6-22-1923

City Club of Portland Bulletin vol. 03, no. 39 (1923-6-22)

City Club of Portland (Portland, Or.)
FRIDAY, JUNE 22

Hotel Benson, 12:10, Sharp

SPEAKER

HENRY SEIDEL CANBY
Editor, Literary Review, New York Evening Post
Associate Editor, Century Magazine

SUBJECT

"Business of Book Reviewing"

SPECIAL MUSIC—GROUP SINGING
Arranged by Music Committee
Baritone Solo
P. A. TEN HAAF

A DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER AND A "NOVEL" SUBJECT

SUMMER PROGRAMS

JUNE 29th

BEN H. WILLIAMS
University of Pennsylvania
"POLITICAL PARTIES—1924"

JULY 6th

VICTOR MORRIS
Professor of Economics, Grinnell College
"BUSINESS CYCLES"

G. B. GREENE
Director, Cleveland Citizens' Bureau
Member, City Club of Cleveland
"AMERICANIZATION"

JULY 13th

S. B. HARDING
Professor of History, University of Minnesota
"THE EUROPEAN SITUATION—1923"

JULY 20th

O. C. PRATT
Superintendent of Public Schools, Spokane, Wash.
"EDUCATIONAL EXPANSION AND FINANCING"
PORTLAND CITY CLUB BULLETIN

Published Weekly By

THE CITY CLUB
OF PORTLAND

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annually on May 1st, and November 1st. There is no
initiation fee.

CITY CLUB PURPOSE:
"To inform its members and the community in
public matters and to arouse them to a realization
of the obligations of citizenship."

CITY CLUB OFFICERS

THADDEUS W. VENESS . . . . . . President
C. C. LUDWIG . . . . . . First Vice-President
RICHARD PARK . . . . . . Second Vice-President
H. M. TOMLINSON . . . . . . Secretary
A. L. ANDRUS . . . . . . Treasurer

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RICHARD F. SCHULZ
C. W. PLATT
ROBERT R. RANKIN

ROBERT W. OSBORN . . . . . . Executive Secretary

THE ROSE FESTIVAL

The Rose Festival is over and it is fitting that
the Bulletin express some appreciation to the
Royal Rosarians for the capable planning and
management of this year's pageant. In a
measure all of the civic organizations took no
small part in the success of the rose fete. City
Club committees assisted by raising nearly $1000
in the campaign for funds. The greater success
this year proves that an appeal to civic pride
and responsibility, coupled with good manage-
ment, will bring results. The suggestion has
been made that the Festival be supported in
the future by taxation. There are many City
Club members, interested in this particular
suggestion, who would welcome a study by the
Club. Such a report is within the field of the
Section on Government Organization and Public
Utilities. Any member of that Section or of the
Club may propose that the question be studied.

OUTINGS DESIRABLE

With Oregon's "all out of doors" available,
the question of a City Club outing or picnic is
one that will probably be referred to the Club's
new Outing and Recreation Committee
appointed last week by the President. Ever since
the City Club took the excursion to Longview
last winter to view the sights of that growing
city, there has been a constant agitation for
some sort of summer trip by the Club. Other
lines of recreation have been suggested, such as
tennis, golf, hiking and the winter indoor sports
of bowling, volley ball and indoor baseball.

The problem of suggestion and management
now rests with the new Committee consisting of
the following members: Ralph H. Cake, chair-
man, C. S. Botsford, R. H. Campbell, James P.
Dunn, Kenneth F. Frasier, Bert Henry, Julius
V. Hofman, T. S. Johnson, C. H. Manlove, L.
G. Nichols and G. N. Pease.

CLUB MUSIC

A variety of musical programs is assured for
the City Club during the summer through the
appointment of a special Music Committee by
the President. It will be the duty of this com-
mittee to provide the feature numbers at each
meeting, including group singing.

The group consists of the following: George
Mayo, chairman, Earl R. Abbett, H. L. Bow-
man, Harry Cramer, O. B. Harriman, Walter
S. Klein, A. E. Larimer, Sidney G. Lathrop,
W. C. McCulloch and J. P. Mulder.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following applications for membership have been received and will be pre-
sented for the approval of the City Club,
Friday, June 29th:

GEORGE A. BORING,
Mgr., Pacific States Electric Co.
I. T. FELTS,
Sale-man, Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co.
JULIUS V. HOFMAN,
Director, Forestry Research, U. S. Wind River Experiment Station.
E. L. HALL,
General Superintendent, Portland Gas & Coke Co.

Applicants proposed by F. H. Murphy, George Mayo, J. H. Hartog, and T. W.
Veness.
SCHOOL SURVEY FURTHER RECOMMENDED

Proposals made by the City Club for a comprehensive survey of Portland’s school needs were briefly reviewed in a report unanimously approved by the Club last Friday. The keynote of the report was that a survey be made and acted upon regardless of the outcome of the bond issue. Since the reading of the report the election has taken place and the results are generally known. The defeat of the bonds does not mean that Portland’s school needs will not be met. To the City Club, as a careful reading of the accompanying report will show, it means that those needs should now be definitely determined and a business-like program adopted to meet them.

The report adopted last Friday reads as follows:

To THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS:
The School Board has a present building program of $10,791,379.51 and its report implies that as much more must be called for within ten years—a grand total of $20,000,000. The businesslike procedure for any public board or large business enterprise contemplating any such outlay would be to take a thorough and comprehensive survey of the whole situation; and a publication of the results for the benefit of stockholders, taxpayers, or others vitally interested.

A majority of the members of the School Board have been averse to this procedure and frankly relied on their own wisdom and judgment, declining for the past year to act on the City Club’s several recommendations for a survey. Only at a very recent date have they conceded the possible value of an outside investigation.

No one knows exactly what such a survey of Portland school buildings would cost. The U. S. Bureau of Education will furnish free service of its staff. The total cost for their expenses would probably not be over $5,000, certainly not over $10,000, which is from one-fortieth to one-twentieth of one per cent of the proposed outlay. It that too much?

When they were notified by the City Club of the Federal Bureau of Education’s readiness to make a survey, the Board appeared to accept the suggestion, but actually postponed action. Objection was made within the last month that a survey could not be held before the election. Then came their objection to holding it after the election unless the bonds carried, disregarding the general desire and plain necessity for some new buildings. They refuse to see that whether the bonds are voted now or at a later time an expert survey is necessary before the money is spent.

The public understands that some school buildings must be erected at once to take care of urgent needs, that later other buildings must follow to replace those which are out of date although still usable with some inconveniences, that still further buildings will be required to house the natural growth of population. Money for all this must be found. It is not $7,500,000 which stagger people for they know a much larger sum will be spent in the next few years. But the astonishing thing is that any group of public officers should take offense or even hesitate when they are asked to obtain the fullest information for the better understanding of the problem by themselves and their fellow citizens.

Whichever way the bond election goes Portland wants to have the right kind of school houses, equipment and grounds within a reasonably short time. To accomplish such an ambition, the best and most must be had for the money. Neither best nor most will be had unless united effort is made by school board and public to get information and wisdom from the best sources and then put them into created form.

The Committee on education suggests to the City Club that it continue to recommend to the School Board before and after the election, whether the bonds are voted or not, that the School Board and its individual members declare as their policy, that:

1. They will have a thorough, intelligent and impartial survey of the building needs of the district made by experts, if possible from the Federal Bureau of Education.
2. They will publish an adequate report of the survey for distribution particularly to the patrons of the schools and the taxpayers of the district.
3. They agree to accept the findings of fact as made by the survey and to follow its recommendations in good faith and as far as practicable.

The Reception Committee for July, August and September consists of the following members: R. E. Cornish, chairman, R. R. Denny, Verne C. Gilbert, Milton O. Nelson, Ormond R. Bean, C. E. Sears and G. N. Woodley. This committee will assist in seating members and guests at the Friday meetings and will look out for the general arrangements for a successful gathering.
A CITY CLUB TRIP?

An outing, which holds possibilities for a City Club excursion, was conducted by the Mazamas last week-end to the U. S. Wind River Experiment Station near Carson, Wash. The director of the station, Julius V. Hofman, recently addressed the City Club on the government research work being undertaken there and the Mazama trip was made especially to examine the plant at first hand and incidentally, of course, to enjoy the superb scenery of that district.

The trip, an unusually easy one considering the distance traveled, was made from Portland by way of the Columbia Highway to Cascade Locks, ferry to Stevenson, Wash., then to Carson by way of the Evergreen Highway and on to the Experiment Station through the picturesque Wind River valley. The drive can be made at a leisurely pace in four hours and combines the beauty of the Columbia Gorge with an interior trip that few motorists have taken. Once at the station there are a multitude of interesting features to note, among them being the radio station which is capable of receiving messages from all parts of the U. S. and even from Europe; the nursery containing millions of trees for reforestation; the arboretum where Dr. Holman is experimenting with various types of trees; the government ranger station; the weather forecasting station, and other features explained by the director.

The Mazamas were fortunate in being present when two big dams were opened in the valley to float logs down the Wind River canyon to the Columbia. This was a sight to be long remembered. A special point of interest in the high suspension bridge over the Wind River at a height of over 250 feet. An additional drive can be made from the station to the Government Springs Hotel. From the top of Sedum Point, a four mile hike, the party caught glimpses of Mt. Adams, St. Helens, Rainier, Hood and Jefferson.

The trip recommends itself strongly to the Club's Outing and Recreation Committee.

HEALTH LEADER SPEAKS

At the time a great Rose Festival crowd was returning from watching thousands of Portland school children parade, Dr. Richard A. Bolt, of Washington, D. C., was telling City Club members last Friday a great many of the responsibilities a community has for its children, born and unborn. He pointed out the natural existing aids to the community for preserving child health—pure water, pure milk supply, favorable climate, lack of slums and lack of crowded housing conditions. To these he added his analysis of what he considered should be done through the efforts of the community.

Dr. Bolt spoke of his acquaintance with the City Club through the report on Public Health Methods published last year and complimented the Club on the thoroughness of its public health work. Many of the best developments in public health work, he stated, begin with voluntary organizations who demonstrate the value of a piece of work so effectively that the public takes it over.

"While you have a wonderful medical school here, a medical profession that is public minded, a progressing nursing profession and a strong department of social science, your child welfare work is not yet on a community basis. Child health centers are needed throughout the city as a means to reduce your infant mortality rate, now already low, but which could be reduced one-half, in my opinion, by this community effort.

"Many babies are lost in the first year of life due to malnutrition and preventable diseases. Pre-natal care is essential for the health of mother and child and in this work the educational influence of health centers is invaluable."

Dr. Bolt, who is the Medical Director of the American Child Health Association, was in Portland for several days and spoke to a number of organizations.

Have you mailed in the questionnaire sent out by the Office the first of the week?

A number of replies have been received to the questions asked of all City Club members as to their educational and occupational qualifications, special interests in civic work and other questions, answers to which will be helpful to Club officers and Section Chairmen in planning committee work and selecting the personnel to make the studies.

Replies are desired from every member. The information is needed whether or not a member expects to be active in Club work. Anyone not wishing to fill out the questionnaire is at liberty to state that fact and return same in the envelope provided.

Over 100 questionnaires were returned to the Office in the first mail. Send yours in to save the time of a follow-up call.