

LONG REPORT ON CITY'S FINANCE

Comes from Councilmen Robertson, Buckle and Whittemore.

THE REPUBLICAN MEMBERS.

Fernstrom and Hartenstein, the Democratic Members, Dissent—An Animated Discussion Ensues.

The star feature of last evening's Council meeting was the reading of a report from three out of five members of the finance committee, covering the period since January last, and making a comparison with the record of a year ago. The report was signed by Councilmen A. A. Robertson (chairman of the finance committee), George Buckle and R. B. Whittemore, Republicans. The signatures of the two other members, (Democrats), of the committee—Messrs. Hartenstein and Fernstrom—were conspicuous by their absence. The latter, in giving his reasons for withholding his signature, stated that he had not been permitted to examine the report and he did not propose signing any document without reading it. Mr. Hartenstein, after adjournment, said the "News" representative that his reasons for not signing the report were the same as those advanced by Mr. Fernstrom.

After the usual preliminaries had been disposed of President Buckle called for the reading of the report. Councilman Robertson moved a recess of ten minutes in order to allow the minority members to look over the report before submitting it to the Council. The motion carried and the committee retired to the Mayor's private office. Thirty minutes later the Council was again called to order by President Buckle and the first thing in order was the reading of the report by Clerk Angus K. Nicholson. Respectful attention was given the reading of the report, which occupied fully half an hour's time. After the clerk had concluded Fernstrom arose and, addressing himself to the Council, he was opposed to the report, characterizing it as an unfair statement. The minority members of the committee, he declared, had not been given an opportunity to examine the figures, notwithstanding the fact that the chairman of the committee had the matter in hand for the past three weeks. The speaker then moved that the report be referred to a committee of five, to be named by the Council, to examine the report and make a report thereon. This motion was also defeated. The report was then read by Clerk Nicholson, and the Council proceeded to the consideration of the report. The first figures in the report were not correct. Instead of the showing of a balance of \$43,000, the balance on hand was \$12,450.57. The report stated that the balance on hand was \$43,000. The speaker concluded, "whereas we at that report does not show a balance of \$43,000, but a balance of \$12,450.57, and the report goes over for one week, and Reid seconded the motion."

ROBERTSON REPLIES.

Before the order was made by the chair, Robertson rose to a question of personal privilege, and replied to the arguments advanced by Fernstrom. He said that the report was correct, and that the gentleman had overlooked the \$12,000 on the old bank of Salt Lake account, and had also overlooked the \$4,000 tied up by the Commercial-Jennings company on street paving. This money did not belong to the city, and therefore could not be charged as an asset. The reason Fernstrom had not met with the committee was because he had been too busy writing and manufacturing figures for the Salt Lake Herald. The speaker then mentioned several large sums of money which, he declared, had been diverted by the "Democratic City Treasurer" from the city treasury to the use of the "Democratic City Treasurer." He stated that the report demanded of the city treasurer an explanation, and directed him to "create no more such funds, but to have first obtained the consent of the Council."

"With a wish," Robertson continued, "that there had been a concerted action on the part of certain members of this Council to cripple the general fund, they would have been elected to serve the people and not to serve a party; they do not stop to realize the fact that they are servants of the people instead of servants of the Democratic party. No matter what it costs these same parties are continually trying to help the Democrats. But it will not work, gentlemen. We have refused to sign the statement made by the report, and no intelligent citizen will deny it, that we have looted the treasury. Fernstrom rose to a question of personal privilege. "I wish," he said, "that I have never charged the Republican members of this Council with dishonesty. What I have said is that we have spent more money than our income allowed, and I don't say that never have said that the money has been spent dishonestly. Here the discussion ended, and President Buckle ordered that the report go over for one week.

ANOTHER REPORT WANTED.

Later in the evening Fernstrom introduced the following resolution, which was adopted: "That the city auditor be instructed to furnish a statement to the Council at the next regular meeting of the Council of the overdraft of the general fund; the probable expenses of the general fund for the balance of the year ending December 31, 1900, and any and all other claims against the general fund; also the probable income to the general fund for the balance of the year ending December 31, 1900."

FINANCIAL REPORT.

The full report of the finance committee was as follows: "We, your committee on finance, beg leave to submit to you for your consideration the following report upon the financial affairs of the city: In drawing up the statement attached, we have endeavored to bring forth every detail of receipts and disbursements, and there has been a direct charge of extravagance and waste of money made against this administration. In our statement we have deducted the amount of payrolls and outstanding claims created by the last administration and paid by this one, as we believe that we should be held responsible for the waste of money that has been made during the closing hours of the last administration. We feel that we have nothing to hide and nothing in our record of which to feel ashamed. A great hue and cry has been raised by a small clique of

"Crescent made" that's all you need to know about boys' clothes.

IN SALT LAKE CITY ONLY AT J. P. GARDNER'S 106-108 MAIN STREET.

cheap politicians, backed by a little yellow journalism, claiming that the city is bankrupt and that the present administration has looted the treasury. We are of the opinion that if the people will carefully read this report, together with the statements attached, they will learn the truth. It is not only false, but it has been raised for purely selfish and political reasons; raised by men who would sacrifice every interest of the taxpayer for the purpose of gaining their own selfish ends, raised by men who, for the purpose of discrediting the party to which a majority of the members of the present administration belong, would place a burden upon the whole people by bringing into question and disrepute the credit of our city. For the purpose of sustaining the statement above made, we would call attention to a statement made by a certain morning paper that seems to be assisting this clique in its labors. On October 20th, this paper published the statement that the highest point to which the overdraft of the city had risen during the last administration was \$48,000. Their attention was called to the fact that the city's overdraft during the last administration was as high as \$116,000. This morning they publish a half-hearted correction, and say: "However, the matter is at most a trifling error." We believe that the people will agree with us that if a mistake of \$48,000 is considered by the journal a trifling error, that in handling large figures, as they have done in the last week or so to gain their point, a few more trifling errors may have been made.

In making this report we have not considered the account of the free library, Culture, paving contract or water scrip account. In regard to the last account, we understand that the city treasurer has created a special fund for the redemption of water scrip, and has transferred money from other accounts for that purpose. What accounts these funds have been transferred from we do not know. We would recommend that the city treasurer be instructed to furnish the Council at its next meeting with a full statement of the account, together with the information as to the funds from which it was drawn, and that he be further instructed not to open any more special accounts without first consulting the Council.

RECEIPTS.

Balance January 1, 1900.....	\$4,711.62
Deduct outstanding warrants issued by previous administration.....	\$ 7,215.63
Payrolls of December 31, 1899, and other outstanding liabilities, in elapsed obligations incurred by the last administration and paid by this administration.....	24,131.99
Leaving actual balance, January 1, 1900.....	31,347.61
City tax, 1899.....	12,363.41
Licenses.....	25,295.30
Liquor.....	18,124.50
Miscellaneous.....	20,286.99
Fines and forfeitures.....	12,597.88
Oil Inspector and Sealer of Weights and Measures.....	594.23
Building Inspector.....	49.10
Engineering and sewer department.....	1,459.55
Tax sale redemptions.....	29.00
Tax sale redemptions county.....	885.45
Sale of lots.....	\$2,827.00
Care of lots.....	3,873.50
Digging.....	1,348.25
Graves.....	7,843.75
Police tax.....	948.10
Dog tax.....	929.60
Miscellaneous.....	5,265.19
Water-main extensions.....	414,351.81
Water rates, 1899-1900.....	33,061.50
Water rates, 1900.....	762.22
Water service permits.....	308.55
Turning water on and off.....	33.50
Due from bond account.....	65,171.25
Total.....	\$8,996.42

DISBURSEMENTS.

General Expenses.....	\$20,999.80
Oil Inspector and Sealer of Weights and Measures.....	25.25
Building Inspector.....	34.75
Mayor's office.....	63.15
City Council.....	36.75
City Justice.....	221.30
Treasurer's office.....	752.23
Recorder's office.....	273.50
Recorder's office.....	876.01
Engineer's office.....	52.20
Engineer's office.....	7,695.78
Less December, 1899, payroll.....	641.15
Board of public works.....	7,054.63
City and county building.....	4,139.73
Liberty park bicycle track.....	1,891.54
Joint building park.....	790.87
Health department.....	\$10,610.26
Less December, 1899, payroll.....	493.45
Crematory.....	\$3,155.90
Less December, 1899, payroll.....	90.00
Isolation hospital.....	3,065.90
Land.....	5,447.10
Local expense.....	2,849.17
Police department.....	236,237.50
Less December, 1899, payroll.....	2,625.00
Prison.....	\$3,175.15
Less December, 1899, payroll.....	100.00
Fire department.....	\$38,567.70
Less December, 1899, payroll.....	2,411.50
Cemetery.....	\$7,659.92
Less December, 1899, payroll.....	135.05
Street sprinkling.....	4,954.97
Interest on bonds.....	71,200.00
Claims and damages.....	1,430.55
Street lighting.....	\$30,072.89
Less bill of December, 1899.....	2,448.29
Total.....	\$17,626.00

Dog tax.....	333.25
Printing and advertising.....	1,197.20
Pensions.....	617.50
Sundry expense fund.....	749.90
Indigent.....	72.00
Donations.....	675.00
General expense.....	\$404.65
Exchange.....	118.74
Collecting city tax, 1899.....	1,116.05
Refund liquor licenses.....	139.73
Bond election.....	1,857.48
Rebate on sewer tax.....	42.50
Irrigation and Water Supply.....	
Utah lake and Jordan dam and water conduit.....	60.22
Commissioner's department.....	7,927.95
Utah lake reservoir.....	8,076.55
Gardner station, Utah lake.....	111.20
Wells.....	2,266.85
Conduit Jordan and Salt Lake canal.....	1,539.11
Nineteenth ward irrigating ditch.....	674.96
Culverts.....	23.75
Irrigation district.....	11,352.19
Outlet Parley's canal.....	2,146.13
Jordan Narrows water right.....	210.18
Total.....	\$4,418.09

WATERWORKS DEPARTMENT.

Waterworks expense.....	\$23,706.09
Less December, 1899, payroll.....	1,355.65
Total.....	\$22,350.44

Water-main extensions.

Seventeenth street water-main extension.....	\$1,690.18
Street repairs, account of waterworks department.....	27.86
Water meters.....	6,712.11
Pumping plant, Liberty park.....	40.40
Water-tax rebate.....	43.17
Total.....	\$43,910.51

Street Department.

Street department expense.....	\$21,887.83
Less December, 1899, payroll.....	2,378.10
Total.....	\$19,509.73

Paved street and sidewalk repairs.

Engineering expense.....	\$1,965.02
Pol-tax expense.....	\$14.95
Pol-tax expense, 1899.....	20.00
Total.....	\$1,989.97

Sewer Department.

Sewer department expense.....	\$24.90
Special sewer extensions.....	219.74
Other sewer extensions.....	303.44
Total.....	\$1,448.08

Bond Account.

Parley's canyon land and water rights.....	\$89,378.05
Jordan river channel.....	5,016.75
Thirteenth East street reservoir.....	26,859.79
Waterworks improvements.....	8,685.82
Stand-pipes.....	15.00
Engineering expense.....	1,010.02
Total.....	\$80,396.43

RECAPITULATION.

Receipts.....	\$220,553.03
Add special tax receipts.....	11,098.01
Deduct credit taken amount due from bond account.....	\$89,378.05
Deduct balance.....	12,363.41
Actual receipts.....	\$228,895.50
Disbursements.....	\$432,271.88
Payrolls of December, 1899.....	12,569.19
Outstanding warrants issued in 1899 and paid this year.....	7,215.63
Amount of liabilities incurred by last administration and paid by this.....	11,472.80
Expense paid by special taxes.....	9,523.39
Total.....	\$472,142.56

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