

of the street, in company with members of the Board of Public Works.

### PARK RESTRICTIONS. MAY CLOSE AT SUNSET.

Because of the continuous reports that come from Griffith Park as to immoral and disorderly conditions at night along the Griffith Park roads, it is possible that the Park Commission may prohibit travel through the park after sunset.

Van M. Griffith, son of Col. Griffith J. Griffith, who donated the park to the city, laid complaints regarding conditions allowed to prevail there before Chairman Wheeler of the Council's Public Welfare Committee yesterday, and stated that he has affidavits to back his statements. He desires the city to employ mounted patrolmen for the park roads.

### ARCADE DEPOT. PERMIT IS APPLIED FOR.

Parkinson & Bergstrom, architects for the new Arcade station, made formal application to the building department of the city yesterday for the building permit for this structure. All the plans were submitted and this morning a corps of employees will begin checking. It is expected the work will be completed within two days. The company has already begun excavations on the land which the city has just vacated.

The application asks for a permit to erect a building to cost \$300,000, 80x572 feet, with the front three stories and to be fifty-four feet in height at the highest point. The structure is to be of concrete and brick, and will be of class A and class C construction.

The Alta Planing Mill Company is the contractor.

### Cost of Engineering.

The City Engineer yesterday notified the Board of Public Works that he considers that engineering and inspection fees on public work should not exceed 7½ per cent. of the contract price of the work. This was brought about by protest made by property owners against what was deemed excessive inspection fees on cement step construction at Loma Vista place, where the inspection cost \$246.15. The Board of Public Works sustained the charge of the engineering department.

### May Withhold Acceptance.

Fifty wagonloads of earth and rubbish lie on the lot of C. G. Pfeisterer at Thirty-fifth and Jefferson streets, whereas the lot was bare and clean before the improvement of a near-by street was undertaken. Pfeisterer has appealed to the Board of Public Works. Contractor Jake Hein says he didn't dump the earth and rubbish. He can't imagine how it got there; it must have just happened. Anyway, Hein will ask the board to accept his work on Pizarro street within a few days, and it is probable he'll be asked to clear the Pfeisterer lot before the board acts.

Numerous complaints have been received at the office of the Board of Public Works that contractors for street work use vacant lots along the work for the purpose of placing surplus earth, etc., without securing the required permission.

### A Majority Protest.

The City Engineer yesterday reported that the protestants against the widening of West First street to 120 feet, and asking that it be paved at its present width, 82½ feet, have a majority petition. Out of the 35,045 feet of frontage they have signed up 17,839 feet, or 375 feet more than a majority. There is also a frontage of 1021½ feet on the petitions that has been incorrectly signed and therefore was not considered.

### Municipal News Notes.

Two demands for damages were made to the Board of Public Works yesterday and were referred to the City Attorney. C. C. Burke asks for \$104 damages sustained when he fell into an open manhole at First and Breed streets on January 13; and Miss Carrie Dipman wants \$425 for damages she alleges she sustained on Broadway, near First street, when she stepped on a board laid over wet cement.

The Police Commission will meet Friday morning at 10 o'clock. No session was held yesterday, because the Mayor was tied up with other engagements.

Plans are being prepared by the City Engineer's office for the paving of Vernon avenue, from Main to Alameda streets. A strip in the center of the street will be left to be paved by the Los Angeles Railway Corporation, this being one of the requirements of its franchise for the cross-town line.

The Board of Public Works yesterday requested the City Prosecutor to file a complaint against the Santa Fe Railway Company for its failure to lower its tracks just north of Slauson avenue, so as to bring them to the street grade at Figueroa street and Vermont avenue. The board ordered this work done last December; then it gave the company sixty days' extension of time, but no start has been made.

At the City Hall.

## SHALL CITY SUE FOR EATON LAND?

### QUESTION TO BE CONSIDERED IN HEARING TODAY.

Hart, of Notorious Aqueduct Investigation Commission, Will Advocate Litigation, but Engineer Shaffer Will Not Be Present—City Attorney Advises Against Action.

During the regime of John W. Sherk as City Attorney the question of the advisability of the city bringing suit to determine the ownership of Long Valley lands held by former Mayor Eaton, with the possibility of such lands being determined as belonging to the municipality, was put up to him, after demands for litigation to this end had been made by the Aqueduct Investigation Commission. Sherk gave it as his opinion that the city has no sufficient grounds for such action.

Not satisfied with this, persons who allege that Eaton is holding properties that rightfully belong to the city, renewed their appeals, and the Council again referred to the City Attorney the entire subject. This was since City Attorney Stephens assumed this office. After going over all the evidence at hand, Stephens recently reported to the Council that he concurred in the opinion of his predecessor and could see nothing in the material at hand that would justify the city in entering suit with any reasonable expectancy of securing a decision in its favor.

Still unsatisfied, several citizens insisted that the Council should look further into the subject, and it was referred to the Public Service Committee of the Council. A hearing on the subject will occur this forenoon at 10 o'clock.

H. A. Hart, member of the Aqueduct Investigation Commission that spent thousands of dollars in the preparation of a report that is stored by the ton in the attic of the City Hall, will be present to urge that litigation be started by the city. It is reasonably certain that E. E. Shaffer, engineer for this board, and on whom it depended for much of its data, will not be present. Shaffer has not been seen at the City Hall for some weeks past.

Councilman Wheeler will also be an advocate for litigation on the part of the city. Wheeler declares that he is convinced there is an element within the city of considerable size that is thoroughly possessed with the idea that the city is being illegally held out of the possession of Long Valley lands to which it has a rightful claim, and that nothing less than a decision of the court will satisfy them.

### MOVES SLOWLY.

#### ELEVATED ROAD FRANCHISE.

With probably a trifle more activity than glacial movements the franchise for the long-proposed elevated road of the Pacific Electric Company, to connect the Sixth-street station with the municipally-owned line on San Pedro street, is crawling toward realization.

Months ago the company put in its application for the franchise. Then it was found, when surveys were made, that the tying points would require slight changes in the technical description. Weeks were consumed before the amended application was filed. Now this application rests in the hands of the Public Utilities Commission, where it has been for at least two weeks. It is being checked and the changes considered by Railroad Engineer Mohler of this department.

Yesterday Tax Agent Hill of the Pacific Electric was at the City Hall trying to get more life in the movement that will eventually bring the notice of sale before the Council for final action. Mohler stated yesterday that he expects to complete his work within two days. President Wright said that as soon as Mohler completes his investigations and report the subject will be sent at once to the Council.

The Pacific Electric officials expect to have the elevated road ready for use in 1915, and are anxious to get started on the work.

### TOO COSTLY.

#### WIDENING OF AN AVENUE.

President Handley of the Board of Public Works appeared before the City Council yesterday to present the situation in regard to the proposed widening of Dayton avenue. He declared that this project would cost \$75,000, and that the character of the property is such that it will not stand this expense. He proposed that the Council order the street curbs set back three feet, or to the sidewalk line, thus providing ample space for the passage of vehicles between the car tracks and the walks, this making only a comparatively small expense.

Council Clerk Carroll stated that he had information that a very large signed protest will be filed against the proposed widening. The Council decided to make a personal inspection