers of from \$1,000,000 to \$10,000,000 in circulation. The clearing house association met to confer over the situation. It is believed it will tide the company over its difficulties.

Frank Whipple, president of the company, died Sunday. When the failure was announced a great crowd of depositors gathered. City brokers pledged enough to cover deposits. The company was chartered in 1885. The paid up capital was \$1,500,000, and the deposits close to \$4,500,000. It held in trust funds to the amount of about \$26,500,000, of which all but about \$300,000 were invested.

R. R. Bill Goes into Effect.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 28.—The railroad rate bill, which was approved by President Roosevelt on June 29, went into effect today. Although the railroads have been granted an extension of time for the enforcement of some of the provisions of the law, the companies have found it quite convenient to enforce the provision which prohibits the issuing of free passes and terminates the validity of those already issued. After today the railroads will refuse to acknowledge the validity of passes over any of their lines.

The railroads have raised a great many objections to some of the provisions of the new law and if all their demands for changes in the law, or at least, temporary non-enforcement of certain provisions should be granted it would leave the conditions practically as they were before the rate law was passed. The only feature which the railroads were prompt to accept was the pass feature. As the passes issued by the railroad companies are usually issued to January 1, and are supposed to be valid until the end of the year, it was believed that the law against passes would not be enforced until Jan. 1, of next year. But the abolition of passes meant money into the pockets of the railroads and, for that reason they could not see any good reason to delay the enforcement of that feature. At the same time, some of the western railroads pretend that they are opposed to this particular feature, giving as their reason, that under the new law it will be impossible for them to issue passes to land agents and prospective land buyers in the sparsely settled districts of the west and that result would be great delay in the settling of those districts.

The enforcement of the new law will undoubtedly lead to a large number of complaints and law suits started for the purpose of testing the validity of certain provisions of the law. Many such complaints are already in the hands of the interstate commerce commission and will be considered with the greatest possible speed. Many of these complaints involve demands for the lowering of rate charges and these will be taken up and disposed first. The Pennsylvania railroad will probably bring the first case to test the validity of the law before the courts. It is understood that the first question to be tested will be whether the initial carrier shall be held responsible for damage or loss to the shipper.

Of Interest to Sick People.

We have all the sympathy in the world for sick people, and want to treat them in a serious way. There is no humor in pain and affliction, but hard earnest fact. It is impossible for the patient to impress on others the extent of suffering they endure, and their anxiety for relief. To get well or be relieved is their one thought. Any remedy that will bring this about has their everlasting gratitude. We have, thousands of letters from people who have had dyspepsia, sick headache and bilious attacks, who tell us how thankful they were for having used Dr. Gunn's Improved Liver Pills. They are sold at all drug stores for 25c per box. Only one for a dose. These pills remove the cause of disease and make the skin clear and healthy looking.

BRYAN CANNOT DICTATE

Boston, Aug. 28.—John B. Moran refused to permit Bryan to decide whether he will be a candidate for governor. He says he is a candidate if chosen by the party.

An Alarm Thermometer.

A novel and what appears to be a very useful thermometer is in the market for the use of hop and prune growers. The contrivance is made of two plates of different metals that expand in different degrees under the influence of heat. It is so arranged so that when the temperature of the room gets a few degrees above the regulation the machine sounds an alarm bell. It is the same when the temperature falls.

Death for Death.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 28.—A society known as the "death for death," has been formed here and has published notices that it will kill a revolutionist leader for every victim of the terrorists. It has signed its warnings with a skull and cross bones.

County Judge Scott today appointed Ida G. Sawyer administratrix of the estate of the late W. S. Sawyer. Mrs. Jennie Anderson was appointed guardian of the person and estate of Henrietta Holverson, by the county judge today.

IS ONLY ANOTHER CRANK

Edmund Scribner Stevens, Ph. D., "great Bible scholar and chronologist," as his card puts it, now of Washington but formerly of Lebanon, Pa., predicts more disastrous earthquakes and says the end of the world will come in 1982. This is the explanation he gives of conditions:

"The earth is out of her place or upright position. It is gradually returning it. Whenever there is an accelerated or faster motion, in that period earthquakes occur. We are now in one of those periods, from Mount Pelee, 1900, to 1915, again from 1925 to 1946, again from 1965 to 2000 A. D. In 1982 the earthquake is to be of such extent that all the cities of all nations will fall. From 2025 to 3141 A. D. the earth is in continual perturbation and in the latter year settles to its upright position.

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All Oregon Will Be at the STATE FAIR For 1906.

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In both quality and quantity of exhibits, and in every other way, it will be the greatest State Fair in the history of Oregon. Never before was there such widespread interest in this institution. A visit to the State Fair of 1906 will be a liberal education. It will show you what Oregon has done, and, more important, it will point the way to the magnificent possibilities of the future. No one can afford to miss the Oregon State Fair for 1906. Few patriotic people who can spare the time will miss it.