

# The Columbian.

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NO. 3

## MONTHLY MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL

Will Issue Bonds to Pay Off  
Outstanding Orders, Amount-  
ing to \$16,000.

## Health Board Makes Report.

The regular January meeting of the Town Council was held Thursday night, with President Townsend and all the members, excepting Samuel Pursel, present.

Following the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, which were approved, Mr. Rhoades called Council's attention to the non-compliance of the Danville & Bloomsburg Street Railway Company, to the order requiring fenders on their cars. Mr. Townsend said the company would comply and that the fenders would be placed on the cars in a few days.

Secretary Freeze Quick stated that he had given Constable Miles Betz, a list of the people who according to the recent resolution of Council, would be compelled to lay pavements in front of their properties.

Chief of the fire department G. E. Lewis, appeared before council, and reported that the present equipment of the department is not only inadequate but that it is not up to the requirements of the Underwriters Association. Some of the companies have only 350 feet of hose, when they should have 1000 feet. He recommended the immediate purchase of 1100 feet of hose, and also asked for an appropriation of \$150, to be used for the purchase of rubber coats and gum boots for the firemen. The Good Will Company, he said, is in need of chemicals. He recommended that the alarm box, at present located near the Heddens Hotel on Iron Street, be removed to a point on First Street, near the residence of Paul E. Wirt.

On motion of Mr. Reimard, seconded by Mr. Hughes, it was decided to make an appropriation of \$150, to purchase equipment as recommended by Chief Lewis.

Fred Neyhart, residing on Eyer Street, appeared and asked for an incandescent electric light. On motion, request was granted, and it was ordered that a light be placed in the alley for the convenience of the people residing there.

President Townsend stated that he had filled the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Street Commissioner William Kashner, by the appointment of Henry Dieffenbach, and that it was now up to Council to ratify the appointment, or reject it and appoint some other person. On motion Mr. Dieffenbach's appointment was confirmed.

The report of the Board of Health, prepared and submitted by its secretary Dr. S. B. Arment, showed that there had been placed under quarantine the following cases; diphtheria 24; scarlet fever 18; measles 2; and chicken pox 1.

There was no typhoid fever reported, but it was estimated that there had probably been in the neighborhood of 25 cases. There were 2 deaths from diphtheria and 1 from scarlet fever.

The report stated that the sanitary condition of the town had been excellent and the cleaning of the alleys and gutters in the fall has had the good effect of allowing the surface water to flow freely. The report continued that notwithstanding the flood, owing to the care the Board of Health had exercised in having the wells cleaned in the flooded district and in enforcing upon the people in the flooded district the importance of boiling the water before using it no bad results had followed.

The estimate of expense for the coming year was fixed at \$388.50, and was made up as follows: Health officer \$150, secretary, \$60, telephone 1904, \$10.50; telephone 1905, \$18.00; printing, \$5; stationery and postage, \$25; sundries, \$25. The report spoke of the good work of the board in confining the cases of smallpox which raged in Sugarloaf township to the locality in which it originated.

## THE BOND ISSUE.

Council decided to issue bonds to pay off the outstanding orders. President Townsend prefaced the motion by stating that for years,

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## STATEMENT FROM PRESIDENT WIRT.

Presents Water Co's. Side Rg-  
arding Water For Fire  
Protection.

## Tests Show Supply to be Good.

It seems unavoidable, that after every fire there should be adverse criticism and general fault-finding with the water supply of this town for fire protection. It is almost invariably the case that a certain amount of cussing of the Water Company, its system and management must be indulged in after every fire. The Town Council as well as individuals all take a hand in it. That this periodical fault-finding is based principally upon rumors and mistakes the Water Company stands ready and willing at any and all times to prove.

In the first place, there has been invested by the Bloomsburg Water Company about eighty thousand dollars for the benefit of the town alone; that is to say, that amount has been spent by the Company for fire protection for its citizens in its enlarged reservoir, piping and engines.

With nearly half of the expenditure made by this company as their system now is, the town could have been supplied for years with water for ordinary purposes outside of fires.

In every instance of enlargement or improvement, the question of fire supply came first, was first considered, and this absolutely and particularly for the safety of the homes, stores, factories and mills of the citizens of this town.

For this enormous outlay, in excess of what would have been sufficient to afford only so much water as would be used in the regular way, the Bloomsburg Water Company received from the town for fire protection the munificent sum of twenty dollars per fire plug—less money than nine out of ten of the towns throughout the land are paying for similar service.

The town pays the Water Company about one and a half per cent. on the money invested for the sole benefit of the town, that flames may not sweep it out of existence some day or night. The reduced rate of insurance to the residents of the town by reason of the fire protection offered by the Bloomsburg Water Company's system makes up more than twice over the amount paid the Water Company by the town. These are facts stated, and if any one will but take the trouble to look into it at any time they may be corroborated. The Water Company will cheerfully assist at any sober investigation of the subject.

These matters are more particularly referred to because of the kick that invariably comes along after a fire, about the time the town authorities are considering the water rents for fire plugs.

By recent practical test by insurance authorities, it ought to be a known fact that the water supply in this town in case of fire stands close to the head of the list. Those whose business life depends upon it have thoroughly investigated and so report.

The firemen of this town are to be heartily commended for their efficiency, pluck and endurance, and every effort should be made to care for them who so willingly give their time, money and effort to save property. But at the same time it may not be amiss that the Council or those in authority who control the fire department, see to it that the boys know how to open and close a fire plug, and how to do it quickly and to see to it that they have the proper tools to do it with.

At the recent Woolen Mill fire two or three men together tried to open a plug by turning it the wrong way and breaking wrenches and much delay was caused. This occurs at nearly every fire. For years the Water Company have been constantly following the wake of a fire, repairing plugs that have been badly handled. Delay in getting a stream upon the fire necessarily follows when for ten or fifteen minutes some one is trying to open up a plug by operating it in the wrong way. There is certainly disaster in this kind of delay and the Water Company also should not be held responsible for it. The

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## Familiarity Breeds Satisfaction.

Banks are becoming more and more the custodians of the funds of the people, of both large and small means. This is due not only to the better security afforded by a well equipped and carefully managed bank, but also to a wider appreciation of the value of good banking service as its usefulness is extended and its methods become better known. In the case of the

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A. Z. SCHOCH, President.

WM. H. HIDLAY, Cashier.

## THE WORK OF LICENSE COURT.

Remonstrators Won Out In  
Every Case Which They  
Protested.

## J.E. Sands' Application Granted

An audience which filled every seat in the room was on hand when Court convened to consider the hundred and nineteen applications for licenses, at ten o'clock Monday morning. The interest manifested was apparently much greater than had been displayed in former years and the attendance throughout the several sessions was large.

Judge Little presided and the two associates J. T. Fox and William Krickbaum were also on the bench.

Before any of the cases were taken up the following communication, from Pomona Grange No. 5, was read:

An appeal to the License Court of Columbia County:

Resolved, By Pomona Grange No. 5 in regular session assembled at Orangeville, January 6th, 1905, that we hereby respectfully appeal to the Honorable Judges of Columbia county that at the approaching license court they refuse to grant license to sell liquor where none now exist and especially in rural districts.

(Attest): MRS. ROSA WENNER,  
Secretary.

By order of Judge Little the appeal, which he said was entitled to a good deal of respect and consideration, was filed and copied on the minutes.

The Court then took up the list of license applications.

There being no objections against the old applicants they were all granted.

The first case taken up against which a remonstrance had been filed was that of M. J. Devanny, for a restaurant license at Jamison City. The applicant was the first to take the witness stand. He told of the suitable location he had procured and explained the existing public demand for a place such as he proposed to keep. There is but one licensed bar in the town and meals can be had there only at regular hours. People he said, are arriving and leaving on the trains and the call for lunches and meals between the regular meal hours is constant. It is this class of trade that he hopes to accommodate.

The need of an additional place he said is emphasized by the fact that the bar room and even the office of the City Hotel is frequently so crowded and overrun that it is impossible to get through. The population of Jamison City, in his opinion, is nearly double what it was some years ago when there were five licensed places in the town.

Mr. Devanny was supported by five other witnesses, namely, J. H. VanSickle, George Hassenplug, Fred K. Getz, Charles Turner and Clarence Hess. All of them were of the opinion that a restaurant would be a public convenience.

On the other hand, the witnesses for the remonstrance, R. M. Davis, Dr. M. H. Smithgall, J. L. Sutton, W. L. Borden, J. P. Hill and O. B. Ammerman testified that both the eating and drinking accommodation of the City Hotel were in every way adequate and that there is no need for another licensed place.

John G. Harman, Esq. represented the applicant and Hon. H. M. Hinckley, of Danville, and R. R. John Esq., appeared for the re-

monstrances. It was twelve o'clock when the Devanny case was concluded and Court adjourned till half past one o'clock. Upon reconvening, Patrick Connovan, of Centralia, was admitted to citizenship after which the application of Michael B. Hill for a hotel license in Catawissa township was taken up. On the stand Mr. Hill described the location of the house and stated that it was originally planned for just such purposes as he proposed to put it if the Court considered his application favorably.

Jacob Hower who built the house told of the great amount of travel over the road. Testimony favorable to the applicant was given by Charles M. Drumheller and George Murray. The Court here terminated the proceeding by stating that they could see no necessity for an additional hotel in Catawissa township and the application was accordingly refused.

Dennis Dorsey's application for a license at the City Hotel, Jamison City, was next heard. He built the hotel in 1890 and rented it to Matthew Forbes but he now desires to conduct it himself.

The next case was that of Matthew Forbes, of Jamison City. This was an application for a restaurant license, in a building known as the "Blue Front." Mr. Forbes conducted this place six years ago but left it to take charge of the City Hotel. In view of the fact that Mr. Dorsey desires possession of his building, the City Hotel, it becomes necessary for Mr. Forbes to get another location. The applicant was followed on the witness stand by O. K. Shultz who described the great stride Jamison City has taken in point of size and population during the past two years. Last year he said, the town experienced the greatest boom in its history, and more houses were built than in the ten years preceding. Along with this growth there is an increasing demand for public accommodations which the City Hotel does not supply.

Gus Oleson, Supt. for the Union Tanning Co., was the next witness. He was of the opinion that another licensed place would serve to divide the crowd, which frequently fills the City Hotel to overcrowding. He is not a drinking man, but business engagements takes him to the Hotel, and he has often seen the place very much congested.

Further testimony for Forbes was

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