

THE BEST NEWSPAPER

The Daily Capital Journal

THE LARGEST CIRCULATION

THIRTY-SIXTH YEAR.

SALEM, OREGON, TUESDAY, MAY 27, 1913.

PRICE, TWO CENTS. ON TRAINS AND NEWS STANDS, FIFTH CENTS.

A PAVING COMBINE THAT LASTED QUICK

August Kehrberger Tells of His Experience in the Little Deal.

DID NOT STAND BY TERMS

His Statement Would Indicate He Got What Politicians Call the Double-Cross.

A paving combine which, had it not been broken up by a conflict among the members, would have assumed sufficient proportion to practically abolish competition in this city, was framed and placed into execution a short time ago by three leading paving contractors of this city, namely: W. D. Pugh, Arenz & Co., and August Kehrberger, the latter, as will be seen by the following, being made the goat of the proposition or, at least, he thinks so, by reason of an attempt made to double-cross him on one of the largest paving contracts ever let in the city which it was understood that Mr. Kehrberger should have.

It happened thusly: The three contractors held a meeting and at that meeting it was decided to consolidate the firms in a fashion, pooling their business, while at the same time each contractor was to be sole operator of his business and the contracts were to be awarded by lot. In fact, the game was to be conducted upon the same style as is a lottery; draw your number and accept your contract.

The Game Is On.

After arriving at this agreement, the members proceeded to put the plan in operation. Three pieces of paper were cut and upon one was written North Commercial, upon another Twenty-first street, and upon the last, Chemecheta street, and these were all placed in a hat. The head piece was poised above Mr. Kehrberger's head and he drew North Commercial street; Mr. Pugh drew Chemecheta street, while Arenz & Co. drew Twenty-first street. So, it was decided that the holders of the different papers bearing the names of the streets were to have the privilege of bidding upon the contract without any interference upon the part of a second or third party in the combine, their bids to be put in higher than that of the winner.

Hardly a week followed when the auction which broke up the combine occurred, and it occurred through one member besides Mr. Kehrberger bidding upon the North Commercial contract. Mr. Kehrberger not only failed to have the privilege of submitting the only bid, or the lowest bid as a member of the combination, but did not get the contract by \$1000 on account of the Arenz company coming in and underbidding him.

Arenz & Co. Also Falls.

The combine, however, failed to take into consideration another contractor who was laying on the outside and waiting to step in and take the plum away from them. Although Arenz & Co. defeated Mr. Kehrberger by large figures, the Geiger Construction company, at the last moment, submitted a bid on the North Commercial street job by messenger to the city council and received the contract. The newcomer's bid was far lower than either Arenz & Co. or Mr. Kehrberger.

The members of the proposed combine had no idea that the Geiger firm was in the city, nor was that company within four miles of Salem when it concluded to enter the contest for the contract. While the combine was dickering to land each of the three streets, Mr. Geiger was in the east. He heard of the North Commercial job and knowing it to be a good one, immediately started for Salem. He arrived at his father-in-law's farm north of Salem and proceeded to figure also. While the bids were being opened at the city hall, the Geiger bid was brought in by a messenger boy and accepted by the council as the lowest among those submitted.

Combine No More.

There is no more paving combine insofar as Kehrberger is concerned. He declares that he acted in good faith with the other contractors in the consolidation, but after finding himself double-crossed by one of the members, he dropped the whole proposition and intends to hoe his own row hereafter irrespective of what offers are tendered him. Mr. Kehrberger declares that

(Continued on page four.)

Had a Close Call.

Lafayette, Or., May 27.—While seeing how near they could row their boat to the brink of the dam in the government locks here Fay Caughtry and Essel Griner, two boys, were swept over the falls, narrowly escaping drowning. Neither could swim, but they clung to the overturned boat until carried ashore.

ENGINEER IS OFF, SAY PROPERTY MEN

Committee Named to Assist in Checking Over Figures Assailed by Marion Taxpayers.

The city council last evening received a protest from property owners on Marion street in regard to the work being done on curbs. It was asserted by the property owners that the engineer's figures were off and the alleys had been located from one to two feet out of line. Complaints were made in regard to blocks 24, 29, 30 and 51. If the curbs are located as planned, they would be an eyesore, it was asserted.

After some discussion, the city engineer was called upon and told of having checked over the work of his assistants following a complaint made Saturday. He insisted that the measurements checked out exactly.

Attorney Pogue, who said he had for three years worked with a railroad surveying crew, argued in behalf of the property owners. He insisted that the survey of the curbs was off and told of the result of his measurements. He found that on block 24 the alley was surveyed a foot off.

In reply to a remark by Engineer Tillman, Attorney Pogue stated that he was no more likely to be mistaken than the school boys you have at work.

Cross-Examines Engineer.

The attorney cross-examined Tillman at some length as to the methods employed in surveying the street and especially as to the point he took as the base. He believed the city should appoint another engineer to check up.

The statement was made that in block 51 thousands of dollars in property would be affected if the engineer's survey is correct.

It was finally decided to have a committee of property owners, consisting of Pogue and two others and Southwick, Rigdon and Cummings act for the council. Mayor Steeves suggested to Pogue that the property owners have an engineer on hand to aid them in the work today. Turner suggested that the committee report at 7 o'clock this morning and Macy got back at him by recommending that Turner act as call-boy.

Bids Are Opened.

Bids for the new reinforced concrete bridge, to be located on Liberty street, were opened and E. Van Patton had the lowest. The following is a list of the bids: Oregon Bridge & Construction company, \$6360; S. Johnson, \$5,841.32; R. S. Meith, \$5980, and extras, \$24; Consolidated Construction company, \$5709; E. I. Canine, \$5749, and extras for additional work; E. A. Erickson, \$5983; E. Van Patton, \$5,351.50; A. C. Ulberry, \$6400; Otis Kinon, \$5774. The bids were referred to a committee.

Engineer Tillman furnished an estimate of \$6332.50 on the Geiger Construction company's work on North Commercial street. The company is entitled to 75 per cent of it, the engineer stated.

A Kehrberger's bid of \$5161.96 was declared the lowest on Eighteenth street and the contract was awarded to him.

Plans and specifications for the improvement of North Sixth street from Hood street to the south line of South street were submitted.

Plans for a proposed change of grade on Market street were also submitted.

Is Coming Home.

Mrs. M. P. Baldwin, who has been touring Europe in company with her daughter, Miss Gaysell, will return either this afternoon or tomorrow morning. Mrs. Baldwin and her daughter have been gone two years. Miss Baldwin will remain in Berlin where she will study music for the next three years. Mr. Baldwin is the well known local agent for the Oregon City Transportation company.

SKAIFE AND HATCH TAKE RESPONSIBILITY

Say Mr. Stolz Was Not Responsible for Leaving Dirt on Church and Union.

NOT IN COUNCIL THEN

Councilman Hatch Says People on Street Claimed Dirt, and Objected to Its Removal.

Councilman Skaife, aided by Councilman Hatch, last evening furnished an alibi for Councilman Stolz in the matter of dirt being left on Church street by the Jahn Construction company, and on Union street by the P. E. & E. railway. During the discussion Councilman Stolz added to the hilarity of the occasion by having an article in yesterday's Capital Journal, assailing Stolz and the council read by Recorder Flign. The audience roared with delight at each thrust of the colonel, and when it came to the close, where the belief was expressed that carelessness and dampfoolishness, rather than dishonesty, were responsible, even with the exception of Stolz and a few others, was convulsed with mirth. Skaife admitted in assuming responsibility that the article was correct, but his name should have appeared instead of that of Stolz, as the matter came up last year, when Stolz was not in the council. Skaife said he had Engineer Switzer attend to the matter and the latter had not done so.

Committee Named

The discussion started after a petition was read from Church and Union street property owners requesting that a committee of six be named to estimate the amount of dirt left by the P. E. & E. and the Jahn Construction company on the streets. Mayor Steeves later in the meeting named the first six petitioners, Fisher, Johnson, Hill, Gray, Rutherford and Wood as the committee.

Hatch was the first man at bat after the petition was read. He explained that when the Jahn Construction company completed the contract, it was not allowed to move the dirt. The P. E. & E. later on wanted the dirt and Hatch as chairman of the street committee, told the company to take it away. After the company started to remove the dirt, property owners kicked and he stopped the company. The property owners said they wanted it. Now the property owners come back and want the dirt removed.

Stolz Feels Like Using Club.

Stolz arose to a point of special privilege and attacked an article in the Capital Journal last evening. He said said it all happened while he was out of the council and he charged that an attempt was being made to saddle on him all the sins or mistakes of the past. "Why jump on me because I am 68 and can't do down to the Capital Journal office with a club," he said. "My patience is about exhausted." He intimated that someone was paying for the article.

Skaife said he had acted in good faith in the matter. If he had done wrong it was because he put his faith in a man and he had deceived him. Stolz thought the city attorney should be on the committee. Removal of dirt might mean a change of grade and serious complications might arise. He denied that he favored gravel concrete and said he favored four-inch concrete with an inch and a half or two inches of wearing surface.

Both May Die.

Portland, Ore., May 27.—When Royal Marsh, aged 7, and Lawrence, his brother, aged 9, placed dynamite caps on top of a stove in their parents' home at Milwaukie, a suburb, today "to hear them pop," both were perhaps fatally injured by the resultant explosion.

More Suits Against Trust.

Washington, May 27.—A number of new suits are soon to be filed against the so-called anthracite coal trust for alleged violations of the Sherman anti-trust law, according to announcement here today by Attorney-General McReynolds. No details were obtainable.

Big Lumber Man Quits.

Aberdeen, Wash., May 27.—A. L. Paine, of the National Lumber & Box Company, has today announced his resignation. Paine is one of the best known lumber men in the Northwest. He will take up his residence in California after the first of next year.

It's a Wise Moonshiner that Knows when to Keep Still.

It's a wise moonshiner that knows when to keep still.

AUSTRALIAN BEEF KNOCKS THE PRICE

A Deluge of Livestock Deflected From the California Markets.

POURED INTO PORTLAND

Prices Go Tumbling and Consumers Get Benefit of Prices Made by Importation.

Portland, Or., May 27.—As a result of the pouring into the local market of great herds of California, Montana, Utah, Idaho and local cattle, caused by the importation of fresh beef from Australia by California interests there was a severe slump of values of livestock at North Portland yards today. During the last 24 hours the price of cattle here has broken fully 77 cents per hundred pounds, this being the greatest decline for a like period this season and one of the greatest ever known here and there are indications of a continuation of this condition.

Up to this time the Portland livestock market has been the strongest in the entire country but the record prices in effect here together with the importation of the foreign beef by the southern cities, has caused a general stampede of California and other southwestern cattle into the local market.

Cattle interests here are very much depressed as a result of this avalanche of prices. Consumers will be the only ones to benefit as a result of the importations of foreign beef, but it has been many a month since the public has had an opportunity to taste real beef and the lowering of prices here will be the signal for much joy. Fresh beef prices invariably follow the lead of the livestock market.

Jack Clements Hurt.

Newport, Ore., May 27.—Jack Clements, formerly of Salem, who is leading the orchestra in the Casino dancing pavilion here, and who was one of a crowd returning from a ball game at Toledo on the launch Arrow Sunday, nearly lost his right arm by coming in contact with the boat's engine.

Four Trainmen Killed.

Kansas City, Mo., May 27.—Four trainmen met death today near California, Mo., as the result of a collision of two Missouri Pacific trains. Two others were seriously injured and another is missing.

China May Split.

London, May 27.—A new revolution in China with the possibility that the country may split into two parts, is predicted by dispatches received today by the Daily Telegraph from its Peking correspondent. These cables say that a new decree is to be launched this week by President Yuan Shi Kai looking to constitutional government in the north of China which may cause that section to revolt. The north is said to be still solid for the old monarchical regime, while the south, where Yuan Shi Kai is strong, is set for provincial autonomy under a central parliamentary control.

MATLOCK IS SORE AND MAKES INSINUATIONS

Most of Which Are Probably Due to Anger, and Without Foundation.

CHIEF IS ALSO ANGRY

And Makes Remarks About Councilmen That Are Also to Be Taken With Some Salt.

Walking up to Night Officer O. N. Matlock last night armed with a complaint drawn up by City Attorney Page, in which the patrolman is charged with conduct unbecoming an officer, Chief of Police Shedeck relieved Matlock of his star and informed him that he will insist that the council dismiss him permanently.

Thus opens what will be later termed a scorching scandal if the deposed officer's statements made after the occurrence last night are dependable, and one which will include in it several policemen. Immediately after being approached by Chief Shedeck, Mr. Matlock engaged the services of Attorney Grant Corby, and he made the statement that he will fight the chief in this matter to the very last ditch. Matlock declared that the chief of police dismissed him simply for the reason he "had it in for him (Matlock) and did not want him on the force in the first place."

Indirectly Hints at a Graft. Mr. Matlock told a Journal representative last night that he knows that the police have been receiving "hush money" from certain disreputable people in this city and he named some of the instances. He said that some one tipped off a plan which had been made to raid a certain gambling house recently. Matlock asserts that the mayor, Mrs. Lynch, himself and two other officers including the chief of police had the raid all framed up and were going to execute it on the following night. Two immoral women, he declares, were playing their trade in the rooming house and when the officers made the raid, they could find no trace of them. Someone had acted as informer for the girls and they made good their escape a short time before the officers arrived. Matlock was asked if the chief of police was responsible for the failure of the raid and he declared that if it was not the chief, it was some other officer.

"What leads you to believe it might have been the chief?" Matlock was asked. "Well," he answered, "I don't know of any one else who knew anything about the proposed raid, and I can't figure out any one else who would pull off such a stunt."

"Why were these girls not arrested before?" the ex-officer was asked. "I don't know unless they were giving the officers hush money to let them run their business as they saw fit," declared Matlock. "I know I never got any hush money and I found it impossible to arrest them as every time I made an attempt, something happened that the women got away before I could do a thing."

"This is not the only case, either," stated Matlock. "I have reported many cases where houses of ill-fame were being operated in Salem, but the chief of police would not take any action. Why? You can search me unless what I have just said before is true. Maybe the chief is not responsible, but I want to tell you one thing, he could at least make some investigations himself and find out why the cases I reported were not brought into court."

"Here is another little instance," continued Matlock, "which appeared at the time quite funny to me. All preparations had been made to raid a certain hotel here; I won't mention the name right now at least. I and Mrs. Lynch were supposed to remain in a room facing the room in the hotel in which three people were immorally conducting themselves. It would have been a cinch to have secured all the evidence necessary and then arrest the bunch. What did the chief of police do but take me away from the position and locate me where I could not see a thing and then call the raid off."

Chief Indignant. "I won't have any patrolmen on my force who resorts to tactics in carrying out his duties," said Chief of Police Shedeck after he had relieved Matlock of his star. "What kind of an officer

ROUTINE BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Matlock Case Taken Up and Committee Appointed to Investigate—Much Other Business Done

Following a report of Chief of Police Shedeck, charging Special Officer O. M. Matlock with assaulting Emil Greiber, Peter Greiber and Ed Elling and stating that Matlock has been suspended pending an investigation, Mayor Steeves and Councilmen Rigdon and Siegmund were named as a committee to investigate the charges. During the discussion it was pointed out by Jones that the mayor had the power to proceed in the case and take such action as he saw fit. Attorney Corby, who appeared for Matlock, questioned the right of the chief of police to suspend Matlock. He believed that Matlock was still an officer in the eyes of the law. Mayor Steeves cleared this point to some extent by the statement that the chief of police had taken the proper action in suspending Matlock. The mayor did not want this statement to mean that he would not reinstate Matlock if he cleared himself of the charges.

Macy read from the charter a clause which told of the power of the chief of police to suspend a man. Chief Shedeck explained that Matlock had been suspended until Wednesday, when his trial was scheduled.

Fireman Accused.

A committee consisting of Macy, Waring and Turner, was named to investigate charges against Walter Churchill, a fireman, who, it was asserted, was drunk and disorderly on May 20.

A request that their names be struck from a remonstrance against paving was submitted by J. F. Fleming and several other residents of South High street.

An ordinance regulating electric signs and providing that in order that they shall remain in place they must be lighted from dusk until 10 p. m., was introduced and given second reading. It is aimed to prevent fake electric signs being struck across the street and never lighted. Fines of \$5 to \$20 or imprisonment of 2 to 10 days is provided.

An ordinance changing the name of Madison street, in Burlington addition, to Twentieth street, was passed.

An ordinance knocking the interest off the improvement assessment of Chas. F. Parmenter, amounting to \$275.36, was referred to the ordinance committee.

A petition in regard to retaining walls included in Division street improvement was referred.

Socialist Request. A petition of the Salem local of Socialists that the council pass an ordinance providing that no one shall be arrested for being without funds or work was referred to the ordinance committee. The local expressed the opinion that it was no crime to be out of funds or work.

McNary & Winslow presented a bill of \$115 for services in the case of Howard against Irwin. The latter was in charge of a chain gang, and shot Howard in the foot while he was trying to escape. The council upheld Irwin as policeman and he was sued for damages. The plaintiff got a verdict for \$1.

China May Split.

London, May 27.—A new revolution in China with the possibility that the country may split into two parts, is predicted by dispatches received today by the Daily Telegraph from its Peking correspondent. These cables say that a new decree is to be launched this week by President Yuan Shi Kai looking to constitutional government in the north of China which may cause that section to revolt. The north is said to be still solid for the old monarchical regime, while the south, where Yuan Shi Kai is strong, is set for provincial autonomy under a central parliamentary control.

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(Continued on Page Five.)

SOME OBJECTIONS TO CONCRETE PAVING

We believe Salem is making a serious mistake in her street paving, in that she is, as a general thing, using concrete, and concrete, The Capital Journal believes, is the poorest of all paving materials. There are several reasons for this belief. The first might be called just "general principles." It does not believe concrete is a lasting pavement, for the reason that it is not calculated to stand wear, having no binding material, such as asphalt, for instance, in its make-up. It is composed, that is good concrete, of gravel, or crushed rock, sand and cement, the proportions varying somewhat. From its nature it is bound to wear out rapidly. Every wagon passing over it, breaks little portions of the cement or sand, and, there being no binding material, this is swept away, or becomes dust. In a little while, a gravel is loosened and thrown out on the top of the street. This, in turn, when struck by a wagon, is ground down into the paving, loosening more material, and at the same time lifts the wagon slightly, giving additional grinding power as it drops off it onto the pavement, the striking force being added to the weight. Of course, this wear, especially while the street is new, is slight, but it is there, and in a little while becomes quite noticeable. Then, when the least depression is made, so that the wagons have a slight drop, the wear becomes more rapid at that point, and a "chuck hole" soon results. Every grain of sand loosened, every bit of cement or gravel broken from the pavement is lost to it forever. Now this condition exists, even with the very best of concrete materials. It is increased in a sort of arithmetical progression as the concrete shades off from good to poor and still poorer, until it gets into the class in which some, at least, of the Salem concrete is, most decidedly bad. With sand of poor quality and cement of the same character, about the poorest excuse for a paved street possible is the result. Another reason why we object to concrete, is the larger cities that have tried it for a few years have abandoned, or are abandoning it, for the reason that it has not the wearing qualities, the lasting qualities that pavements with asphalt as an ingredient have. Detroit, Michigan, tried concrete quite extensively, yet has now turned it down after a fair trial, as not filling the bill. The concrete, now condemned by Detroit, was of the very best quality, too, being laid of the very best materials, and costing \$2.35 a square yard. If that kind of concrete will not stand the traffic, what can we hope of a concrete costing 90 cents a yard?

Another objection we have to the concrete used here is the quality. We do not pretend to be experts on concrete, nor do we think it necessary to be very expert to be dissatisfied with the character of concrete paving generally in the Northwest, Salem included. We have it from what we consider a reliable authority that the material, FIRST-CLASS MATERIAL, for making concrete pavement, cannot be laid down on Salem streets ready for mixing, at less than \$1.35 per square yard. If this is true, how can paving be laid for 90 cents, if the materials are what they should be? Either we have been misinformed as to prices, or the materials used in Salem street paving are not first-class.

Again we object to cement as a paving, because it is not chosen by Salem people for its quality, its stability, its wearing or lasting qualities or for any reason whatever, other than its cheapness. Salem has gone paving mad, and whenever the epidemic seems to be in a measure dying out, Gideon bites some one, inoculates him with cement rabies, and he, in turn, bites his neighbors and they others, until the community is infected with it. Gid is always around with a new kind of serum, in the way of mixing ingredients, or something of that kind, that he assures them makes the virus harmless and the concrete all right. He is much like the remedy for smallpox, letting you off through vaccination with a mild form of varioloid, so to speak, in the shape of concrete that won't last so long or mark one's pocketbook so deeply as more costly pavements.

Paving can be forced on property owners, and they know it. They are exposed to the disease all the time, and hence try to get it as mild a form as possible, hence adopt concrete, without knowing or caring anything about it, knowing and caring only for the fact that when they recover Gid's concrete treatment will make them immune for ten years, at least. Naturally, a paving material selected under such circumstances is not the best, it is only the cheapest, and adopted as a make-shift. We object to concrete for other reasons, and many of them, which will be stated later. In the meanwhile, we urge Salemites to do up more street paving whatever until they examine into the concrete matter, and understand it thoroughly.

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