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TOWN COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

Tax Rate Settled and Report of Finance Committee Presented.

There was a meeting of the Town Council last Thursday night, and aside from the presentation of the report of the finance committee very little business was transacted. The tax rate was fixed at nine mills, the same as last year, and the line dividing the suburban from the built up portion of town remains the same as last year.

The question of electric light was discussed, but owing to the absence of Mr. Mullen, General Superintendent, no action was taken. It was decided that all parties interested meet Monday evening for the purpose of coming to some agreement.

The grade on West street between Fourth and Fifth was slightly altered.

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The Finance committee, consisting of Messrs. Kunkle, Richard and Kocher, reported that "from an examination of the last annual statement, as approved by the Auditors on April 7, 1896, it appears that the assessed valuation of property within the Town of Bloomsburg is \$2,237,928.00, and that 2 per cent. of the above valuation, or the constitutional limit beyond which no debt can be legally created, is \$447,585.60.

A further examination of said statement shows, however, that the bonded indebtedness of the Town is now \$443,345.00. Add to this the floating debt of \$8,012.91 and it will be seen that the total amount of the Town's indebtedness is \$523,357.91, or \$75,772.31 above the constitutional limit of 2 per cent.

This indebtedness in excess of the constitutional limit is made up of the Ringrose judgment of something over \$5,000.00, and outstanding Town orders, representing unpaid street damages, etc., and the question as to what action the Council should take in disposing of the same has been the chief subject of consideration by your committee.

We have been advised by the Town Solicitor that the total amount of this indebtedness being beyond the constitutional limit and, with the exception of the Ringrose judgment, illegally created, any bonds issued in payment of the same would be likewise illegal; that while the town may at any time fund its floating debt, it can only do so when the debt is within the limit prescribed by law.

This being true, the only method by which immediate payment can be made is the laying of a special tax for that purpose, or an increase in the present rate of taxation to such an amount as would raise sufficient money to liquidate this excess indebtedness. Either of these methods would be burdensome to the tax-payers, and, in the opinion of your committee, are not at present necessary.

There is no demand for the immediate payment of this money. The owners of the Ringrose judgment and the outstanding town orders for street damages are perfectly content to hold the same so long as their interest is promptly paid. With the possible exception of a few hundred dollars this entire amount of \$7,599.35 is held by the parties entitled thereto simply as an investment. Nor is there any necessity to raise money for the purpose of paying such bonds as will mature during the present year, since they can be re-issued as they fall due.

Under these facts, your committee would not advise an issue of bonds, the laying of a special tax nor an unusual increase in the present rate. In our opinion the question of the Town's finances can be best solved by an increase in the present rate of taxation of at least one mill. This, together with an economic administration of affairs and a refusal to open or accept any new streets where damages will be imposed upon the Town, will provide sufficient money for current expenses, and at the same time enable us to materially reduce the indebtedness which is beyond the constitutional limit."

We can boast of two of the finest streets in the State. We refer to Market Street and Fifth Street. The sides of each are lined with beautiful maples which cast a pleasant shade over the pavements and not only make it pleasant for pedestrians but add greatly to its appearance.

Zach Thomas and Robert Morris represented Ent Post No. 250 G. A. R. at the annual encampment at Chambersburg this week. The former as Post Commander, and the latter as a delegate.

DECORATING THE GRAVES.

Memorial day broke bright and fair, and at an early hour the people were astir, and the streets presented a lively appearance. In accordance with previous arrangement the members of Ent Post assembled at their hall early in the morning and accompanied by the band proceeded to the cemetery at Almedia to scatter flowers over the graves of their departed comrades. A detail from the P. O. S. of A. went to the Odd Fellows cemetery near Danville and the Vanderslice and Heller grave yards and performed a similar service over the graves of their deceased brothers. Many of the business houses as well as the private residences were decorated with flags and bunting and from 12 o'clock noon business was practically suspended. At half past two in the afternoon the parade formed on Market Square and marched over the route as formerly published. The parade was headed by the Band, followed by Col. Ent Post G. A. R., a number of little girls dressed in white carrying flowers, the Bloomsburg Drum Corps, about sixty members of Washington Camp No. 319, P. O. S. of A. in full regalia and carrying red, white and blue umbrellas. The Friendship Fire Company and The Junior Order American Mechanics and Boys Brigade were also in line. The services were conducted at the soldiers circles in the cemetery, after which an address was delivered by Rev. D. A. Rupley of Espy. Nothing happened to mar the solemnity of the occasion and there was a marked absence of drunkenness and other revelry which ordinarily accompanies those occasions.

THE PHONOGRAPH COMING.

On next Monday evening June 8, in the Methodist Tabernacle Prof. W. V. Gilday will give an interesting, amusing and instructive entertainment with his phonograph. This wonderful instrument sings, speaks, reads Scripture, plays instrumental music and can be heard with great distinctness. It is indeed a marvel to hear what it has to say. Prof. Gilday has given over five hundred entertainments and has one of the largest and best instruments made. He has the highest recommendations from pastors of various denominations. One pastor says: "The reading of the 23rd Psalm and the hymn sung by camp meeting Aunt Susan were listened to with rapt attention." Another says: "We never had anything in our church that gave such universal satisfaction." Rev. J. Ellis Bell of Altoona Pa., says: "I most heartily recommend it as a refined and pleasing entertainment. One piece 'Meet me at the golden gate,' is worth the price of admission." The admission will be a silver offering taken at the door. Begins at 8:00 o'clock.

BICYCLERS AND DOGS.

What to do with the dogs is still an uppermost question in the minds of the parties who contemplate bicycle tours. Every one who has been out in the country knows what a nuisance they are. The ammonia gun is recommended by some, and is undoubtedly effective without being harmful in its effects. After receiving a charge of ammonia any dog is rendered harmless for the time being. In Germany a new invention has come into use for the suppression of dogs. It is called the bicycle bomb. While harmless in itself it explodes with terrific concussion that is warranted to scare any dog out of seven senses, at least until the rider is half a mile away. The bomb is a small affair, and can easily be carried in the pocket. When thrown on the ground it goes off at a great rate, paralyzing the dog's nerve centers for a time.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

The electric light company and the Town Council have at last come to an agreement in reference to our light. E. D. Mullen of Philadelphia, and H. M. Francis of Brooklyn, N. Y., met the Council last Monday night and closed a contract to light the streets of the town at eighty dollars a light. The contract is for the term of five years, providing the Court does not declare such a contract illegal. In that event the electric light company agrees to become responsible for all costs in case a suit is instituted. Their price is \$7.50 less than last year.

Tin manufacturers should study the ostrich. Carpet tacks can't puncture its stomach.

We guarantee every garment that leaves this house.

JUNE

... REDUCTIONS ...

Our aim is to always give best values for least money.

Now the rule. Every summer suit for man, boy or child, at and near positive cost. This is following our usual custom of not carrying goods over from season to season. Bear in mind every summer suit at and near positive cost. We'll not wait until the season is over, but commence right now in the heart of buying. Not one word is exaggerated. Every summer suit must be sold. Truthful advertising is what has built us this business. Don't wonder if its true--its absolutely so. Its our business policy not to carry goods over from season to season. That insures our patrons of new and desirable goods. Not only shall we make the reductions on clothing, but Straw Hats, Negligee Shirts, &c. Read carefully every price here, but better still, come to the store.

\$5.00

for extra good all wool men's suits, splendidly made, taken from our regular lines of \$6.50 and \$7.50 suits. Light, dark and medium colors, absolutely all wool and cannot be matched in any other clothing store for less than \$7.50.

\$7.50

for suits that are made of pure lamb's wool. Cheviots, cassimeres, worsteds in sacks and cutaways, light, dark and medium colors.

\$9.00

for men's suits that compare with any \$12 to \$15 suits in this town. Taken from our regular stock of worsteds, cheviots and cassimeres formerly sold at \$11, \$12, \$13 and \$15.

This sale is positively bonafide. We'll carry no goods over, and we start our price reductions early so as to be prepared for fall buying.

J. M. CIDDING & CO.

Children's Suits

Reefers, Juniors, Fauntleroy's, and all this season's new desirable goods, made by best Rochester and New York tailors. All reduced. Mothers, this is the chance of the season to clothe the boy. Prices are positively ridiculous for high class goods. The \$7.50, \$6.50 and \$5.50 suits are down to \$4.50. The \$5.00, \$4.50 and \$4.00 grades down to \$3.48. The \$3.50 and \$3.00 grades down to \$2.48. Every price is positively guaranteed to be fully a saving of 25 per cent. Men's and youth's all wool pants at \$1.50, in blue, black and colors. Men's extra fine never rip kind, \$1.98. Wash knee pants, 10c. Wash suits 39c.

State Teachers' Association.

The State Teachers' Association will hold its annual convention in Bloomsburg, beginning Tuesday, July 14, 1896. It is expected that between five and six hundred teachers from all parts of the State will be present. The citizens of Bloomsburg are making arrangements to properly entertain this distinguished body of educators. The hotel accommodations will be taxed and it may be necessary to secure rooms and boarding with private families. A public reception will be tendered the members of the Association in the Normal Gymnasium on Tuesday evening. Governor Hastings will attend on Wednesday evening.

A citizens' committee of fifteen members of which A. Z. Schoch is chairman, and J. C. Brown secretary, has been appointed to make arrangements for the meeting. This committee held a meeting last week and appointed sub-committees as follows:

On boarding and hotel accommodations:—L. P. Sterner, J. R. Townsend, I. W. Hartman.

On general entertainment:—Hon. E. R. Ikeler, Grant Herring, R. W. Oswald, J. R. Townsend, W. S. Moyer.

On railroad rates:—Grant Herring, C. W. Miller, L. E. Waller with Prof. G. E. Wilbur secretary.

On finance:—W. S. Moyer, J. M. Clark, W. M. Reber.

On reception:—A. Z. Schoch, L. E. Waller, J. G. Freeze, P. E. Wirt, J. C. Brown.

On badges:—J. R. Townsend, J. M. Clark, Joseph Ratti.

W. J. Barry, formerly clerk at the Girard House, Philadelphia has taken charge of Congress Hall, Atlantic City. He is associated with N. B. Richardson of Pittsburg. The rates are \$2.50 and \$3.00 a day, with special rates by the week. Mr. Barry is well known here, having resided here several years while connected with an engineer's corps on the N. & W. B. R. R. He has had long experience in the hotel business, and those who visit Atlantic City will do well to make Congress Hall their stopping place.

PUBLIC SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT.

This is Commencement week for the Public Schools of this place, and they practically have captured the town. Monday evening the Juniors gave a very creditable performance in the Opera House which was listened to by an appreciative audience. The music by Elwell's orchestra was in keeping with their reputation.

The want of space prevents us from giving a full account of the exercises. It is sufficient to state that each number was rendered in a manner which reflected credit upon the pupil and teacher alike.

On Tuesday evening there was a musicale under the direction of O. H. Yetter and the house was crowded to the doors. Wednesday evening a social, under the auspices of the Juniors and B Juniors, was given in the High School building to the Senior class. To-night the Commencement exercises proper will take place. The music will be rendered by Elwell's orchestra, and the exercises will consist of essays, orations, recitations, music, an original poem and presentation of diplomas. The graduating class consists of the following named persons.

SCIENTIFIC COURSE.

Josephine Horton Pursel.

NORMAL COURSE.

Margaret Louise Fortune, Dora Flora Shultz, Helen Maus Vanderslice, Kathleen Veronica Hennessy, Annie Lavina Kramer, Sarah Mabel Moyer, Anna Moore, Nora Etta Umstead, Ada Belle Sherwood, Josiah Francis Johnson, Charles William Traub.

COMMERCIAL COURSE.

Fannie Grace Burcher, Clara Augusta Fornwald, Rush Shaffer, Frank Barton Rupert, Mortimer Raynor Butler, Jay Hughes Allen, Charles Ralph Alexander, George Stephen Alleman, Harry Joseph Little.

To-morrow night the festivities of the occasion will conclude with a banquet of the Alumni Association at the Exchange Hotel.

It is said that the summer girl will make a fad of knitting at the shore this summer. Yes she will, "nit."

THE GREAT Clothing Sensation.

DRAWING GREAT CROWDS.

It has knocked \$5.00 men's suits down to \$3.75.

Suits that are cheap at \$10 are now \$7.50.

Men's fine suits worth \$15 and \$18 are down to \$10 and \$12.

Children's knee pant suits worth \$3.50, dropped to \$1.75 and \$2.00.

BLOOMSBURG'S MOST POPULAR

CLOTHING STORE

the D. LOWENBERG.