

ST. JOHNS REVIEW

Devoted to the Interests of the Peninsula, the Manufacturing Center of the Northwest

VOL. 1

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The Circulation of THE REVIEW in the Peninsula exceeds that of all other papers combined. Advertisers, note this.

THE REVIEW Job Printing Department is one of the very best--not the largest--in Oregon. Thoroughly Modern.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Various Topics of Local and General Interest Briefly and Tersely Commented Upon

Numerous Matters Which Are Before the Public for General Discussion

The "cow question" is about due again, and with the approach of spring is likely to come up again. There are many of our citizens who believe in beautifying their lawns, and improve their surroundings by planting flowers and shrubbery; they want to make home environments as beautiful as attractive as possible. Nothing could be more laudable, and it is right and proper that the utmost limit of encouragement should be given to all such efforts. But just here the "cow question" bobs up, and it is somewhat a vexed question too. Many people who ought to know claim that if the festive cow and other animals are permitted to roam at will, the matter of improvement along the lines above referred to is simply out of the range of possibilities; that these roving animals destroy more rapidly than they can plant. There is no doubt but this is in a large measure true. In deference to the class of citizens who want the animals to run at large, would it not be a good idea to submit the matter to a vote of the people, and if the majority favor public pasturage to improvement of home surroundings, the beautifying of lawns and yards, let it be so. THE REVIEW suggests this method as a fair one, and then let the majority rule.

Several important transfers have been made recently, and several important deals are on tap, particularly in the line of desirable residence property. While the real estate market has not been touched by any unusual activity since the beginning of the new year, yet something has been doing all the time. Every day men of means, and in other respects most desirable people to have in the community, are here casting about with the view of finding desirable residence locations, and in nearly every instance the impressions formed are most favorable, and they have decided that St. Johns is the ideal spot. It is true, too, that this city has some of the most beautiful building sites to be found anywhere, and while they are numerous yet they are being bought up rapidly.

Some men are born in discontent, and their lives are in full accord with the unfortunate conditions of infancy. When they have reached an age when it should be not only their pleasure but a duty which one fellow creature owes to another, to make life better and more endurable, it seems to be the whole aim of their existence to sow seeds of discord and mistrust; they spend all their time in trying to pull down, discredit and question the motives of others, and never a moment in trying to build up and improve their fellowman or their surroundings. We have often tried to conceive of the propelling force in such characters, but our conception fails to act, and we can only believe that they were born under an unlucky star. They can't help themselves, and no amount of observation on their part has any effect. Such men are really not to be despised, but pitied. Of course, they are not long in any community. They are too miserable with their own existence to become permanent. When you run up against such characters, the least attention paid them, the better you're off. Water always finds its level, so does character.

It is actually announced in the daily papers that the gambling horde which made up the notorious Portland club have agreed with the authorities to give up their fight and be good; discontinue their open violation of the law, notwithstanding they were permitted to pursue their nefarious business by connivance with the officers of the Portland city government. It is quite refreshing to know that this band of criminals has at last ceased to be a constant source of trouble to the officers who dare do their whole duty, and a big expense to the county and state.

There are no indications that the talk about through street cars to Portland was anything more than rumor. The necessity of transferring at Piedmont Junction has been rendered an hundred fold more inconvenient and disagreeable during the recent cold and stormy snap. It does seem that, owing to the very large traffic accorded by the people of the peninsula, the street car company would be anxious to contribute to the comfort of the traveling public, at least to the extent of obviating the Piedmont transfer. Tax Review

is informed by good authority that no barrier stands in the way of through cars now, except the will of the management.

Another electric line to Portland is certainly one of the most desirable things in the way of transportation facilities at the present time. That a more direct line, and one by which the transfer system will be obviated, will be built there can be no doubt, and that before long. By whom or just when is yet an unsettled fact. The growing volume of traffic to and from the peninsula warrants the belief that it will be done, however. Of all the lines running out of Portland, certainly none is more important, and we doubt if any so profitable to the company, as the line tapping the peninsula, yet it is the only line on which the transfer system prevails. Another line would receive good support from the long suffering public in the peninsula district.

Troutdale is to have a big sausage plant located there soon in consequence of which dog and cat ranches in that neighborhood are not improvable. The people up there believe in home enterprise.

THE REVIEW believes that everything of a legitimate business character in St. Johns is worthy of the support and encouragement of our citizens. We believe it is the only correct way to build up a city. Among all of our business enterprises none comes nearer to being a legitimate public character than our postoffice. This is one institution in which all of us are or should be directly interested, and feel a deep personal interest in its attaining the prominence it deserves, both in postal circles and for the benefit of the city itself. With this idea in view it should be the aim of every one of us to patronize it and post every letter through it. By doing this it would not be long until it would be placed in the third class and facilities commensurate with the importance of the city provided by and at the expense of Uncle Sam. Stamp cancellation will do this, and nothing else will. Let us all remember this, friends.

Why has St. Johns been without warehouse facilities on the waterfront all this time? There is sufficient business to warrant the building of one. Can it be there is a combination working against water competition?

Through publicity wrongs are sometimes righted and evils eliminated. St. Johns has been strong because of its unsurpassed water transportation facilities. The O. R. & N. R. R. was in a sense forced to build to St. Johns because of its deep water frontage; individuals may have, and undoubtedly did, influence the R. R. Co. to build a little in advance of the time it would have of its own volition. Manufacturing industries have located at St. Johns unquestionably because of both water and rail transportation. Some, perhaps one, possibly two, industries would have come with only rail transportation, if we could have secured the R. R. without first having the deep water, a very doubtful possibility. St. Johns bears the proud distinction of being the best point within the boundaries of the Portland harbor to locate any manufacturing industry. That prestige will be wrested from her if we do not at once see to it that water transportation facilities are made available for public passenger and freight service. A Portland foundryman has located among us, he hopes for all time, his products are shipped mainly by boat, to California, Astoria, Fort Canby, Fort Stevens, Rainier, etc. Should he have a shipment ready for today or next week it would need to go to Portland by rail and from thence reshipped by boat. A sad commentary on St. Johns unequalled water transportation facilities. St. Johns is supposed to have a wharf for the use of the public, but it might almost as well have been built on the top of Jones' mill as far as getting to it is concerned.

A large and valuable acquisition to the trade of St. Johns might be acquired if the Willamette was spanned by a ferry. All the trade on the west side of the river now goes to Portland, when it rightfully belongs to this city, and would come here if a free ferry was put in operation. This should be done at the expense of the county. This district contributes a large sum in taxes to the county, and is fully as important as that portion lying to the south of Portland, and is certainly entitled to as much consideration. If the matter was taken up and properly placed before the county authorities we believe something could be accomplished. It is worth trying, anyway, and our

business men are urged to make the attempt.

In the matter of the produce supply a ferry across the Willamette would be a good thing. As it is now the shortage in the local supply is brought here from Portland, and we are compelled to pay the commission man his profit in addition to the freight, whereas if the city was accessible for the producers on the west side we believe they would come here. This would mean a considerable saving and give us fresher and more healthful garden "truck."

The district hereabouts is widely known as the banner "cherry belt" of the Pacific coast. The soil and climate is peculiarly fitted for the raising of this delicious fruit in its most luscious and perfect state. A large number of our people have small cherry orchards which yield them a handsome income each year. Mr. A. L. Miner informs the writer that some years ago, at the request of the agricultural department at Washington, he forwarded samples of cherries raised here, and so favorably impressed was the department that the report was most flattering. There is lots of available land on the Peninsula which could be turned to profitable account in this industry, and could supply a good sized canning factory with cherries. This is a phase of our resources worth exploiting. The Peninsula is also splendidly adapted to the production of strawberries. It is claimed that the fruit of this character raised here compares most favorably with the famous Hood River berry.

Dead.
Mrs. Augusta Hansen, wife of R. Hansen, in Point View addition, died Saturday afternoon at 2:30 of lockjaw. The family recently moved here from Olympia, Wash., where her parents resided. The remains accompanied by her father and husband, were taken to Olympia Sunday for interment. The deceased leaves no family except her husband, having been married only about eight months. The community extend sympathy to the bereaved husband.

Convincing.
Ed. L. Stockton received a letter a short while ago from a family to whom he had sent a copy of THE REVIEW. The first paragraph reads as follows:
"Papa received a paper sometime ago, which we inferred you sent, as it came from St. Johns Ore. We have been thinking for several years of going out west somewhere and since receiving that paper have thought of it more strongly than ever."

As to the further enquiry about groceries, dry goods, etc., all the necessities can be bought here as cheap as anywhere else on the coast. Come out, and you will find the most delightful country, finest scenery and most progressive city on the continent.

Our Public School at the Fair.
Principal John Teuscher, of the St. Johns public school, is making arrangements for an educational exhibit of this district at the Lewis and Clark fair next summer. The St. Johns district is the only one in the county which contains large industries, and it is Professor Teuscher's intention to cover the industries by submitting stories by the pupils descriptive of them. Accompanying these stories will be photographs showing the various processes of the woolen mills, shipbuilding plant, foundry, machine shops, etc. It is estimated that at least 150 photographs will be required to cover these various processes.

One certain pupil, or committee of pupils, will be selected to write up the woolen mills. Accompanying this paper will be photographs to show the wool on its way through the mills up to the time it becomes a finished fabric.

Another pupil, or committee, will prepare an article on the veneer factory, which will be accompanied by pictures showing the different processes of operation from the rough timber to the completed product. And so on will be handled the dry dock, ship building plant, planning mill, foundry, machine shops and other industries.

Owing to its location the St. Johns school will have an important mass of detail work to do in the preparation of this industrial exhibit. It will cost quite a snug sum to get the pictures, and it is expected our good citizens will be called upon to assist the school in carrying out its project.

Remember the date--Box Social--January 26.

About The Review

As previously stated, The Review printing plant is one of the best and most complete in the northwest. It is now in full running order, after a week or two of the most arduous labor. To attain this, the publishers have been at great expense, and we don't like to do it, but we take the liberty of asking as a special favor that those of our friends who have not paid their subscriptions would, if they can make it convenient, call and see our new plant, and incidentally get a receipt for their subscription. If all who can, would do so, it would help us out materially. Don't be backward, friends, but please favor us while we really have need for it.

He Was Right.
A Salem correspondent says that "When the St. Johns charter bill was on its final passage, Killingsworth, of Multnomah, its sponsor, rose to give St. Johns a boom and a boost. He succeeded admirably in impressing on his colleagues the grand possibilities in store for the municipality as a thrifty suburb of Portland. Mr. Killingsworth owns considerable real estate at St. Johns, but the house members thought only of the bright future toward which it is growing." Good for Killingsworth, but you will always find him equal to any occasion when the interests of St. Johns or the Peninsula are at stake.

The Acme Lumber Company.
One of the most active business institutions of St. Johns is the Acme Lumber Company, established about seven months ago, and which does a strictly retail business--and that only. Mr. W. C. Barker is the popular manager of this popular enterprise. It is an independent company, so far as its stock is concerned, for it handles only a retail business and has liberal business relations with the largest mills and factories advantageously available. These arrangements have been perfected in the interest of patrons. Its primary aim is to please the people. That having been done so far in a most creditable degree, its success is assured.

The stock of the Acme Lumber Company consists of all kinds of lumber, laths, shingles, sash and doors, mouldings, lime, hair and cement, building paper and builders' hardware. All of its flooring, ceiling, rustic and finishing lumber is thoroughly kiln-dried by those who understand the business. Its direct connections with the big mills and factories enables it to quote the lowest prices on all building materials and its stock is always adequate to meet the demand of all contractors and prospective builders. Its facilities for handling stock, being sufficiently equipped with teams, enables the company to insure prompt delivery. It will be pleased at any time to furnish estimates on any material that may be needed by contractors and prospective builders.

This company has an immense woodshed, in which it carries from 750 to 1000 cords of dry wood at all times, which it has already acquired a reputation for delivering promptly on order. In this line it does a remarkable business.

The Acme Lumber Company has an "incline railway" 250 feet in length, extending from the bluff, on which the offices and yards are located, to the O. R. & N. track and to the mills on the bank of the river below, for the purpose of conveying stock to the yards and for general use, as well. This miniature, but important, railway line is operated by steam in the yards at the company's offices. It has proved a "track of usefulness," as Hayward puts it, for all use it who want for the purpose of conveying freight of any kind from the mills below to the verge of the bluff, or from the bluff to the railroad below.

The Acme Lumber Company is a progressive concern in every sense of the word. Its trade is local; but St. Johns is building up and expanding so rapidly that its vast stock in every line in which it deals is consumed "at home." Its business is entirely satisfactory to those who have dealt with it, its manager is popular with all who have met him and the promise for future prosperity is abundant. Enlargement of the yards and the force necessary to take care of the increasing business is abundant.

M. L. Noble, of Forest Grove, was in St. Johns Monday inspecting our city with a view to locating here in business. Like all who come here, Mr. Noble is greatly impressed with St. Johns and its future prospects, and thinks no other town on the coast compares with it.

CITY CHARTER PASSED

Both Senate and House Consider the New Charter and Pass It Without a Dissenting Vote.

The Enrolling and Engrossing Clerks Preparing It for the Governor

A later dispatch says the governor has attached his signature, and St. Johns now has a charter ample in its provisions to meet all present requirements.

A delegation accompanied by the M. W. A. band will go by special car to the junction to receive the delegates, Messrs. Chipman and Monahan, who bring the charter with them by "railroad." The party will leave here at 7:15. All friends of charter invited.

Special to The Review.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 18.--The new city charter of St. Johns has been passed both houses without opposition, and is now in the hands of the enrolling and engrossing clerks. It will go to the governor for his approval Thursday evening.

The charter received much commendation from members of both branches of the legislature.

Ye Olden Time Duens.

The ladies aid society of the Evangelical church will give a unique entertainment at Bickner's hall Monday evening, January 23, the admission will be "5 cents' wun pertater." Refreshments will also be served at "15 cents extray." Following is the program:

- SONG BY THE OLD FOLKS.
- Spoke piece..... Jessie Hughes
- Music by Band
- Reading..... Mr. Johnson
- Spoke piece..... Josie Beach
- Spoke piece..... Hayward Quartet
- Spoke piece..... Miss Shepherd
- Solo..... Miss Shepherd
- Spoke piece..... Mrs. Bellin
- Spoke piece..... Clyde Thayer
- Spoke piece..... Mrs. Hall
- Song--Home Sweet Home

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE

About People who are Coming and Going to St. Johns

Dr. C. S. Seaman, of Oregon City, was in St. Johns Sunday, a guest of Mr. Tufts.

Mr. Hoven and wife, of Goble, Oregon, were in St. Johns, the guests of Frank Smith the popular street car man.

W. E. Knight has moved back to his old home near the flour mill. Old neighbors are glad to welcome them back.

A. Ervine is now able to be around again after an illness of several weeks. He may now be found at his bench as of yore.

Miss Blanche L. Hanson has gone on a short visit at Skamokawa, Washington. She is the guest of Mrs. Jessie Eggman.

Rev. O. W. Stockton is in the city from Oakland, Oregon, looking up property for investment. He expects to put up one or more houses to rent.

Joe Bickner, of Bickner Brothers was quietly married in Portland yesterday afternoon, to Mrs. M. C. Wells, of this city. Judge Webster officiated.

Andy Tower, of Oregon City, was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. P. T. Hanson on Tuesday. He was looking after the property interests of his brother, the late A. I. Tower.

Daniel Brecht returned Sunday morning from a trip along the Sound, visiting Shelton, Tacoma and Olympia as well as other towns, and reports that St. Johns is the busiest place he has seen on the trip.

P. M. Shaddock, a brother of A. S. Shaddock, is stopping with his wife and family at the Central Hotel. Mr. Shaddock is from Fort Jones, Cal., and has come to St. Johns to reside permanently. He has bought four lots in St. Johns, and will build a home for himself in the near future.

Claude Williams, who for several years has been chief clerk for the R. M. Wade Hardware Co., of McMinnville, accompanied by his wife, has been visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Williams, and his cousin, W. F. Johnson. They left Wednesday for Olex, where Mr. Williams will take charge of a branch house there for the same firm.

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