

ASK A POSTPONEMENT OF FRANCHISE GRANT

Oakland Council Requested to Defer Action Until After Charter Election.

OAKLAND, October 30.—Six hundred men who crowded Rice Institute Hall this evening to hear Councilman Harold Everhart recite his objections to the proposed water front franchise to be granted the Southern Pacific Company, adopted, by unanimous vote, a resolution in which they ask the legislative body not to grant the measure until the charter election has been held. Laboring men to the number of 16,000 were represented in the vote, a representative of the Building Trades and Central Labor Councils seconding the motion for the adoption of the resolution.

Everhart's speech was vociferously applauded. He cited a number of points in the proposed franchise which he deemed decidedly against the city's interest. Chief of these was the fact that the measure, if granted, will give the railroad rights to both ends of the right of way for its Seventh-street line, leaving only that section between Fallon and Bay streets to be renewed. He explained that this section of the right of way would be of no good to any one but the corporation, and that for that reason the railroad could secure a renewal of the franchise at its own terms.

The legislator made the statement that the railroad would ask the present Council for a renewal of the Seventh-street franchise before the end of the coming November, despite the fact that the present franchise will not expire until November of next year. He stated that the corporation would do this because it feared to trust the renewal matter to a vote of the people, as would be necessary in the event the new charter was adopted.