

\$300 or less for any single item or bill may be made by the committee when immediate action is necessary, unless otherwise ordered by the Council.

But purchases involving an expenditure of more than \$300 for any single item or bill shall not be made until reported to the Council, and the direction of the Council had thereon.

No purchase requiring an expenditure of exceeding \$500 for a single item or bill for material shall be made until competitive bids have been secured by the committee, which bids shall be reported to the Council, subject to such action as the Council may determine.

The resolution precipitated a good deal of discussion. The opposers were, Wantland, Heiss and Simondl.

Wantland said it was a "pretty smooth resolution." He was willing to meet the other members of the council half in the matter.

Lawson said there appeared to be a good deal of trouble with Wantland's mind. The idea of the resolution simply was to buy goods on a business basis. The resolution would protect the city, and allow goods to be bought cheaper than any other way. He didn't see how any man could stand upon this floor and oppose the resolution.

Rich was surprised that Simondl should take the stand that bids would have to be advertised for. It was all rot. The heads of departments had spent thousands and tens of thousands of dollars without getting even competitive prices. The question was whether the merchants of this city should be allowed to bid on supplies for the city.

Wantland sought to defer action by referring the resolution to the city attorney for his opinion as to its legality. [Laughter.] Lost.

Heiss wanted the resolution amended so that all bids should be opened in the presence of the mayor. [Laughter.]

The discussion here assumed a personal character and lasted for several minutes.

Loofbourow said that the resolution might as well be passed. Everybody knew the attitude of the council toward the mayor and the attitude of the mayor toward the council, but he did not think that this resolution infringed upon the mayor's prerogatives in any manner.

More discussion followed which terminated by the passage of the resolution on the following vote:

Ayes—Evans, Horn, Lawson, Moran, Rich, Folland, Hurdy, Loofbourow—8.

Nays—Beardsley, Heiss, Simondl, Wantland—4.

THE SEWAGE PROBLEM.

The city engineer presented a communication in which he stated that another pump could be put in at the sewer sump for about \$6,500. This would enable the city to carry off the entire sewage. Steam would be substituted for electricity and this would enable the running of the present pump eight hours longer each day than at the present time. He called the attention of the council, however, to the fact that whatever was done would be of a temporary nature, as the system of gravity would be at last adopted.

Hardy presented a resolution authorizing the mayor to provide some

other means of power to run the sewer pump, as the Rapid Transit company could not furnish power for more than eighteen hours a day.

Wantland spoke in favor of the resolution. Something must be done at once. The case had reached a point when it could be no longer pooh-poohed. It was time the council acted.

Folland was glad that the Council had at last awakened to the fact that the danger should be met, and at once.

Simondl was of the opinion that some action was imperative.

Both matters were referred to the committee on sewers.

TO PUT IN STEAM.

The following resolution offered by Folland was adopted:

Resolved, That the sewer committee be authorized to have put in at the sewer pump the boiler and engine as suggested by the city engineer, in his report referred to the sewer committee, if in his judgment it will fill the purpose.

STATE STREET PAVING EQUABLE.

The board of public works submitted without comment a communication from the Pacific Paving company, asking that the city engineer be required to make an estimate upon the stone-block part of the State street paving, and also a sworn statement from Inspector Wood.

The Pacific Paving company set up that it has performed the work in a substantial manner and that a better piece of paving can not be found in the West, and also that it is responsible to the city for the period it has guaranteed in its contract, and the city has accepted a bond to secure the performance of petitioner's guarantee and has the right to retain 10 per cent. of the price of said work for the period of two years. The city engineer, the company says, has refused to make said estimate because he says first, that the blocks are laid above the grade; and second, that they are not laid in courses or perfect line; third, that the interstices between the blocks are more than a quarter of an inch contrary to the specifications. In reply to this the company says that the work was done under the eye and immediate direction of an inspector appointed by the city. The affidavit of Inspector Wood is attached as follows:

A. M. Wood, being first duly sworn, deposes and says: That I am a resident of Salt Lake City, Utah; that I was formerly inspector of State street paving in said city; was appointed to said position by the city authorities in the year 1891 and began inspecting said work about November 30, 1891; that said work was discontinued after several weeks on account of bad winter weather until the following spring.

The paving blocks were set under my supervision and I governed myself by the verbal instructions of Chief Engineer Doremus.

Mr. Doremus instructed me to have the stone blocks for the gutters (which was ten feet in width from the curb) to be set at least an inch to one and one-fourth inch above the grade stakes, so that the same (as he instructed) could be rammed to the grade after being laid by the paver. That he further instructed that the sand for the foundation of the stone blocks be rolled with the steam roller, which was tried time and time again under my instructions and in each and every instance proved to be an absolute failure, and upon said failure I was instructed to re-

quire the contractor to furnish a tamping beetle and a man to use it in tamping the sand in advance of the stone block pavers, which was done and was perfectly satisfactory to Mr. Doremus.

After superintending the paving of about two-thirds of the first block the city engineer intimated to me that it would be absolutely necessary to put an extra inspector on to cull out the stone blocks already on the ground in advance of the men known as the block pavers or block setters, which was done. All calls were thrown out into the street and carried away by teams ordered by Superintendent Read.

The rest of the stone block setting and curb setting continued under my supervision as inspector of State street, duly appointed by the city authorities, down to Third South street, from Brigham, and in one instance I required the tearing up of and resetting of fifty feet of said stone block paving, and had the same done according to instructions received from Mr. Doremus in the early part of the work, viz., reset from one inch to one and a quarter inches above the grade stakes; that according to the official specifications furnished me from the office of the Board of Public Works, and on page 14, Sec. 8, first and second line, which states explicitly, "When laid, the paving shall be immediately covered with clean, sharp sand, which shall be raked or swept into the joints until all are completely filled."

That in the setting of the curbstone on State street the specifications were complied with as near as it was possible, with the exception of twenty-five feet of curbstone already set north of the Knutsford Hotel, and when within from twenty-five to thirty feet of the said curb already set I discovered a discrepancy in the grade of three-eighths of an inch, and upon said discovery I telephoned Mr. Doremus in regard to the matter, and he instructed me to have the curb we were now setting to conform to the others and let it go at that, and in other cases where the curbing had been set in the fall of 1891 around corners from catch-basins which I found to be out of grade I was instructed to make them conform to the catch-basins anyhow. This was the case at the corner of Second South and State streets and Third South and State streets.

I have made a tour of the East very recently, and made it a special business of examining the different paving contracts that were going on in the various cities, and I conscientiously believe this to be better than any piece of work of stone paving I saw, and that I failed to find in any city in the Union that I visited while I was away during my six weeks' absence the old, time-worn idea of malaria traps or catch-basins.

The people tell me in the East that catch-basins are relegated to the past, and that the board of health will not permit anything of the kind to be used as it is very injurious to the health of the community and an unnecessary expense to the cities that will not be tolerated. Further this affiant saith not.

A. M. Wood.

Former Inspector of State Street.
Subscribed and sworn to before W. D. Stafford, notary public, Aug. 6, 1892.

Thomas Cummings also makes oath to the fact that he was employed on the State street paving, and that he had been engaged in the street paving business for eighteen years and that the work was done in a good and substantial manner. He also makes affidavit that the City Engineer specially instructed him to set the stone blocks from three-fourths of an inch to one inch above the grade stakes so as to allow for settling and ramming down.