

ST. JOHNS VOTES ON MERGER TOMORROW

Three-to-One Victory Is Predicted Despite Opposition That Has Bobbed Up.

LOW TAX ARGUMENT USED

Reduction in Water Rental and Relief From Outstanding Bonds.

Cited—Portland Action to Depend on Outcome.

Portland may add 5000 persons to its population as a result of the merger election in St. Johns tomorrow.

The people of St. Johns will vote on the question of surrendering their charter. If the vote is favorable the people of Portland will receive an opportunity at the regular June election to accept St. Johns as a part of the municipality of Portland.

But St. Johns is not ready to give up its individuality without a struggle. A determined opposition to the consolidation has developed there. Supporters of the merger, however, declare that the opposition is in the minority.

"We will carry the election three to one," said D. C. Lewis, one of the leading merger advocates, yesterday. "There is no good argument against it and scores of convincing reasons in favor of it."

Mr. Lewis was author of the bill passed by the last Legislative session providing a plan by which cities can merge. While the measure has general application, it is aimed particularly to benefit St. Johns and Portland. It conforms with the constitutional amendment on the same subject adopted by the people last Fall.

Tax Reduction Is Argument.

Several years ago St. Johns voted to merge with Portland, but the Supreme Court decided that the constitution prevented the city from committing "municipal suicide." It was necessary then to go before the 1913 Legislature and secure the submission of a constitutional amendment to make such "suicides" possible. The amendment was adopted by a wide margin, and the recent Legislature made the amendment possible.

One of the principal arguments used by those who are advocating the merger is the reduction in taxes for the people of St. Johns. It is pointed out that the St. Johns tax rate now is one-half mill higher than the rate in Portland, and that the benefits derived thereunder are not as great. Moreover, it is averred that the funds raised under the present tax levy at St. Johns are not sufficient to meet the city's financial requirements. It is argued that the city actually will be confronted with a substantial deficit at the end of the present fiscal year. Several months ago the St. Johns city officials appropriated approximately \$6000 to build a road to the plant of the Portland Cooperage Company, which concern established its principal factory in St. Johns upon the promise that this road would be built.

No Levy Made for Funds.

This money was taken from the current city funds. No special levy had been made for it, and advocates of the merger point out that while this appropriation was in accordance with the wishes of the people of St. Johns, it is one of the items that is threatening the treasury with a deficit.

"The trade school question alone should cause people to vote for the merger," says Mr. Lewis. "In St. Johns we have no trade school. But we have one right at our doors in Portland. It costs us \$135 a year to send our boys and girls from St. Johns to the Portland trade school. By voting for the merger we would wipe out this cost and give our children an opportunity of learning a useful trade."

The cost of water for domestic use is another item upon which the "Merger Club" is laying considerable stress. St. Johns has a privately-owned water plant. The cost to consumers is approximately \$1.80 a month for domestic use. In Portland the cost is about 60 cents a month. It is obvious, they say, that under the merger this differential in favor of Portland would be wiped out.

Outstanding Bonds \$80,000.

What to do with the municipal water plant is another question that is confronting the voters, but it is assumed that if the consolidation is consummated that the City of Portland will take it over and use it as an extension of the Portland water system. The municipal corporation lines adjoin one another and the Bull Run mains of the Portland water system end at the edge of St. Johns.

If the merger is accomplished Portland will fall heir to approximately \$80,000 in bonds outstanding against the City of St. Johns. Of this sum about \$60,000 was used to build the new municipal docks which are among the proud assets of St. Johns. This dock then would become a part of the Port of Portland dock system.

Other municipally owned property at St. Johns would become the property of Portland, including the city hall, fire station and several pieces of park property.

ST. JOHNS VOTES TO JOIN PORTLAND

Majority of 302 Out of
1290 for Annexation.

RATIFICATION IS DUE IN JUNE

Women Assist in Active Cam-
paigns on Both Sides.

ELECTION UNDER NEW LAW

Principal Advantages Cited Are
Better Water and Schools, Fire
and Police Protection and
Lower Rate of Taxation.

PORTLAND SOON TO VOTE ON MERGER.

Portland people will vote at the June election, undoubtedly, on annexing St. Johns to this city. It may be submitted to the voters here at any time within a year from yesterday, either by the Council or initiative petition. It requires a majority of the voters of the city to carry the merger.

If the merger carries at Portland's election, it becomes effective automatically within 30 days without further legal process.

The merging of the two cities, if it becomes an accomplished fact, will be by virtue of a constitutional amendment carried at the state election last November. A merger law to conform with this amendment was enacted by the recent session of the Legislature. This measure had this consolidation in mind, and it also opens the way for similar action elsewhere that may be found desirable. The bill was introduced at Salem by D. C. Lewis, and was one of the first to be considered at the last session.

St. Johns voted yesterday to relinquish its municipal identity and consolidate with Portland. Votes cast for the merger totaled 796, while 494 were in the negative, making a majority of 302 for consolidation.

Yesterday's action marked the close of a warm campaign at St. Johns on the question of consolidation with this city. It was argued on the one hand, that St. Johns would be giving too much to Portland, while the other side urged that stable government, lower taxes, Bull Run water and the benefit of Portland's school system, particularly the trade school, would follow such a step.

By yesterday's action on the part of St. Johns voters four square miles of

(Concluded on Page 3.)

ST. JOHNS VOTES TO JOIN

(Continued From First Page.)

territory, adjoining Portland's limits on the north and northwest, and 5500 additional population are offered to this city. Municipal property of St. Johns amounts to approximately \$270,000, opposed to which are debts, mostly bonds, amounting to \$75,000.

St. Johns' holdings are chiefly as follows: Municipal dock, \$100,000; high school, \$75,000; City Hall, \$25,000; fire apparatus, \$25,000, and four graded schools, \$45,000.

Big Vote Is Cast.

Because of the agitation for and against the merger, a large vote was cast. Registration in St. Johns' two precincts totals 1544 and the total vote on the consolidation question amounted to 1290. This was divided in the two precincts as follows: Precinct 1, for the merger, 528; against, 277. Precinct 2, for, 269; against, 217.

Opposition to the consolidation is said to have come from the water company in St. Johns, there being a privately-owned system which serves the city, and from the officeholders in the municipality. Others opposed the move because it means the giving up of the city's individuality. Money for meeting municipal expenses in St. Johns raised by the last tax levy to the amount of \$42,000, it is said, will be exhausted by September and a deficit would be faced.

There was a live, active Merger Club

working for the consolidation, and another live and equally active Anti-Merger Club working in opposition to it.

City Officers Chosen.

The merger question came up at a regular city election at St. Johns, the consolidation question being voted upon by means of a separate ballot. City officers elected will serve from next week, when present incumbents retire from office, presumably until July 1, by which time it is expected St. Johns will be merged into Portland, unless this city should defeat consolidation at the June election, which is regarded as unlikely.

Three measures were voted upon by St. Johns voters yesterday. These were the proposition to issue municipal bonds to purchase the St. Johns Waterworks & Lighting Company's plant, an ordinance creating a board of censorship, regulating motion picture and other shows, and the question of changing the dates of city elections and regulating the tenure of office.

Former Decision Ratified.

The people of St. Johns voted once before in favor of annexation to Portland. That was about five years ago. But the Supreme Court later held that the law under which the vote was taken was unconstitutional and the result of the election was nullified.

The Legislature of 1913 thereupon submitted to the people a constitutional amendment correcting the law under which the previous election was held. This amendment was adopted at the election last Fall and the Legislature this year enacted a law prescribing the process by which future elections on this should be conducted. Yesterday's election was in accordance with this law which was introduced in the Legislature by Representative D. C. Lewis, a resident of St. Johns and one of the hardest workers for the merger.

St. Johns Now a Part of Portland

Merger Completed at the Midnight Hour on Wednesday Night

Now up to the People of the Peninsula to Combine in One Big Booster Organization

EVERYBODY BURY THEIR DIFFERENCES AND BOOST

St. Johns became a part of Greater Portland yesterday morning, and as a municipality it has ceased to exist. Whether it was a wise step to take or a foolish one, there is a diversity of opinion. But that question has now become a thing of the past. A majority of those who cared to vote on the merger question voted for consolidation, and as a result the merger has been completed. The matter of contesting the elections on the grounds that a majority of the electors did not vote in the affirmative, as the constitution provides must be the case, was threatened for a time, and while it was known that such a step would have had at least an equal chance of winning, yet in the interest of harmony it was decided to abandon any movement in that direction and bow to the will of the majority vote with the best grace possible. Whether for weal or for woe, the die is cast and a most important step taken that can never be retraced. Therefore, it is up to our people to forget any differences of opinion on the subject and work together to make conditions better despite what the anti-mergerites believe to be a serious handicap. It is all up to us whether St. Johns shall be a live, thriving part of Portland or a dormant or dead one. It is reasonably certain that Portland will not do anything for us unless we go after it, and after it hard and persistently. We are located here, have our properties and businesses here; our interests are here and our hearts also. Bitterness and repining can be of no benefit, but on the contrary tend to make matters worse. In spite of any feelings we may have and any resentment that may exist against those who forced the merger upon those who were opposed to it, there is no way out except to speedily bury all differences and unite for the good of us all. The future lies before us; we can either mar it or do our best to improve conditions. Surely the latter is the best and most desirable thing to do.

The Peninsula undoubtedly has a bright future before it. It is undoubtedly bound to develop and populate at a fairly rapid rate. This development can either be retarded or advanced—it is all up to us. By combining the lower peninsula people from Arbor Lodge to the end of the lower peninsula in one strong, active and progressive organization, a power, both civic and political, can be welded together that would be a mighty force to reckon with. Our interests are identical, and what is good for one is undoubtedly good for us all. Let us then be up and doing and show the powers that be that the Peninsula folks are "some pumpkins." Let us arrange to boost the Peninsula

constantly and unceasingly, so that it will be known far and wide as the liveliest, most hustling and progressive section of the great city of Portland. Banded together as we should be, there is no reason why the Peninsula should not in the near future be represented at the fountain head of government. So let us get together and soon call a monster mass meeting of the citizens of the Peninsula and work out an organization second to none in the northwest. We must, to progress, help each other. We all have but one purpose in view—greater development and greater progress—and while some believed this could better be accomplished by separate government, the majority of voters seemed to believe otherwise. The larger expression of sentiment has prevailed, and since it is so, it is up to us to work out our destiny as a part of Portland.

The Review will do all in its power to boost and further in any way it can the development of the Peninsula as a whole. Its field can now be broadened to take in the whole peninsula, and it is our hope to make it a paper that will be a credit to this entire section. The name may be changed to Peninsula Review instead of St. Johns Review, and the news of University Park and Portsmouth will be gathered. We expect to have associated with us a little later on a newspaper man who can cover the entire territory in a satisfactory manner.

Letter From War Zone

The following letter came recently from a seventeen year old girl living in Eastern Prussia, only a few miles from the Russian borderland. She writes very interestingly of her trials during the last year in which she has twice had to flee to safety:

Stalluponeu, June 7, 1915.—Dear—! You will surely think that I have forgotten you, but no. I received your letters of Aug. 7, 1914, and April 16, 1915. I was very pleased with them and thank you. You surely know that we have war here. We have had to live through a great deal, for we had to flee from the Russians. Now I shall tell you all about our flight. Mobile was made on the second of August. We suffered much anxiety. Many nights we did not even go to sleep, for the Russians were only a little way off. We had always to be ready for flight. At half past three o'clock on the morning of August 18, the bells sounded which was the sign that we must flee. We hitched up our horses and put on the load some linen and bedding and also some merchandise and then with heavy hearts traveled away, leaving all our

property behind. But I have forgotten something. On the seventeenth of August there was a battle near our city. We were on the top of our house and could plainly see the shells bursting. Everything round about was burning. It was fearful to look upon. Suddenly a shell fell upon our railway station and we became very much afraid. We remained, however, until the next morning when the bells were again rung. We traveled to the next city, Gumbrineu, while the Russians were in our city but we could not stay even here because the Russians were always coming on farther. So we traveled then as far as Insterburg and then to Wehlan. Many who had no vehicles had to travel on foot and carried with them only a bundle on their backs. It surely was pitiful to witness it all. From Wehlan we went by railroad to Braunsberg. Still we were not safe from the Russians so we went on to Elbring in West Prussia where we rented a house. On Sept. 12, East Prussia was again free, so my father and later, I, went back to our town while my mother and the brothers and sisters remained in Elbring. Here we found everything plundered but our furniture was all here. We opened our business again. There were many soldiers in the city but the Russians were always on the borderland, and the thunder of the cannon was so loud that the windows shook. On the sixth of November we had to flee again. Again we loaded some merchandise and bedding and again traveled to Elbring to my mother. My brothers and sisters were going to school there and I had learned to cook in the domestic science school. On Feb. 15, East Prussia was again freed from the Russians so my father and I came back again but this time we found nothing. Everything was gone, even to the furniture and curtains. Almost our whole city was burned and you should have seen the filth in our rooms. It was frightful. But again we accustomed ourselves to the change and opened our business. My mother and the children were still in Elbring, for my brothers were attending school. I had to keep house here for my father. There were always ten persons at the table and consequently I had a great deal to do. At Whitsuntide I was confirmed and when the vacation began my mother came back and will remain here so my work is easier. We are hoping that the Russians will not come any more so that we can always stay here at home. Only Russian aeroplanes come occasionally. One day one of them threw a bomb but it did no damage. From our family no one is in the war, except two cousins. Now I have told you everything. With love from,

CHAMBERLAIN HERE WITHOUT MUSTACHE

Adornment Famous in Every State Campaign for Many Years Has Disappeared.

WAR DANGER NOT FEARED

Senator Relates Confidence in President to Avoid Trouble, Talks of Business Revival and Gain Expected in Standing Army.

At this critical time for the Nation with countries to right of us and countries to left of us in arms and putting on a bold front, what do you suppose the Hon. George Chamberlain, senior United States Senator from Oregon, has done to complicate the international situation.

Take a good look at the picture—the upper one, please, not the lower one. Yes, the picture is genuine. The Senator has shaved off his justly celebrated mustache.

It remains only for a certain well-known Colonel to dispense with his braute adornment and for Jim Ham Lewis to sacrifice the immortal whiskers, to bring the country to a state of war. No formal declaration needed under such circumstances.

Chamberlain Glory Goes. For 10, 20—yes, 30 years at the very least, the Chamberlain mustache has waved above the famous Chamberlain smile, in politics and out, for better and for worse.

War Topics Hit From Mind. Can you imagine such a thing as George E. Chamberlain arriving unrecognition in his home town? Well, the Senator actually did it.

Just like that! For the reporters, questions of diplomacy, war, politics, were forgotten before the imperishable fact that the mustache was gone.

Why had the Senator cut off his beautiful mustache? The Senator had no apologies. He didn't need it any more. Just cut it off. Getting too gray.

Better Business Is Observed. Then the Senator gave a real interview. "Times are better everywhere," he declared. "California is prosperous. I found business conditions there better than they have been in a long time and constantly picking up. Here in Oregon we have every reason to be optimistic.

"In New York and the East, it is the same. Business is on the rise. The big industries are all busy. The steel business is the index of prosperity, and the steel foundries have more business than they can attend to.

Railroads Making Purchases. "An all-around business," he said, "like the manufacture of war material, by any means," he added, emphatically. "The railroads are buying steel products again and many of the largest orders are from the railroads.

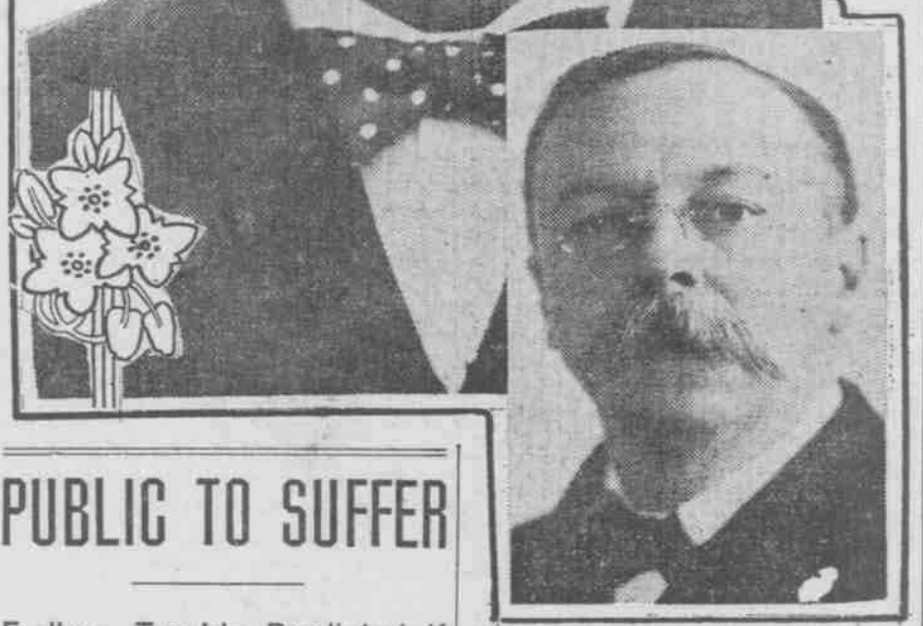
Larger Army Predicted. Senator Chamberlain is chairman of the important Senate committee on military affairs. He was asked whether there is likely to be legislation in the next Congress increasing the Army.

Three outside Circuit Judges will be called to Portland to help clear the Multnomah County docket. Judge Duffey, of Prineville, arrived yesterday morning, and today will take over the docket of Judge Kavanaugh, who will take a vacation.

3 JUDGES CALLED TO AID

Clear Docket for Circuit Court Is Sought Before Vacation Time. Three outside Circuit Judges will be called to Portland to help clear the Multnomah County docket.

DO YOU KNOW HIM? IT'S OREGON'S SENIOR SENATOR MINUS HIS MUSTACHE.



PUBLIC TO SUFFER

Endless Trouble Predicted if Meter System Is Adopted.

CHANCE FOR ERRORS NOTED

Point Made That With New Method of Quarterly Billing Greater Opportunity Will Exist for Complications to Arise.

HIGH PRICE FOR CHEAP WATER.

Commissioner Daly says water rates would be lower in Portland if meters had been installed. Expensive construction, he says, has made rates high.

MORE POWER SOUGHT

PROMOTION OF MARSHAL STEVENS URGED FOR EFFICIENT WORK.

Better Ability to Carry On Anti-Fire Campaign as Second Assistant Chief Is Pointed Out.

That we may have charge of most of the men and officers of the fire bureau, and as an acknowledgment of efficient work, a large delegation of business men yesterday requested Mayor Abbe to promote Fire Marshal Stevens to the position of Second Assistant Fire Chief.

Mr. Stevens has been doing a valuable work in the field of fire prevention since he was promoted.

PENDLETON HIGH HONORS TWO GIRL GRADUATES.

Miss Ellen Bowling, Valedictorian, and Miss Metta Neil, Salutatorian. Pendleton, Or., May 21. (Special.)—Most envied and happiest of all young women in this city on May 21 will be the Misses Ellen Bowling and Metta Neil, valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively, of the 1915 class of the Pendleton High School.

FAILURE TO VOTE IS NOT ON MERGER

More Than Half Necessary to Make Annexation of St. Johns Certain.

PORTLAND CAMPAIGN PLAN

Educational Effort Proposed to Teach Need of Active Aid by Friends of Measure—Town Wants to Join With City.

Residents of Portland who favor the annexation of St. Johns to the city must vote "yes" on the question at the forthcoming election.

A failure to vote is equivalent to a vote against annexation. These facts become apparent through close scrutiny of the merger law passed by the recent Legislature.

Strenuous Campaign Planned. C. C. Lewis, member of the Legislature from St. Johns, who was author of the merger, and other leading residents of St. Johns propose to wage an active campaign in favor of the annexation in the next few weeks preceding the election.

Fortunate for the cause of annexation, the law provides that a separate ballot be provided for the annexation question. Lewis and others will impress upon the election officials the importance of handing to each voter a merger ballot at the time the regular election ballots are handed out.

6000 Live in St. Johns. It is pointed out by Mr. Lewis and others that the city of St. Johns is a step in the general direction of a Greater Portland, and that this will give Portland all the territory on the side of the Willamette to its confluence with the Columbia.

St. Johns has a population of 5000, and is a city of the future. It has water, gas, gas, water works and a public dock 150 by 540 feet—one of the most substantial structures on the river— with water in front of it varying from 22 feet to 40 feet in depth.

Planless of Towns Good. The city officials of Portland have investigated conditions at St. Johns and have approved the proposed merger.

Extension Estimates Small. It is believed too that the police and fire service of St. Johns can be improved through the Portland administration without such additional expense.

More Than Half Needed. It is apparent, however, that apathy or ignorance may defeat the merger.

Bank Clerks Will Dine. Financial Authorities to Speak at Meeting of Institute. Members of the local chapter of the American Institute of Banking will hold their annual dinner at the Benson Hotel tonight.

Church Aid to Idle Cited. Seattle Pastor Advises Methodist Ministers on Unemployment. Rev. Adna W. Leonard, of the First Methodist Church of Seattle, was the principal speaker at the meeting of the Methodist Association in Portland yesterday morning.

Card of Thanks. I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to my many friends for their kindness and sympathy during my sad bereavement.

"—and he said 'Rest alone isn't enough for you'"

WHEN overwork, worry or illness have sapped your strength, rest and quiet will help you—but you still feel you need something to rouse the appetite—and above all something to strengthen the enfeebled nerves.

And it is then that many physicians will advise rest—and Sanatogen. For they know that Sanatogen, combining the nutritive qualities of a food with the invigorating properties of a tonic, will reconstruct the wasted tissues, RE-build and RE-vitalize and help the enfeebled system gather up new energy and a new fund of health.

Such has been the grateful experience of scores upon scores of others whose very names must be convincing. And remembering that over 21,000 physicians have testified in signed letters to the medical professions belief in Sanatogen, you surely can have no hesitancy in turning to Sanatogen for the help your system needs.

Sanatogen is sold by good druggists everywhere in three sizes from \$1.00 to \$3.00.



Send for a Free copy of "Nerve Health Regained." If you wish to learn more about Sanatogen before you use it, write for a copy of this booklet, beautifully illustrated and comprising facts and information of the greatest interest. Tear this off as a reminder to address THE BAUER CHEMICAL CO., 28-Q Irving Place, New York.

FIRE GUARD OMITTED

No Hydrants Installed Since November by Mr. Daly.

COST GROWING WITH DELAY

Many Miles of Mains Laid in New Districts but Protection to Homes Is Disregarded in New "Economy" Policy.

Standing as a monument to the new "economy" policies of City Commissioner Daly are several hundred fire hydrants stored on water bureau property at East Seventh and East Alameda streets and elsewhere about the city, while many districts where water mains have been constructed in the last six months are without fire protection.

Selections Made; Work Neglected. Up to last November the water bureau had constructed a few hydrants, but no new mains were constructed. Before work was started on the mains the fire hydrants were neglected.

COURAGE IS COMMON IN THIS WAR. London, May 25.—Every Englishman knows how the bravely, the Irish, Scotch and English soldiers face the bayonets, the machine guns as though out on dress parade. It is the men who slaken and die in the trenches, or at home after an arduous campaign, that our sympathy goes out to most.

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For the Smoke-Wise of the Coast. WE don't know who you are expecting for company this evening or what is your "company" cigar.

Genl ARTHUR CIGAR. Also a 3 for a quarter size.

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CHAMBER PARTY IS GUEST. Salem Commercial Bodies Hold Banquet in Consolidation Campaign. A large party of members of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, including most of the directors, went to

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STUB

TO BE TORN OFF BY THE CHAIRMAN

STUB

TO BE TORN OFF BY THE FIRST CLERK

**ST. JOHNS
MERGER BALLOT**

OFFICIAL MERGER BALLOT FOR PRECINCT NO. 94

CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON, JUNE 7, 1915.

Mark Cross (X) Before Answer Voted For.

Submitted to the Voters by the Council

Shall the City of St. Johns, Oregon, be merged into the City of Portland by amending the Charter of the City of Portland so as to extend its boundaries to include the City of St. Johns, Oregon? (The elector desiring to vote affirmatively on the above question, shall place an X Mark in the space before the word "yes." If he desires to vote negatively, he shall place an X Mark in the space before the word "no.")

YES.

27757

NO.

3160
