

IT LOOKS RATHER QUEER.

There was a good deal of feeling manifest in the City Council March 7th over the adoption of a report which recommended the purchase of sewer pipe for an extension of four blocks up the middle of Fifth South street, east, beginning at Second East.

To all appearance the transaction is not exactly what it should be and that is what is causing the trouble. Some time ago a petition was presented to the City Council, signed by property owners along the line of the proposed extension, asking for connection with the sewer system of the city. Many of the property owners, it now seems, signed the petition under a misapprehension. They did not know nor did those whose duty it was explain to them that as soon as their petition was granted and the main laid along the center of the street that they would be assessed for independent lateral lines on either side of the street but such is the case. Commenting on the extension the city engineer made the following report:

Gentlemen—When further consideration of the questions asked me at your last meeting relative to the length of main sewer to be built on Fifth South street in extending our sewer system, east of Second East street I beg leave to make further answer as follows:

While no definite plan has been adopted by the City Council for sewerage that portion of the city lying south of First South and east of Second East streets, it has been generally agreed that a fifteen-inch main would be required along the center of Fifth South street in addition to the usual lateral sewer laid along each side of the same street and provided with "Y" branches for house connection.

The construction of the gravity sewer will make the building of this fifteen-inch main unnecessary beyond Third East street as much of the sewage which it was originally intended to carry to Fifth South street will now go directly west and make it possible for the lateral sewer to carry all the sewage which will reach Fifth South street east of Third East street.

Not having had notice of the Council's intention to construct this sewer I had not given the matter any particular thought and was not prepared to properly answer the questions asked me at your last meeting. A study of the subject has convinced me that the expense of building this sewer can be saved and I accordingly communicate the facts for your information.

Mr. Doremus further explained orally that the extension ought not be made for the reason that three separate and distinct sewer lines were not needed on that street; that the extension would cost \$14,000 and that the city would be the loser of that amount of money, which it was not in a position to dispense with.

Mr. Doremus said to a News reporter later:

"If the extension is made it will be over my protest and against my advice."

Councilman Wantland, who is one of the principal advocates of the scheme, was spoken to on the street today in relation to the matter by Councilman Hardy, who informed him that he had been told that he was working in the interest of the Salt Lake Brewery of which Mr. Moritz is manager.

Mr. Wantland warmed up and re-

plied that the extension was not being made for Mr. Moritz but for the future.

"How about the statement that you would like the votes of Mr. Moritz and his men at the next election?" asked the reporter.

"I do not care a whit for Mr. Moritz, nor do I care for the votes of his men. One term of office as city councilman ought to satisfy any man."

Councilman Bell—I voted against the scheme last night, cold and hard and will oppose it still.

Hardy—The people in that district were not aware that there were to be side laterals when they petitioned for the mains. My honest opinion is that it is merely a scheme to connect the Salt Lake brewery with the sewer largely at the expense of the public. I am not afraid to make the statement and what I say I say unhesitatingly.

Rich—The extension is a needless expenditure of public funds. The city has no more use for a third sewer pipe line on that street than a dog has for two tails. I shall fight the case to a finish.

Moran—The extension was originally mapped out and is a good one. I shall favor it.

Another phase of the question is: The Council solicited bids for 14-inch pipe. Only one firm bid for the furnishing of that pipe and was awarded the contract without having a real competitor in the field.

A second firm put in a bid on fifteen inch pipe which according to size and weight was the cheapest, but the other firm's bid was accepted.

The whole transaction is looked upon with suspicion by many and it is safe to say that the end is not yet.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The special meeting of the Chamber of Commerce directors Tuesday, March 7th, was an interesting one. The members present were President Hubbard, W. H. Rowe, M. J. Gray, F. P. Kelsey, H. P. G. Coates, P. W. Madden, Elias Morris and Abraham H. Cannon.

Fred Simon made the following statement in relation to the Deseret Woolen Mills:

"The company was incorporated for \$125,000, of which \$91,000 is paid in and is represented by the plant. Mr. Jennings is willing, in case the proposition I make is accepted, to cut down the amount paid in to \$75,000, and wishes to secure additional working capital to the amount of \$50,000, the whole to be merged and the management to be vested in such hands as would be satisfactory to a committee; or he would be willing to dispense of 51 per cent of the stock and retain only 49 per cent. This proposition is made in order to strengthen and insure the success of the industry. The mill, in order to secure the necessary means, has had to pay western rates of interest for money, while the eastern mills were able to get money at 4 per cent. The difference has to be made up in the price of the product. Last year we turned out over \$100,000 worth of goods, and spent something like \$50,000 in wages; giving employment to from 100 to 125 hands. Now Mr. Jennings prefers to close the mills down if he cannot compete with the whole coun-

try. My idea is that the directors of this chamber, and the trustees of the Business Men's association can appoint a committee to examine the plant, go over the books and see the exact status of affairs. Then, if satisfactory, the means asked for may be subscribed. We would be glad to have you take hold of it. We have been talking about copper smelters, but here is an enterprise which actually exists, and the question is whether Salt Lake shall become a large industrial center for the manufacture of this class of goods. I see no reason why the development of this industry should not lead to the establishment of a clothing factory here. The goods turned out were equal in every way with those produced elsewhere, and I wish to say there is an excellent market for them. I ask that this be referred to a committee and that prompt action be taken as it will be necessary to start the wheels moving by April 1."

The matter was referred to a committee consisting of A. H. Cannon, Elias Morris and L. P. Kelsey to confer with a like committee from the Business Men's association.

The board then went into executive session and remained thus until a late hour. It comes in a roundabout way that the meeting was a stormy one. The bone of contention was the retirement of Commissioner Sears from the transportation bureau and the appointment of D. C. Adams as chairman of that body. These appointments were confirmed: D. C. Adams, chairman, George M. Scott, T. G. Webster, M. H. Walker, Spencer Clawson, Fred Auerbach, J. M. Ricketts, Heber M. Wells, W. H. Rowe, A. E. Hyde, George T. Odell and George M. Cannon secretary.

THE INAUGURATION.

A good many people know all about inauguration day, what it is for, what is done, and all that, but every one does not know its origin, how or when it came to be nor of those who brought it into existence. There are a number of traditions connected with the occasion and numerous legends regarding it, and these are so closely interwoven with the real history that it must naturally be the case that actual knowledge regarding it is somewhat limited. The narrations concerning the day that have come down to us are as numerous as they are entertaining, but most conspicuous among them is one to the effect that Benjamin Franklin selected the fourth of March as the day. The reason assigned for the selection of that particular day was that during the two centuries following, it would fall on Sunday less often than it would had another day been appointed. Indeed, so probable does this explanation seem, and so generally is it believed, that many historical writers have asserted it to be a fact. In connection with the statement, legends have grown up around it, which, although very interesting, do not serve to prove much.

There is a cloud upon Franklin's title, however; he was a man who was not very particular or strict in his observance of Sunday, and the statement that he figured to prevent inauguration day from falling on the