Exposes Some Funkhouser Statements Arthorn Relative to Izard Street Sewer.

LEAVES COUNCILMAN IN BOX

Asserts that Presence, Not Absence, of City Engineer is What Annoys the Ambitious Democratic Politician.

"In the interests of the public I addressed on Wednesday last a letter to the mayor, ching reasons why the contract for the laard street sewer for \$123,500 should not be awarded." said City Engineer Rosewater. "In this letter I stated that Mr. Funkhouser had introduced a resolution asking for an itemized statement as to the basis of my conclusions and that when this statement was furnished it was given to the contractor so it might enable him to prepare figures whereby Councilman Funkhouser could attack my figures and secure the award for him,

"Mr. Funkhouser in reply denies that he consulted any contractor and that his information was secured from Messrs. Bridges and Withnell. As a matter of fact. Mr. Funkhouser's original resolution asking for the engineer's figures came from the confracting parties. The fact that they furnished the written reply used by Mr. Funkhouser in his attack, is sufficient evi-

dence as to its source. "Mr. Funkhouser states in explanation of the fact that he did not give the engineer an opportunity to be heard, that he telephoned to the office and the engineer was not there. This is singular, considering that the council committee was in the habit of sending for the engineer when any information is desired and that on the Monday afternoon when this matter was considered the engineer was in his office the entire afternoon up to 6 o'clock p. m., but his presence was not wanted, although \$16,000 were at stake.

One Statement True. "The statement is true that the city engineer some four months before the detalls of the plans were completed, in reply to a verbal inquiry as to what this sewer would cost, stated in an off-hand way that it probably would cost from \$90,000 to \$100,-000. Such an off-hand statement does not constitute an estimate and certainly would not be considered by a business body as

against a detalled signed written estimate. "As to the other portion of Mr. Funkhouser's statement, to use a lawyer's phrase, it is irrelevant, but in the interests of truth, concerning my alleged absence and neglect of public duty, I will state that I have given more hours to the performance of public duty than any other one official in the city hall. I work at my office every Saturday afternoon, when nearly all the other offices are closed and I devote an average of one hour each night in the study of city interests. Furthermore, whilst others have, with few exceptions, taken vacations averaging from two weeks to as much as two months each year. I have taken none in the last two

Presence is What Annoys. "The truth is that my critics are not so much worried about my occasional absence, as they are about my presence and close attention to city's interests.

In regard to the alleged statements of Mesars. Bridges and Withnell, that brick would cost \$8.50. I will simply state that inasmuch as we have been having brick hauled and delivered a distance of two miles by wagon load lots at that price, it would be utterly absurd to say that we could not buy 3,000,000, or more, brick at materially reduced figures.

"Cement, which the contractor estimated at \$1.90 per barrel, can be bought at \$1.50 or less in the quantities, (9,000 barrels) re-

The cost of laying brick can be discounted even 20 per cent below my figures. So can many other items and I do not hesitate to repeat that the actual cost of materials and construction of this sewer. will range between \$85,000 and \$90,000; adding 20 per cent for profit, will bring the reasonable value of the completed sewer to from \$102,000 to \$108,000, in place of \$120,500.

Better Able to Judge. "In regard to the Jones street sewer. I flatter myself as being able to judge of that better than Mr. Funkhouser or Mr. Bridges, having designed forty odd systems for cities all over the country and supervised the construction of a large number

of them. "As to the condition of scattering sidewalks in the city, if Mr. Funkhouser had en dealrous of informing himself he would have ascertained long ago that the fault is due to the law, not to the engineer. The law precludes the city from enforcing permanent sidewalk construction excepting where streets are actually at grade, and brick walks, which the law includes in the class of temporary sidewalks, can be ordered, so that when said streets are graded afterward, or paved, the walks do not comply with the permanent grade because they were only ordered and laid to temporary

Referring to alleged discrimination against Mr. Jensen, the low bidder. How does Mr. Funkhouser know if he has not seen or mingled with the contracting parties, that I have discriminated? The fact is I am paid by the people to look after their interests, and not Mr. Jensen's. Only a few years ago I urged the award of a contract to Mr. Jensen for a section of California street sewer when he was a low bidder and Mr. Connelly was high bidder. At that time Mr. Connelly thought I discriminated against him. In that case, as in all other cases, I was for the city of Omaha as against anyone else."

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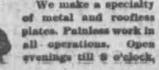
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Surplus stock of three well known manufacturers, secured by our New York buyer at a tremendous bargain, now on sale in three great lots. BIG-GEST SKIRT BARGAINS EVER OFFERED.

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From 9:30 Till 16:30 A. M. | Remnants of 75c Bleached Damasks, Simpson's Black and White Prints 5¢

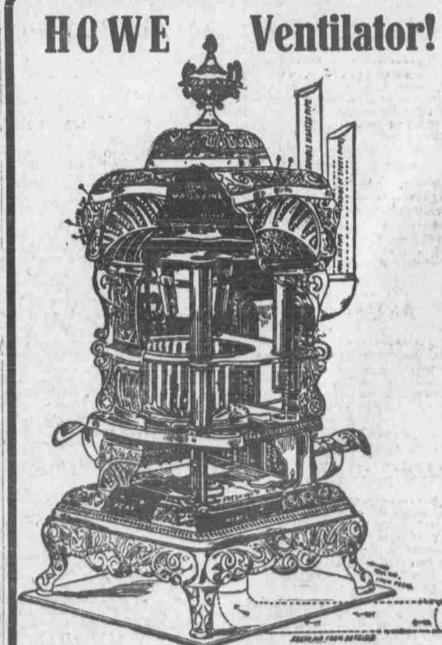
uine article (only six yards to cus- 72x90 Unbleached Sheets, very heavy, 12 1/2 C Amoskeag Outing Flannels. 81x90 Unbleached Sheets, Lockwood. Special Sale on Blankets.

Simpson's Silver Gray Prints..... Cotton, \$1.50, \$1.25, \$1.00, 75c, 59e \$1.00 Table Cloths, S-4, 10-4 and 8x12, and and 49¢ each 69¢
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