

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Tax Levy Ordinance is Introduced and Referred to the Finance Committee.

LEVY MUST BE DECIDED ON NEXT WEEK

Ordinance Providing for a Bond Issue for Paving and Curbing is Introduced and Given Two Readings.

The city council is finally faced with an immediate necessity for fixing the tax levy, having deferred the vexed question as long as possible, and its deliberations for the next week will be largely concerned with the subject.

At the meeting Tuesday night a levy ordinance was introduced by Chairman Burkley of the finance committee, read for the first and second times and referred to his committee.

The spaces in which the amounts will be inserted were left blank, the attention from being used to save time, as under the law the levy must be fixed next week.

An ordinance was also heard for the first and second times providing for a proposed bond issue for the purpose of paving and curbing. It is provided that \$25,000 be authorized for the purpose of paving streets and spaces opposite alleys.

The council was confronted with rather a delicate question in determining the person properly appropriated for the Southwest boulevard. The real estate was held in the name of the South Side Real Estate and Building company, which claims the \$275 damages awarded. It transpires, however, that the real owner is W. A. Vila, who is now in the act of foreclosing a mortgage.

The comptroller reported that he had checked over the books of the Omaha Gas company and found its report correct. At \$2.50 per 1,000 feet the city's share of the year's receipts amounts to \$13,395.41.

The tax commissioner recommended that certain personal assessments against Horace G. Burt be remitted. Mr. Burt explained that during the year 1897 he was not a resident of the city and his statement was accepted by the council.

The Advisory Board set forth in a communication that it had received and approved of a proposal from the exposition company for the sale of various tracts of land. The price named was \$11,000, which the board considered much below the value of the property. The matter was referred to the committee on fire.

The council's investigating committee reported that it had met and adjourned for four days without having received complaints of any description. The report was accepted and placed on file. Mount proposed that the committee meet the bill of the secretary, individually, inasmuch as the inquiry had been conducted for their private satisfaction. No action was taken on the suggestion.

A notification was received from the Board of Education and placed on file that the amount needed for school maintenance during the coming year would be \$4 mills.

J. W. Carr, attorney for Mrs. Ida Gollner, asked that the council co-operate with him in an effort to collect a sum amounting to \$22. He said that Mrs. Gollner had secured \$175 damages from the city owing to his efforts and he warned the city that he would expect the amount of his fee deducted from the award. The matter was referred to the city attorney.

A majority of the property owners on Thirty-second street between Farnam and Leavenworth petitioned that the street be paved, while a majority of the freeholders on Thirty-second street from Arbores south to the city limits protested against the laying of paving. Both communications were placed on file.

The ordinance increasing the license fee of lunch wagons was read for the first time. A Buchanan was given permission to build a double brick tenement without a twelve-inch intervening wall as required by the ordinance.

Charles C. Cameron, occupying a shooting gallery at 1204 Douglas street, was authorized to continue his business at the present stand despite the fact that the building is a temporary structure.

On recommendation of the city attorney C. E. Bruner was allowed \$175 for personal injury received in a fall at Thirtieth and Tenth streets.

The council will assemble at 4 p. m. today to listen to the reading of the mayor's message.

POLICE RAKE IN THE HOBOS

Make a Fine Collection of Tramps and Lodge Them in the City Jail.

The police department threw out a "dragnet" Tuesday night and made a catch of thirteen hobos. The net was made up of Sergeants Bouton and Wiesenberg, Officers Rentfrow, Lahey, Wilson, Goodrich and Reevy and Detectives Savage and Dunn. The net was carried to the Burlington station by the patrol wagon from whence it was taken to the vicinity of Gibson by a special car. There it was spread out and carefully drawn up through the railroad yards. Tramps were dragged out from every sort of shelter that afforded a protection from the cold. With one exception they offered no resistance and showed no resentment at being taken prisoners.

The man who did attempt to escape when routed out unintentionally gave the officer who pursued him a mental shock from which he will tremble for some time. The tramp led the chase across a perfectly open field with the officer in hot pursuit about ten feet in the rear, when suddenly the hobo disappeared as if he had melted into thin air. There was apparently no place for him to go.

Sick headache. Food doesn't digest well, appetite poor, bowels constipated, to take Ayer's Pills. It's your liver! Ayer's Pills are liver pills, easy and safe. They cure dyspepsia, biliousness. 25c. All Druggists.

WANT your mustache or beard a beautiful black? Buy BUCKINGHAM'S OYE for the hair.

to have gone. To reach the only shelter in sight the man would have had to turn and go directly back past the officer who was pursuing him. The policeman stopped instantly and thought of his lack of preparation to cope with supernatural agencies and he began to wish he knew a prayer or two and had been a better man. When he turned back and looked at the spot where he had last seen the fugitive on earth a human head was sticking up out of the ground. This was more blood-curdling than ever, but the officer being a brave man went forward and solved the mystery. There was an old eastern there which had been grown over with weeds and the tramp and hobo, peacefully fallen into it. He was pulled out and taken to the station with the rest, and they welcomed the warmth and comforts of the jail cells.

SOUTH OMAHA NEWS.

When it became known yesterday that Colonel East proposed to resign as secretary of the Live Stock Exchange, several candidates for the position blossomed out. It is understood that the exchange will now employ a secretary who is to devote his entire time to the business and the compensation will be commensurate with the duties performed. Bruce McCulloch, editor of the Standard, is prominently mentioned for the position and everyone admits that he would make a first-class secretary. W. B. Cheek, live stock agent for the Burlington, is also mentioned, in addition to quite a number of others.

The idea of securing a secretary who will devote his entire time to the business is considered by many a good one and it is intended to have the secretary act as a sort of a press agent for the yards and this market. Mr. McCulloch is considered the best man for the place and if suitable arrangements can be made he may accept. When the directors of the exchange meet next Monday the resignation of Colonel East will be read and without doubt it will be accepted. The new secretary will have an office in the Exchange building and will attend to a great mass of business which is now transacted by the officers of the association. Other markets have a secretary who devotes all his time to the interests of the market where he is employed and South Omaha does not propose to be left behind when it comes to an advance movement.

New Grading Estimates. New estimates are being made for the grading of M street and it is possible that enough signers may be secured to a petition to induce the city council to order a grading district. When City Engineer Beal was first requested to make an estimate he figured that it would cost \$15,000 to fill the holes between Twentieth and Twenty-second streets. The property owners considered this too much, and what about for means to reduce the cost. Several owners of ungraded property have been interested and it is stated that they are willing to pay 5 cents a cubic yard for the removal of dirt from their places and the district will fix the same amount for the fill. George McBride is working on the scheme and is trying to secure enough pledges to insure a contract.

It is estimated by Mr. McBride that \$10,000 will pay the entire cost of grading and if this is so it is more than probable that the work will be done. When the street is graded it is proposed to pave it with brick and a fine roadway to the Burlington tracks will thus be opened. When a street to the river is opened and paved the railroad company will erect a depot and stop all east-bound trains, so that South Omaha patrons may not be compelled to go to Omaha and ride back on street cars.

New Street Car Ordinance Coming. A new street car ordinance is being prepared by residents of the Third ward in the ordinance compelling the street car company to extend the Q street line to Fortieth street. Councilman Wear is looking after the interests of the people over there and he has proposed to see that the ordinance is prepared and passed that is legal. It is openly asserted that Mayor Emswiler knew when he signed the ordinance that it was not legal and would not hold in court. Forty days must elapse before the ordinance can be tested and after that time a car line is not built it is the intention of Wear and his friends to introduce another ordinance.

Brick Pavement Wearing Out. The brick pavement on Q street between Twenty-fourth and Twenty-sixth streets is in a deplorable condition and will soon have to be repaired. This pavement was laid in 1892 and the paving company guaranteed it for one year. As the guarantee has long since expired it devolves upon the city to make the repairs. The money for this work will have to come out of the general fund as there is little left if anything left in the street repair fund. An examination of the L street pavement shows that it is in a bad condition and before long repairs will have to be made to this street. Under these circumstances the city will have to make a larger levy than usual for street repairs this year.

Week in the Yards. A Missouri Pacific passenger engine struck Rock Island engine No. 652 in the north yards yesterday afternoon and caused a wreck which called for the wrecking crew from Omaha. The Rock Island engine was running from a switch to the main line when the Missouri Pacific train passed. The two engines came together with a shock and the Rock Island engine was knocked off the track and one of its axles broken. The passenger train was delayed for about an hour and one man was injured and the wrecking crew had the track cleared before night.

Improvements at Stock Yards. It is understood that the Stock Yards company will complete the macadam road to L street in the spring. General Manager Kenyon said yesterday that arrangements were being made for the letting of a contract for the building of this road. It is to extend from the horse and mule barn to L street and will be a continuation of the macadam road laid last year. When this new road is completed there will be a fine wide driveway from the east gates of the yards to the main entrance of the north.

Retail Clerks' Annual Ball. The first annual ball of the Retail Clerks' association was held at Odd Fellows hall last night. A. N. Davis was master of ceremonies and he was assisted by the following committees: Reception—D. B. Follett, J. W. Smith, P. McEvoy, J. J. O'Leary, Richard Nyak. Floor committee—E. Blake, C. S. Scattergood, P. J. Calkins, W. A. Berry, J. S. Barnett. Those attending were fittingly entertained and complimented the clerks on their selection of committees for the occasion.

Policemen Giving Surety Bonds. Before his departure for the south the most recent of the different laws and all members of the police force give a surety bond by February 1. Out of the seventeen members of the force twelve have filed bonds issued by the Nebraska Mutual Bond association of Omaha. It is expected that the balance of the force will file their bonds within the next day or two. Under this ruling of the mayor the bond of policemen is fixed at \$500 instead of \$1,000 as formerly.

Methodist Revival Meetings. Revival services are being held every night at the First M. E. church. Rev. J. E. Moore of Omaha preached last night and Rev. B. H. Brown of the same denomination will preach tonight. Rev. A. C. Welsh is applying

occupy the pulpit on Thursday evening and on Friday evening. Rev. A. C. Welsh will preside. These meetings are attracting considerable attention and as a rule they are largely attended.

Magic City Gossip. January cattle receipts are considerably in excess of those of a year ago. On Friday evening the Redhecks will give an entertainment at Odd Fellows hall.

Jim Wear is about the only democrat who is mentioned in the Third ward for councilman. A Burlington car off the tracks in the north yards yesterday delayed live stock trains for a short time.

The funeral of P. D. Armour, Jr., will be held Tuesday afternoon at the family residence, 307 Michigan avenue, Chicago.

The Woman's auxiliary of St. Martin's church will meet at 7 o'clock on Wednesday at the residence of Mrs. A. V. Miller, Twenty-first and N streets.

Republicans in the Third ward would like to nominate W. B. Cheek for councilman. Frank Lee of Armour's is also being talked over.

The cold weather has put a stop to all out of door work. Grading operations have been suspended and building has also been stopped.

MUSIC.

One of the favorite musical entertainments for the last few seasons has been the Liza Lehman song recital, by musical settings of verses from the "Rubaiyat" of Omar Khayyam, the eastern poet-philosopher of earlier days.

The cycle is appropriately named "In a Persian Garden" and it is interesting to note that while it has been many times in the east, last night was the occasion of its first presentation in Omaha. The concert was given under the auspices of the musical department of the Woman's club at the First Congregational church. The music is as a whole of a somewhat mixed character and is not essentially oriental, or, at least, as much so as one naturally makes up his mind to expect.

The composition, while generally interesting, is not absorbing, nor is it indicative of a master hand. The concert was preceded by a miscellaneous program, which gave each of the soloists a chance to appear to advantage in a free field. Following this Miss Alice Howell read the verses which were afterward sung, commenting thereon with a certainty and ease delightfully interesting.

Of the soloists Mrs. Weakley was easily the star. Her magnificent contralto voice won instant admiration and her singing throughout was artistic, finished and scholarly.

Mrs. Fullerton made the most of a voice which was not extraordinary and gave a satisfactory presentation of the soprano parts.

Mr. Runcie is the possessor of a pleasing light tenor voice, not of startling quality, but which he sang alone for his rather amateurish manner.

Mr. Farrell did some good work in his solos and was an adequate support to the quartet.

All in all, the production was scarcely what could be called a professional one. Omaha has certainly several singers who could have given the same satisfaction, but Omaha singers did not do it and thereby hangs a moral, if one looks for it.

Mrs. Howard Kennedy played an accompaniment accompanying without the breath requisite to the desired object of an accompanist, namely, the power to support. It was a pleasure to see the church full. May its shadow never grow less.

Christian Endeavor Rally. A missionary social and rally of the Omaha Christian Endeavor society was held Friday evening at the St. Mary's Avenue Congregational church. Dr. Sargent, pastor, delivered an address and a large audience that filled the auditorium. Dr. Herring delivered an address in behalf of missionary work.

A meeting of those interested in a north tract park will be held tonight at McKenna's hall, Sherman avenue and Locust streets. A full attendance of north side residents and others interested is anticipated.

The women of the Columbus guild of St. Peter's parish gave a social at the Metropolitan hall. High five was the order of the evening. Music and refreshments were served during the course of the entertainment.

The roof of the Sheridan coal office, Sixth and Jackson streets, was blown off by a stovepipe at 9:35 a. m. yesterday. The fire department was called out, but the blaze was extinguished before the firemen arrived. The damage was slight.

The county commissioners have decided, at the present adjournment, to refer to the voters the question of bonding the county to build a new court house. Agitation was aroused in the county when one who signed a petition asking the commissioners to take such action.

Fredrick Pett, the father of the lad who was killed by a motor car Monday, has expressed himself as deeming a coroner's inquest unnecessary. The coroner's inquest was held on Monday and the body of the boy was returned to the family in such a manner as to make the accident a closed one.

David R. Cameron, a butcher, ran to catch a motor car on Monday night on the streets Monday evening, and the unwonted agitation jarred from his coat pocket a purse containing a \$10 check and \$13 in money. Payment on the check has been stopped at the bank, but Cameron departs of recovering the \$13. He realizes that it is an unlucky sum.

A meeting of the board of directors of the internal revenue commissioner in answer to a question by Collector Houze regarding the proposed issue of a certificate of transcript of judgment issued by a justice of the peace. The new rule is that when the transcript is issued, a legal proceeding it does not need a stamp, but when used for private purposes it does.

At a meeting of the Arctic expedition, given its first dance of the season Tuesday night in Patterson hall, Seventeenth and Farnam streets. The program was presented and sixteen dances and a number of extras were enjoyed. The committee on arrangements was composed of Mrs. J. W. Allen, Mrs. F. White, Mrs. F. Johnson and G. H. Lewis was also master of ceremonies.

FIGURES TELL OF PROGRESS

Comprehensive and Intellectually Compiled Report by City Engineer Rosewater.

CONTAINS MUCH VALUABLE INFORMATION

Elaborate Review of Public Works and an Interesting Array of Facts Relative to Omaha-Comparison with Other Cities.

Andrew Rosewater, city engineer, has compiled an elaborate annual report relative to public work in Omaha during the last year. This document is addressed to the mayor and city council. From beginning to end it is replete with data that is valuable to every citizen of Omaha and much of it is of special merit as reference matter.

Mr. Rosewater has also prepared numerous blue print tables, in which he shows by figures many interesting facts about what is doing in the way of street paving, sewer extension and other improvements. In his capacity as city engineer, Mr. Rosewater is ex-officio chairman of the Board of Public Works and many years of practical experience have made him exceptionally familiar with the subjects at issue. In substance his report is as follows:

Work by Contract. The contract work of 1899, summarized as to cost, amounted to 2,250,000 miles of sewer; 1,350,000 miles of curbing; 2,410,000 miles of sidewalk; 1,350,000 miles of curb and sidewalk; 1,350,000 miles of curb and sidewalk; 1,350,000 miles of curb and sidewalk. These items represent work by contract and in addition there remains work under contract to be completed during 1900 aggregating about \$2,000,000.

A large amount of new sewer construction has been completed during the year. In addition to that which was completed in 1899, 250,000 feet of pipe storm sewer on Fifteenth street from Dodge street, 250,000 feet of brick storm sewer on Hixbury street from Second street, 250,000 feet of brick storm sewer on Center street, costing \$1,000,000, and 1,200 feet of storm sewer on Boulevard.

The engineering department issued 1,375 permits for new buildings and 1,375 connections. Plans for these connections were determined in the engineering department. The work done in the department during the year was estimated at \$2,000,000 during the year, which was credited by the comptroller to the city fund.

The main storm sewers, which have been repeatedly reported in dangerous condition during the last few years, have received considerable attention during the year. The old brick sewer on Dodge street, which had become entirely unsafe, was replaced by a new sewer, 250,000 feet long, constructed and new inlets and manholes constructed in connection with it to admit of the drainage and access for future supervision. The large extent of work found necessary to be done in consequence of the neglect to give timely attention to past years has rendered the draft upon the city fund for the year 1899-1900 an exceedingly small sum provided in the maintenance fund levy.

The portion of expense for sewer construction this year has been upon the sewer mains in North Omaha to dispose of the water from the new sewer on Dodge street. This sewer has been constructed on Thirty-seventh street, north of Pinkney street, and has a length of 1,350,000 feet. It is a brick sewer, 250,000 feet long, constructed from the creek, south of Pinkney street, and north to Sprague street, thence east to a point where the main branch of the sewer crosses the main branch of the sewer leading to Twenty-seventh street.

Paving Improvements. The paved area of Omaha at the close of the year 1899 was 1,250,000 square feet, or 28.5 acres. This was an increase of 1,250,000 square feet, or 28.5 acres, over the paved area of 1898. The increase was due to the paving of 1,250,000 square feet, or 28.5 acres, of new pavement, and the replacement of 1,250,000 square feet, or 28.5 acres, of old pavement by new pavement.

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determine upon the necessary right of way for said work.

Work of Engineering Department. The work of the engineering department in the past year has been exceedingly extensive in view of the small appropriation made for the purpose. The work was conducted under difficulties. Field engineers to lay out work could not at times be secured, owing to the appropriation limitations, as only temporary employment could be given them, so that at times such men as could be secured were shifted from positions of inspectors to positions of engineers with varying salaries per diem and per month. One of the most useful of these was the late Mr. Cowles, whose able and efficient services deserve special commendation. It has been exceedingly discouraging and demoralizing to have the secretary order the appropriation for years studied and devoted time to the pursuit of their profession to find themselves being ordered to resign, and to have the men working under them.

The drafting department during the past year has consisted mostly of one man, with occasional helpers of field men during the winter months. The work done during the year was the drafting of the special assessment for parks, boulevards, street curbing, sewer paving or grading, and other work of every nature, as well as reports upon every petition for work.

Street Work and Street Cleaning. The street cleaning department of the Board of Public Works, under the direction of the chief engineer of the city, has during the first two months of the year it was conducted directly under my personal supervision. During this time the streets were cleaned from twelve inches to eighteen inches of snow and silt, which the impurities of the streets are much needed. This was nearly completed after much study in regard to the method of street cleaning. Men entirely unfamiliar with the city and the plan heretofore devised and as a result of the work done during the year, the streets were cleaned in a more efficient manner than ever before. A tabulated list of the work done during the year is appended to this report. It will be found that the extent of work accomplished during the year is of a most unusual character. The cost of the work done during the year was \$1,350,000, which was paid for by the city and the State.

In addition to the work of the drafting department, the revision and correction of the house number books are much needed. This was nearly completed after much study in regard to the method of street cleaning. Men entirely unfamiliar with the city and the plan heretofore devised and as a result of the work done during the year, the streets were cleaned in a more efficient manner than ever before. A tabulated list of the work done during the year is appended to this report. It will be found that the extent of work accomplished during the year is of a most unusual character. The cost of the work done during the year was \$1,350,000, which was paid for by the city and the State.

The cleaning of the streets during the remainder of the year was conducted as in the previous years, with the exception of being entirely by hand labor, and cost in the aggregate nearly \$1,000. About \$1,000 of this was expended for three light one-horse box carts employed exclusively in the business of cleaning the streets. The cost of the labor of every nature, which has been estimated by comparison the cost and method of cleaning in vogue in other cities.

With the use of the new sweeping machinery and sprinklers this cost could be reduced. The chief object of the cleaning of streets by contract, but it does not produce the desired results. The use of the machinery and employing men by day is found to be the most efficient method of handling the machines and the work. The supervision and control of the Board of Public Works. In violation of this provision of the street sprinkling has been conducted upon the streets of Omaha by a member of the city council and the work done in this work, when imported into the city, has been found to be of a very inferior quality. The street superintendent or his foreman, have openly defied them to help in the execution of such proceedings, and the same as official interference in sidewalk construction.

Street Repairs and Maintenance. The estimate of cost of street work, which has been prepared for 1899 as made by me was \$200,000. The amount apportioned by your body was \$100,000. This amount was divided into three parts, one for the year 1899, one for the year 1900, and one for the year 1901. The amount for the year 1899 was \$100,000, for the year 1900 was \$100,000, and for the year 1901 was \$100,000. This amount was divided into three parts, one for the year 1899, one for the year 1900, and one for the year 1901. The amount for the year 1899 was \$100,000, for the year 1900 was \$100,000, and for the year 1901 was \$100,000.

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