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39c.

ANNUAL MESSAGE OF MAYOR BAILEY

(Continued from Page 1.)

too late in the season to commence work on same. Bids have been received and contract signed for paving Providence road and North Main square approximately estimate \$793,239, but some of the property owners claimed that the ordinance was illegal and took the matter into court and the court sustained them. The contract with Martin Brothers for the construction of the Seventeenth district main sewer approximately estimate made an attempt to execute the delivery of 12,200 lineal feet at a cost of \$98,000, was executed on April 6, but the contractors some few weeks ago refused with the work until November 21, and this I believe was done for the purpose of blind-folding the people of this city (those on the line of the proposed improvement) possibly by throwing the responsibility for the delay on this department, for they well knew that the specifications say that "all sewer work must start on the first day of December" all sewer specifications ever printed for the use of the city contained the same clause.

THE CITY'S STREETS

The work of Street Commissioner P. J. O'Boyle since assuming office six months ago has been eminently satisfactory. It must be remembered that, when he took up the work, the entire appropriation for the department had been expended for the repair of the asphalted streets in the central city. He has therefore been obliged to re-examine the very direction since then and the results accomplished by him have, under the conditions, been beyond reproach. He is deserving of remark that but one of the appropriations for this department will be overdrawn this year and that, in part for the repair of bridges and culverts, will be overdrawn only a small amount. With a full year's appropriation to draw from, I feel sure that Mr. O'Boyle will make an enviable record in his departmental work.

THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Too much cannot be said in praise of the work of the Scranton police department during the year just passed. Chief Martin Gurrell has adhered to the lines laid down by ex-Chief Frank Robinson, Jr., who is an officer in the service of the United States. With a smaller force in proportion to population and area than any city in the country, we have been freed from domestic crime of all kinds and classes than any other city of like size. As I have pointed out in previous messages this fortunate condition is unquestionably largely due to the excellent blatted streets in this city. This abundance of light serves the same purpose as a number of policemen, and is especially a deterrent to such petty offenders as chickens, clothes-line and refrigerator thieves. I herewith submit a brief summary of the work of the department during the year just ended: Hon. James G. Bailey, Mayor, Scranton, Pa. Sir: It is with a plea to submit a summary of the work of the police department for the year beginning Jan. 1, 1898. The total number of arrests made was 2,683, and the total amount of fines collected was \$327,250.

NAY AUG PARK

Through the generosity and the enterprise of some citizens, first among whom I would mention Dr. G. E. Hill, Nay Aug park has been improved and beautified to a greater extent than the annual appropriation would allow. Park Commissioners Scranton, McCann and Bedford have unselfishly devoted much time and work to the duties of their offices and the results are apparent to every one who will take the trouble to make an investigation. During last summer, Nay Aug park, was, more than ever, the pleasure ground of the people of this city. The park is beautiful, clean, and healthful, and it is a fact, while intangible and realized to the full only by the city's physicians, was still real and far-reaching. I earnestly commend this park to your consideration when the appropriation ordinance for the fiscal year 1899 is being framed by your joint legislative committee. It is also one of the things that must be included in whatever bond ordinance may be passed by the people's assembly, demands the recognition of this necessary municipal improvement.

In conclusion, I desire to thank your honorable bodies for the consideration shown to my wishes during the past three years and to ask for its continuance during the few months remaining of my term of office. I would call to your consideration and to the careful consideration of all thoughtful citizens the facts presented in this message and would ask for a fair and honest judgment thereon. I have done my very best in the service

of the people of this city during my incumbency of the office of mayor and this frequently at a great personal sacrifice of my business interests. That my administration shall be fairly and impartially weighed is all that I ask. James G. Bailey, Mayor. January 5, 1899.

SOFT COAL MAKES A SLIGHT GAIN

(Continued from Page 4.)

mayor explained that he had referred the matter to the solicitor. An ordinance providing for a permanent man for New Aur Engine company was reported favorably. Some objection was made by Mr. Lansing to creating offices for which no salaries are available. Mr. Sawyer, in reply, said that councils should not purchase apparatus and then fail to provide men to operate it. The measure failed to pass first reading, the vote being 6 to 7. The streets and bridges committee reported favorably a common council ordinance for sidewalks on the east side of Washington avenue between Myrtle and Pooler streets. It was passed two readings. A circular from the League of American Municipalities soliciting the membership of Scranton in the league was referred to the streets and bridges committee. Mr. Lansing spoke in favor of such membership and offered a resolution to that effect. The report, with suggestions, he made at the next meeting.

APPOINTMENT CONFIRMED

The mayor's nomination of W. T. Lewis for permanent man of Columbia Hose company was confirmed.

To the estimates committee was referred the letter of W. W. Scranton, president of the Scranton Gas and Water company, reducing the price of arch lights from 23 to 22 cents per night.

A resolution was adopted awarding to the Barber Asphalt Paving company the contract for paving Breck court from Spruce street to its southern terminus. The contract is for 100 feet of street paving. The price offered by the company is \$1.49 per lineal foot for house connections; Edward Post, \$1.49 per lineal foot complete; Donohue and O'Boyle, \$1.57 complete; P. F. O'Hara, \$1.44 complete; M. J. Gibbons, \$1.57 complete; T. F. Gannon and Company, \$1.44 complete.

The judiciary committee through its chairman, Mr. Sanderson, reported favorably the select council ordinance designating the depositaries for city funds, and providing for the verification of the city treasury accounts and for interest on city deposits.

The judiciary committee reported adversely on petition for a reduction in taxes. Mr. Sanderson remarked that while council could exonerate, it could not reduce an assessment, and that the assessment against the property in question seemed excessive. The report was approved.

An ordinance awarding to Williams and McNulty \$85.50 for damages in a runaway caused by street flushing was reported favorably.

Among the new measures introduced were the following: Mr. Williams—Ordinance providing for a wall and iron fence on the Washburn street culvert west of Pine avenue. Mr. Sanderson—Ordinance providing for a sewer on the east side of Washington avenue between Marion and New York streets. (Reported favorably.) Mr. McCann—Resolution providing for the examination of the city electric lights by an expert for the purpose of determining their actual condition.

Mr. McAndrew—Resolution regulating the conduct of policemen at elections. President Chittenden relegated the chair to Mr. Coyne early in the meeting, and the latter presided during the soft coal discussion and up to the time of adjournment.

SCENES OF GREAT DISORDER. They Feature Last Night's Meeting of Common Council.

Scenes of great disorder marked last night's meeting of common council. After the bond ordinance was disposed of (reported in another column) the bill of Charles H. Sawyer for the electrical engine for the Columbia company came up. The matter came up at the preceding meeting but action was deferred pending the production of the contract and papers relating to it. It is alleged that an attachment which was to be placed on the engine is missing, and Messrs. Keller, Oliver and others wanted to fix the responsibility for the matter before the bill is paid. The debate was long and bitter but finally was decided by the following vote to pay the bill.

Year—Besse, M. V. Morris, Gilroy, Griffiths, Colpin, Gilroy, Ziehlmann, E. P. Wenzel, Wirth, C. E. Wenzel, Coleman, Norton, Molis—4.

Councilman Gilroy introduced a resolution which provided for the appointment of a special committee of six, three from each branch of council, to be chosen by the presidents thereof, to consider the question of the Carbon street grade crossing and make such recommendations regarding the same as will be for the best interests of the community. Messrs. Gilroy, Ziehlmann and Walker were named as the common's end of the committee.

Another resolution was introduced by Mr. Gilroy asking for the appointment of a joint committee to confer with the officials of the Scranton Railway company with a view to preventing any conductor or motorman, who has been on duty more than twelve hours, from running a car over the Carbon street crossing. Messrs. Gilroy and Keller will represent the common council on this committee.

A resolution was passed granting permission to the committee of firemen which will have charge of the coming fair, to occupy the committee rooms of the common council. An ordinance for the paving and curbing of Sanderson avenue from Green Ridge street to East Market street with vitrified brick was introduced by T. B. Jackson and referred to committee for consideration.

On third reading the following ordinance passed: For the erection of three electric lights in the First ward; for paving East Market street from the Lackawanna river to the Boulevard with vitrified brick; for an additional permanent man for Phoenix Chemical company.

The sewers and drains committee was directed to investigate the claim of D. A. O'Connor, of Robinson street, for damages done by the blocking of a sewer.

An ordinance providing for an additional permanent man for the Relief company was reported favorably from committee and passed first and second readings.

A resolution providing for leasing the quarters now occupied by the Crystal Hose company for a term of five years at \$1,200 per year was adopted. The building is to be remodelled before the lease is executed.

A Bad Bargain.

"Look at her," said Jabbs as he jumped from his bicycle at the corner, where half a dozen of his friends were watching the procession of wheelmen. "There's a dandy for you. Regular beauty!" All the other improvements, to chain and strong without being heavy. Nobody has a better wheel and it fits me just as though it was made to measure.

"It is a fine one," admitted one of the crowd. "Must have set you back a good deal for it." "That's where you're off. I'm too fly to pay \$100 for a riding machine. Hain't she a dandy? And just among ourselves, she cost me exactly \$11.00."

"No!" "That's right. If there's a bargain lying round here anywhere you can bet I'll find it. Nice looking young fellow was going through here on a tour. He went lame in one leg and stayed at the hotel, thinking that his wheel would come out all right again. He didn't, because discouraged, ran short on cash, and finally offered me the wheel if I'd buy him a fiver for him. Jovial but she's a corker. You fellows better let me buy your wheels for you."

Just at this point two detectives came along. One of them took a look at Jabbs' wheel, went by, made a loud wagon turn, and returned, examined the wheel, compared the number with one in his notebook, called his companion, and the two led the "Gase" off between them to the station house.

Jabbs swore copiously and made a bold bid to get out of the clasp of the cops, but he thought better of it, and is now hunting the fellow he made a deal with—Detroit Free Press.

Echoes Frappe.

"We've out talked ice." "Won't you need it?" "No; the bill will keep us shivering for a while.—Truth.

Her Experience.

"He—You don't seem to care much for conversation?" "She—No; I've been out long enough to learn that men prefer to eat.—Truth.

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