

POINTS FOR A CHARTER.

A General Discussion Thereof by the Freeholders.

Clinton L. White Submits an Outline for a Charter--An Interesting Debate on the Subject.

The Board of Charter Freeholders met yesterday afternoon in the lecture-room of the Seventh-street M. E. Church. All the members of the board, except N. Green, Curtis, were present. President R. T. Devlin did not arrive until the meeting had been called to order, and Chris Green occupied the chair during the meeting.

The order of business was taken up, and a report called for from the special committee appointed to examine the law and give an opinion as to whether or not the adoption of a new charter would dissolve the Funded Debt Commission.

Ex-Judge J. W. Armstrong said the committee had not been called together by the Chairman, Mr. Curtis, and was not ready to report. He said he understood that there was a difference of opinion among the members of the special committee as to what power the city had to make a new charter under the present constitution. He asked for further time, and it was granted.

SECRETARY LINCOLN WHITE READ THE FOLLOWING LETTER HE HAD RECEIVED FROM JUDGE BEATY OF THE FUNDED DEBT COMMISSION.

DEAR SIR: In reply to your note received this morning, I will say that the proper course to take in this matter is to have your letter require the services of an expert bookkeeper for a period of not less than thirty or forty days. The amount of bonds and coupons purchased by the Commission during its existence has been, I should judge, between \$500,000 and \$600,000. I refer to separate obligations. Our books show the number and amount of all these different obligations, and also the amount paid for each one of them, and the date when paid. But the books do not show which coupons were simply the receipt of our books from 1872 to the present date.

Now, whether it is possible for us to furnish that transcript, we will say to the Freeholders that our books are open to their inspection or to the inspection of any person whom they would have them examined. And I will say further, that a statement of the prices we paid for the bonds of the different series--leaving out the statement of the prices of the coupons--is comparatively very much shorter statement, and if the board wishes that a statement, if they will employ a competent person to compare the books with the books, I could have the statement prepared for them probably in four or five days.

The later interrogation about the present state of the funds could be easily furnished if they could find William Hopper, who has been our bookkeeper. If Mr. Hopper is not in the city, then I can make out a statement with the assistance of my own books, but I am myself unable to write at this time anything that would be of any value. If you are a member of the Board of Freeholders, can inform the board of my physical inability at this time to write anything.

FREEHOLDERS AIR THEIR VIEWS.

C. L. White did not think it was necessary to employ an expert in order to ascertain what the Freeholders wanted to know. In his judgment it was not necessary to examine the books farther back than ten years in order to find out the value of the Commission. The Freeholders needed only to know what the Commission has been saving the city in the past few years, and then they could figure when it could be of no further use. The Commission should cease to exist when the time shall come that it has to pay \$1 for one dollar's worth of bonds. If the Freeholders could examine the books themselves, they could gain all the information they desired in a very short time.

H. M. LaRue thought the matter ought to be left to a committee, with power to employ a clerk or expert, if necessary. H. Weinstock said he remembered Judge Beatty had remarked at a meeting some time ago that the Funded Debt Commission was saving the city 5 per cent. Mr. Beatty, he thought, would tell very easily about what percentage was saved per annum.

T. B. Hall suggested that the matter had better be left in the hands of the committee appointed at the last meeting. They could get all the information desired.

R. T. Devlin had an idea that if the entire Board of Freeholders requested the committee to obtain the desired information with all possible dispatch, the matter would be accomplished more rapidly than otherwise.

Mr. Hall believed that it should not take long for the committee to find out what was desired. It did not need to learn what was saved in years gone by, but ought to figure on what good the Commission would be in the future. If it was of no use, it might be just as well to abolish it.

A SANITARY SUGGESTION.

Dr. G. L. Simmons remarked that he saw his name on the Committee on Health and Sanitary Matters, and he might not be out of place for him to remark right away that he did not approve of the meeting place of the board. Everyone in the room was liable to contract a gripple or some other ailment if the board continued to use the basement as a meeting place. He recommended an upper room.

S. B. Smith, a member of the committee appointed to procure a hall for meeting purposes, stated that the fire had not been started long, and he believed that the place would be warmer in the evenings when the gas was lighted and the fire started at a reasonable time.

MEETINGS OF THE BOARD.

Mr. Devlin changed the subject by stating that the board ought to decide right away when and how often to hold stated meetings. In his judgment the members ought to meet at least twice a week, and he made a motion to the effect that meetings be held on Tuesday and Thursday of each week.

Mr. Devlin did not think it advisable to meet so often at present. The different committees had to commence work now with a view to get their reports ready. Better progress could be made if the board would meet less often. The next month should be devoted to frequent meetings of the various committees in the preparation of their reports. He thought once a week was often enough for the board to hold meetings.

Frederick Cox did not see the use of meeting until the committee appointed to inquire in relation to the Funded Debt Commission had reported.

Mr. Devlin said he thought it was his (Devlin's) duty to help make a charter, even though the Commission should be abolished.

Mr. LaRue was of the opinion that the board should receive reports from the committees just as soon as they were ready to make them. Once a week was often enough for the board to meet.

Mr. Armstrong thought it was wrong for the members to gauge the work by the number of days allowed the Freeholders in which to frame the charter. It ought not to take ninety days to prepare a charter. The work could be done as wisely and carefully in a much shorter space of time.

The Judge stated that he, for one, was of the opinion that a new charter would not disturb the Funded Debt Commission.

Mr. Hall did not see why the Legislative Committee should not submit its report next Thursday.

SHOULD COMPARE NOTES.

Mr. White said he earnestly believed

that before any of the committees went to work the members ought to discuss in the general meeting the outline that the charter is to take. If this was not done the reports will be conflicting and little account will be taken of them. The Freeholders agree on a general plan, so that the reports would all be in harmony. He knew there was some animosity among the members, but he was going to propose one which he knew was the best, because it was the only one that would be submitted at least at this meeting. He believed the board ought to meet every evening after the first of the year, that a general discussion might be indulged in as to what form the charter should take. He then read the following, which was listened to with interest:

MR. WHITE'S SKELETON CHARTER.

First--Provide such a system as will distinctly separate the legislative, executive and judicial departments of the city government.

Second--Make the legislative department consist of a Board of Trustees, from five to fifteen in number, selected as to residence from specified wards or districts, but not by all electors; the presiding officer to be one of their own number; term of office, four years; one-half the number to be elected each two years.

Third--The elective executive officers to consist of Mayor, Auditor and Assessor, Tax Collector and Treasurer.

All other executive officials or employees, except policemen and firemen, to be appointed by the Board of Trustees. Employees of the Police and Fire Departments, including Chief of Police and Chief Engineer, to be appointed by commission of five members, appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Trustees.

The Mayor to be chief executive officer of the city, and to be required to devote his entire time to the discharge of his official duties. To hold office for two years.

The Tax Collector to act also as License Collector and collector of water rates and harbor dues.

The Assessor to be ex officio Auditor.

Fourth--The Board of Trustees to have power to regulate from time to time compensation of all officers and employees, subject to certain maximum limits fixed by the charter.

Fifth--Delinquent taxes to be collected by summary sale of property by the Tax Collector.

Sixth--The Funded Debt Commission not to have power to exact the levy of any tax for its use. Otherwise the Commission to be continued with all the powers it now has, except that the period of probable usefulness of the Commission shall be estimated and a date named in the charter at which time the Commission shall surrender to the city all bonds, coupons, moneys and property of every kind held by it, and it shall then cease to exist.

Seventh--All street improvements to be made under the general street law.

Eighth--The schools to be under the management of a Board of Directors elected by the people and serving without compensation. The Superintendent of Schools to be a practical, experienced educator, appointed by the Board of Directors.

Ninth--Elections to occur but once in two years.

Tenth--After the payment of the city debt, water to be furnished to consumers at cost.

THE SKELETON OVERHAULED.

Mr. Devlin argued at length that there should be no discussion until the reports of the various committees should be received, while Mr. White contended that the best thing to do would be to provoke a general discussion of the matter before the committees started to work.

A call of the question on the motion to meet on Thursdays, at 7:30 o'clock in the evening until further notice, brought the discussion to a close, and it was unanimously voted that the board meet once a week hereafter.

Mr. Weinstock was inclined to favor Mr. White's views, and in order to bring about a discussion he offered an informal resolution to the effect that it was the sense of the Freeholders that the city be governed by a Board of Trustees consisting of ten members, to be elected for four years, and by a Mayor, who shall be elected by the people.

Mr. Hall said the number of Trustees named by Mr. Weinstock was too large, and there should be a Mayor. The city should be divided into nine wards, and one Trustee should be elected from each ward, and voted for at large by the city.

One of these Trustees should be Chairman of the board.

Mr. Devlin also thought fifteen was too large a number. When a body is small, he said, you get responsibility, and then, again, when you get responsibility you sometimes get usurpation of power. A man would appreciate a responsibility more if he were held responsible for it.

Mr. Devlin believed a happy medium could be struck and the number be made seven or eight. He agreed with Mr. Weinstock that they should be elected Trustees, in order, if possible, to preserve the Funded Debt Commission.

THE OLD CHARTER'S GOOD POINTS.

Mr. Cox thought the old charter was a pretty good one to follow. Senator Vroom had told him once that if other cities had as good a charter as Sacramento they would be better off.

Mr. Johnson favored having a Board of Aldermen, or Trustees, of whatever name the Freeholders might choose to give it. He thought from nine to eleven Trustees would be the proper number, selected partly from the city at large, and partly from localities. The city could be divided into six wards, and one Trustee could be elected from each ward by the voters thereof. Five could be chosen from the city at large, irrespective of the locality in which they resided. They might be all elected for four years, and they could "slop up" to find out which ones would serve only half that time, so as to permit of an election every two years. By this plan there would be experienced men on the board continually.

SALARIED TRUSTEES.

Judge Armstrong was in favor of the general plan suggested by Mr. Weinstock, but he did not agree as to the number and the mode of election. Seven Trustees would be enough for the city for the next twenty years, by which time another charter would be needed. He was willing that they should be elected from the city at large, but he believed that they should be paid salaries. It was economy to pay men for the work they do. The city had no right to expect business men to give their time to city business without compensation.

"Unless you do so," continued Mr. Armstrong, "affairs will be as in the past. Men will seek office, hold it, and the interests of the city will not be regarded. Politicians will see only a chance and depend on the so-called 'perquisites' of a bad idea to tempt officers to get compensation indirectly, for they will get it. The city will receive no services, and get good service. I would fix the number of Trustees at seven and divide the city into six districts, electing one Trustee from each district and one at large, who should be chairman of the board. I am not in favor of making the Mayor a member of the board, but I would give him the power. The force of city government will be the legislative, executive and judicial departments, and all good governments ought to be thus provided. The judicial department would simply be the Police Court, although its powers might be slightly extended."

He would have seven Trustees--one from each ward and one at large, but all elected by all the voters. The salary should be fixed at so much per diem--say \$5 or \$10 for every time they meet. Men who devote their time should receive some recompense.

THE DANGER OF BOSSISM.

Mr. Weinstock said that the community had to fear what every community had to fear, and that was the question of bossism. If the respectable element were permitted to conduct affairs unimpeded," said he, "then we would have good government with a Board of Trustees of seven or eight members. But we all know that in all cities there are political schemers who make a business of politics. In my judgment I would find it much more difficult to control five or six men than five. We should aim to make it as difficult as possible for the bosses to gain control. I believe that it is certain that a body of five will rule a body of fifteen that a body of seven."

A CASE IN POINT.

"It depends on how the positions are looked upon," said Mr. Weinstock, "as to whether or not a man will be induced to serve. The best-governed cities in the world are in Great Britain, and the Councilmen are not salaried officers. Glasgow people pay a lower rate of taxation with a better regulated municipal system, and more pieces of amusement supported by the city, than any other city. There it is considered a great honor to be a member of the Board of Aldermen."

Continuing, Mr. Weinstock said that the mere fact of compensation would not induce a large number of men to serve, whereas he might be glad to accept the position for the honor there was in it. He believed the best citizens would serve on the board, and a city could always be made as good as the citizens chose to make it. The bosses would also have less chance to get control if the Trustees were elected by the people.

WHAT DR. SIMMONS THINKS ABOUT IT.

Dr. Simmons approved of the leading ideas set forth in Mr. White's document. He liked the name of Mayor, and wanted to have no Mayor, but he would also like him to be without a vote, and it occurred to him that the name of Councilman or Aldermen should be given to the Mayor, and that he should have a vote. Mr. Armstrong's argument had a weak point in it, and that was in regard to pay. Other boards had served in other positions without pay.

"One portion of Mr. White's document," said he, "struck me with particular force. The Superintendent of Schools should not be elected by the Mayor, but by a person who will put our public schools in a thorough up-to-the-times condition and be able to introduce novelties and reforms in the schools. The School Board should elect him."

LARGE VS. SMALL BODIES.

Judge Armstrong disagreed with Mr. Weinstock. His observation was that a large body could be controlled more easily than a small one; and again, where there are many responsibility rests but slightly on any, while with a few it would be heavily on each, and each would be compelled to render a full account at any time. Men might give ninety days of their time for a term of four years without recompense. Better service could be gotten of paid servants than volunteers.

Mr. Hall said Mr. Johnson's plan to have four wards and elect one Trustee from each and three at large would give the bosses all the chance they wanted to handle the affairs of the city.

Mr. LaRue was pleased with Mr. Weinstock's remarks in reference to the number. He disagreed with Judge Armstrong. It was not necessary to get control of a body of fifteen that a body of seven. There ought to be fifteen elected at large, no matter in what part of the city any one of them lived.

Mr. Green said that notwithstanding all the arguments he was still of the opinion that the Trustees ought to be seven in number, and he would pay them for their services and require that they give bonds, for they were handling the people's money--some \$300,000 per year.

COOP SERVICE WITHOUT PAY.

Mr. Weinstock requested permission to ask a question.

"Are the affairs of the State Agricultural Society well managed, Mr. Green?"

"Yes."

"Are you sure they are?"

"Yes."

"Well, you don't get paid for your services, do you?"

Mr. Green said the members were not paid, but they did not meet as often as a Board of Trustees would, excepting during State Fair time, when they were kept busy constantly.

The discussion was finally dropped, and a motion to adjourn was made.

Before putting the motion, however, the salary of the Secretary was fixed at \$150 per month.

The board then adjourned until next Thursday evening.

HAND TORN OFF.

Frightful Accident to a Former Sacramentoan.

A distressing accident occurred in San Francisco yesterday to Walter R. Lusk, a young mechanic formerly of this city, where he was lately married to Miss Annie Hotchkiss, daughter of F. S. Hotchkiss.

It seems that Lusk, an employe of O'Brien & Co.'s carriage factory at Golden Gate avenue and Polk streets--in some manner, in which he is unable to explain--got his right wrist entangled in the belt of a lathe, and he was completely torn off. The mutilated stump was tied up as well as possible, and the unfortunate man was taken to the Receiving Hospital, where Dr. Williams amputated the arm just below the elbow. Lusk showed remarkable nerve all through his suffering.

Mr. Lusk is a son of the late S. B. Lusk and Mrs. Isabella Lusk of this city, who he has lost friends, who will be deeply pained on learning of his terrible misfortune. He was formerly in the employ of Waterhouse & Lester.

WESTENFELD'S SLAYER.

He Stalked Boldly Through the Streets Last Friday.

It appears that Harry Schrader, the slayer of Chris Westenfeld, while spending Christmas in this city (the day following the murder), visited Kolker's drugstore to have the wound on his hand dressed.

If the proprietor had carefully read the perfect description of Schrader published that morning in the Record-Union, in which particular reference was made to the cut on his hand, he might have suspected his guest and turned him over to the Sheriff's officers or the police. Both departments had expressed a desire for his apprehension, and either would doubtless have been successful.

However, there is good ground for indulging a hope that Schrader will shortly be in custody.

BRIGHT AND PLEASANT.

One of Sacramento's Charming Mid-Winter Days.

The Barometer, However, Indicates Unsettled Weather--The River Rapidly Becoming Swollen.

The storm cleared away about 2 o'clock yesterday morning, under the influence of a breeze from the north. The sun was shining most of the day, and the weather was so warm and pleasant that the children were out in force indulging in all sorts of play.

A different condition of things prevailed on the Sierra Nevada, along the line of the Central Pacific Railroad, where the Summit barometer fell to 22.35, the lowest figure it has ever been known to reach at that place. The mark would indicate the approach of a storm of extraordinary fierceness, but those acquainted with the workings of weather instruments say that sudden fluctuations of the barometer rather indicate that the instrument has taken on a sort of crazy notion.

Snow fell during the entire night Tuesday, and yesterday morning it was cloudy on "the hill."

A SNOW FLOW FOR SHASTA.

One of the rotary snow-plows on the Sacramento division of the railroad was ordered to be taken north yesterday to be in readiness to do service in case of a heavy storm on the Shasta division.

WEATHER BUREAU'S REPORTS.

The Weather Bureau's reports show that the rainfall during Tuesday night was 1.44 inches, making the total for the month 3.25 inches for the season, and 2.46 inches to a corresponding date last year.

The highest and lowest temperatures yesterday were 42° and 38°, with gentle northerly winds and a partly cloudy sky.

The barometrical readings at 5 A. M. and 5 P. M. were 29.60 and 29.50 inches, respectively. The instrument, which is not a good sign for settled weather.

The highest and lowest temperatures yesterday were 42° and 38°, with gentle northerly winds and a partly cloudy sky.

Furniture at Auction.

On Saturday, at 10 A. M., Went, T. Crowell & Co. will sell at auction, by order of John C. Schaden, all the elegant furniture, carpets, etc., contained in the seven rooms over the grocery store, corner Fourth and L streets, consisting of one parlor set, two bedroom sets, Brussels carpets, hall tree, lace curtains, carpets, pictures, bedding, extension table, dining chairs, Monitor range and gas stove, and glassware. Also, at same time, one 5-year-old mare, a fine traveler, and well-bred.

Pass and the Homids.

At a meeting of the Pioneer Coursing Club, held last evening at the Eldred House, a large number of dogs were entered for the match to be held next Sunday. It was stated, however, that several other owners of dogs who lived outside of town also desired to make entries, and it was decided to postpone the drawing until Saturday evening.

A fine lot of dogs are entered, and the event will be of great interest to those who have a taste for coursing.

A Successful Year.

Many theories have been advanced regarding the future of one of Sacramento's business interests, and conjectures have also been made pertaining to what has been accomplished by our merchants during the past year. It is always pleasurable to chronicle the success of those who have been successful, and an entire knowledge of the lines which they carry. This can be truthfully said of the proprietors and proprietors of Pacific.

Careful inspection is the most convincing evidence of success. The success of Pacific is ample proof of their enterprising spirit. It would require a very great amount of space in this column to mention the various lines which they carry. Their goods and provision house can be obtained at their various stalls. Although meeting with unusual success, they have never been able to supply the demand, and wish all a happy New Year.

Dr. T. W. HING has fitted up an elegant office at 924 T street, where he would be pleased to see his customers.

DIED.

MEMORIAL--In this city, December 30th, Frank J. McMorry, a native of Fenwick, Maine, aged 35 years, 10 months and 13 days.

Friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend the funeral Friday, January 1st, at 1:30 o'clock, from the residence of Mrs. F. J. McMorry, 600 Tenth street.

MACKEY--Near this city, December 29th, Charles E. Mack, a native of Massachusetts, aged 72 years, 2 months and 19 days.

Friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend the funeral to-day at 2 P. M., from St. Paul's Church, Eighth street, between I and J.

EASTMAN--Near Walnut Grove, December 29th, William E. Eastman, a native of Vermont, aged 58 years and 6 months.

Friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from his residence, 720 Q street, this afternoon at 2 o'clock, from the funeral home, where funeral services will be held.

KICHLE--In this city, December 29th, George Kichle, a native of Germany, aged 52 years, 5 months and 25 days.

Friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from his late residence, K street, Elverta and Twelfth, to-morrow (Friday) at 2 P. M.

Standard Excellence.

The place that Dr. Price's Delicious Flavoring Extracts have won in the public estimation, sustain us in the assertion that for standard excellence, they have no equal. Every housewife who has used Dr. Price's Flavorings, Vanilla, Lemon, Orange, Nectarine, etc., will endorse the above statement. In using them you have purity, uniformity, strength and fine flavor.

BELL CONSERVATORY COMPANY, florists. You can always find us at telephone No. 155. Finest work; lowest prices.

Changed Daily for Weinstock, Lubin & Co.

TO-NIGHT OUR STORES WILL REMAIN OPEN. NEW YEAR'S OUR STORES WILL REMAIN CLOSED.

IN THE NOTION DEPARTMENT.

CASTILE SOAP IN BARS.

Conti's Genuine Imported White Castile Soap, regarded as the best of its kind in the market. The bars are 2 1/2 x 3 1/2 inches and about 12 inches long, and are intended to be cut up into small cakes for hand or bathing use. Price, 70c per bar.

EAU DE QUININE.

This is a celebrated French Tonic, which makes the hair soft and silky and at the same time keeps the scalp and hair in a healthful condition. It is used extensively in first-class hair-dressing establishments. Price, 45c.

BRILLIANTINE.

Pinaud's Brilliantine is a liquid for glossing the hair; unlike "Eau de Quinine," described above, it contains some oil. It is delicately scented and is not as heavy or sticky as regular hair oil. Price, 35c.

COCOAINE.

Eurnitt's Cocaine is for the growth and beautifying of the hair, rendering it dark and glossy. It is composed largely of coccoanut oil, and is also excellent for soothing irritated scalps, removing dandruff, scurf, etc. Price, 45c.

DIAMOND DYES.

These Dyes are well known. By following the directions given in each package, excellent results may be obtained on wool, cotton, silk or feathers. They come in all the leading colors. Price, 8 1/2c a package.

OUR PERFECT FACE POWDER.

This Powder is ground to exceeding fineness (an essential requisite which most face powders lack), is delightfully scented and packed in beautiful metal boxes of unusually large size. We guarantee this Powder to be pure and of the highest excellence. It comes in white, flesh or cream tints. Price, 25c.

PAPER FLOWER OUTFITS.

Complete Outfit for making Paper Flowers, Decorative Articles, Tissue Paper Dolls, Etc., packed in neat boxes. Price, 95c. A thirty-page illustrated book on the "Uses of Tissue Paper" accompanies each box.

FLOROSCOPE.

This is an instructive instrument for young or old. It is a small brass upright tube, with strong magnifying glass for examining all kinds of small objects. A long pin comes with each scope, on which insects may be placed for examination. Price, 30c.

SACHET POWDERS.

In various popular odors, for scenting fancy work, bureau drawers, etc. Price, 15c per bottle.

SHELF PAPER.

Shelf Paper, each sheet 9 inches wide and 32 inches long, 24 sheets for 4c.

WEINSTOCK, LUBIN & CO.,

400 to 412 K Street, Sacramento.

PARTY SHOES AND SLIPPERS.

Ladies' Suede Kid Slippers, in light tan, drab or black, very pretty and stylish. Price, \$4.

Ladies' Suede Kid Oxfords, very pointed toe, French heels, in the very latest colors, all sizes and widths. Price, \$3 50.

Ladies' Patent Leather and also French Kid Slippers and Oxfords, in the very latest styles and effects. Prices are from the lowest to the highest.

FOR MEN.

Men's Patent Leather, also Kid, Dancing Pumps, hand made. Price, \$2 50.

Men's French Kid Hand-sewed Oxfords, solid comfort and style combined, Hanan's make. Price, \$5.

Men's Patent Leather Oxfords, Hanan's make. Price, \$4.

Men's Patent Leather Congress, also Lace Shoes, with kid or cloth tops, in square or round toe, plain or tipped, all sizes and widths. Price, \$7 50.

LAVENSON'S FAMILY SHOE STORE,

Fifth and J Streets, Sacramento.

Will Make Decided Improvements in My Stores. THE LACE HOUSE.

Commencing with January 1st, 1892, I shall mark all goods in plain figures, and strictly one price. Please do not ask for credit. I shall also connect to my business a department for just UNTRIMMED GOODS, where you can buy all materials at wholesale prices and trim your hats yourself if you wish.

As I wish to take out partitions and change shelving and cases and reapper stores, I will sell ALL MILLINERY FOR THE NEXT TWENTY DAYS AT COST AND LESS, to clean out stock so the carpenters can get to work by January 20th, to have my stores ready for spring opening. So call at once for the bargains