

TIME HAS COME TO REPAIR STREETS OF ALBUQUERQUE

Deep Disgust With Downtown Sea of Mud.

ONCE A YEAR IS TOO OFTEN FOR THE NUISANCE

"Railroad avenue may not look like this but once a year, but once a year is once too often." If this remark was made once yesterday it was made a hundred times by business men and their patrons, property owners and tenants, people who had been wading ankle deep in the slime that coated the street from First to Twelfth with a brand of mud that sticks unto the end. Scarce a woman came onto Railroad avenue yesterday, unless absolute necessity sent her there. It was a hard business for a man to ford the street in the business district, and as for a woman, she had no chance at all to escape unsoiled.

A few more days like yesterday and we will get up a pretty healthy street paving sentiment in Albuquerque. The business man who sees his business suffer because his patrons can't swim and do not like to wallow in mire, is pretty apt to favor it; the patron who has to wade to get what he wants or has to have, is likely to want it, and it is only the argument of our almost perpetual sunshine that will stop the sentiment which has received its first genuine forward push in the past week.

Against the ire of the disgusted populace and its demand for dry streets, or at least drained streets, the city government comes forward with the very convincing reply that it hasn't the money. The street department is doing its best. It is small and it has not a great deal of money to spend. The present Albuquerque street department has its hands full to try and keep the streets in good condition. Broad dirt comes and with it the inevitable sea of slime on the travelled streets. The street department is swamped. The best it can do is to provide an occasional crossing, and if it does that it has done well considering the resources at its command.

Albuquerque is noted throughout the southwest as the city with the best sidewalk system of any municipality of its size in the west. A few more days of wet weather and Albuquerque will be known as the city without a decent street crossing.

The question of what to do about it is being busily discussed by Albuquerque business men and property owners these days. They realize that the time has come to do something and they realize also the limited means at command of the city government.

The first necessity is a drainage system and for this the work of the city council's sewer committee, now investigating a new sewer system, will have to be broadened out and go down into the subject of draining the streets of the lowlands.

It is generally recognized that the drainage problem will have to be overcome before anything else can be done. When this is accomplished, as proposed by the city, it begins to look as if Albuquerque will have to fall in line with all the rest of the growing cities of the country and assess cost of street grading against the property benefited by the work.

It is true that Albuquerque has to contend with mud but once or twice a year, but the once or twice is just that many times too often.

HOUSE CLEANING AT THE CITY HALL

VENERABLE OLD RUBBISH HEAP BEING CAREFULLY SWEEP FOR FEAR OF A COLLAPSE.

For the first time in many months the building, the building of Second street, and Tijeras road. Known by city as the city hall, is being cleaned up. The work of house cleaning in the city hall is no cinch. The building hasn't been cleaned for some time and the opinion of the authorities of late has been that the building is worth cleaning. The work was completed yesterday by the rains of the past twenty-four hours.

The ceiling in the police court room sprung a leak. Drip, drip, went the water on the desk of Judge Crawford's desk. The judge dodged the drops for awhile, but toward the end of the session the desk got muddy and the mud began to splash up on the record and into the judicial countenance until his honor lost his temper and suggested an adjournment to the adjacent street, which was a little less wet than the interior. Since it was impossible to stay in the building Chief McMillin suggested that it would be a good day to clean it out and as a result the janitor put in probably the most unpleasant day of his life.

The carpet in the council chamber came up first. Beneath it was gathered the dust and scrap paper of a decade and the janitor put on a nose guard early in the game. He suggested that it wasn't safe to sweep the cobwebs off the ceiling for fear the plastering would fall off, but the officers were relentless and taking his life in his hands the man swept the walls. It has done the city hall good this November house cleaning, but the building is just about hopeless and the time is coming when it will be uninhabitable.

COMMITTEE SUGGESTED TO CHOOSE FAIR OFFICERS

PLAN OUTLINED BY WHICH MEETING MONDAY NIGHT MAY REACH TANGIBLE RESULTS.

There is considerable discussion among business men of the mass meeting called for next Monday night, at which it is expected to launch the business of the coming fair association and close the business of the old association. In view of the complications resulting from the previous meeting, it is pointed out on all sides that there may be trouble in the election of officers in a general meeting of the kind to be held and that the best way to reach a conclusion of the matter would be in the election by the mass meeting of a committee of perhaps fifteen members, composed of men in whom the subscribers have absolute confidence, these men to be entrusted with and to have full power to elect the officers and executive committee of the coming fair. The suggestion will probably be carried out in the meeting.

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BELIEVE HIM HUNING AVENUE ROBBER

POLICE ARREST BEN THOMAS IN CONNECTION WITH TRIPLE HOUSE BREAKING.

Ben Thomas, a pipe fitter, who has been in trouble with the police before and whose troubles all can be traced back to a too free indulgence in liquor, is under arrest for obtaining goods under false pretences, and the police believe that Thomas will be connected with the three robberies on Huning avenue last Sunday night. Thomas was arrested in Las Vegas several months ago for stealing a quantity of tools from the Standard Plumbing Co. of Albuquerque. He pleaded guilty and served out his time in the county jail. He was released not long ago and immediately returned to a too free indulgence in booze. Recently Thomas has been doing odd jobs with a gang of wire workers and during his connection with them he went to the Skinner grocery store and obtained from \$10 to \$12 worth of groceries, which he had charged to one Gilliam, of the wire men. Gilliam has never given any orders for groceries and when the bill was presented to him he kicked. The result was a two days' chase after Thomas, and his ultimate arrest early yesterday afternoon.

For several reasons the police believe they will be able to connect Thomas with the robberies on Huning avenue. It is the opinion of Chief McMillin that Thomas' mind is affected and that he should be looked after by the territory. His actions of late have all pointed to mental weakness. Thomas is held in the city jail pending further examination.

Unable to Identify Rivera. Rafael Rivera was arrested early yesterday morning by Officer Salazar, charged with raising an American Lumber Co. pay check from \$22.50 to \$22.50 and cashing the check at the

L. Kempenich dry goods store. Rivera denies that he cashed the check, that he ever worked for the lumber company or that he ever dreamed of raising a check and the police are inclined to believe his story. Rivera was taken before Mr. Kempenich yesterday morning, but the merchant could not identify him as the man who had cashed the order. Rivera was again taken before Kempenich yesterday afternoon and the merchant again was not sure he had ever seen him before. In the face of this difficulty the officers released Rivera. They are now hunting for his brother, one of the gang of old town young men known to the police as the "dirty dozen," who they think have had something to do with the check.

Back Located in Beet Fields. Young Leo Baca, of 909 South Third street, who left Albuquerque Saturday without notifying his parents of his destination, has been definitely located in the beet fields near Rocky Ford, Colo., where he was enticed by a labor agent with promises of big wages. The boy will probably be left to work in the fields until he tires of the job.

The Daily Jags. In police court yesterday morning Pat Conahlin was given five days in which to rid his system of the pernicious effects of an overdose of dope. Ed Covert, who alleged he was a blacksmith from "Little Old K. C.," was given a five-days' blacksmithing contract on the streets. W. C. Shelby and T. T. Shans were handed five days in the cooler apiece for vagrancy and James Boland was released on the same charge after demonstrating to the satisfaction of the court that he was the owner of at least thirty cents and therefore not without visible means of support. James J. Kennedy and A. J. Coffman were released on their promise to vacate the city.

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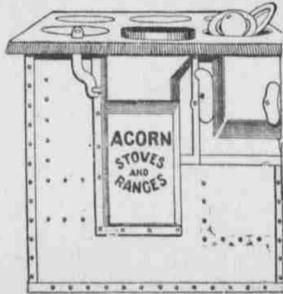


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