

REASONS FOR FAILURE.

Some of the Municipal Lighting Experiments That Have Failed—The Causes and the Losses.

Modesto, Cal., purchased its electric plant in 1890, but has since shut down its generating plant and leased the distributing plant. A well informed citizen says:

"The city was able to buy power cheaper than it could generate it. Moreover, new boilers were needed, the city had provided no renewal fund and the people disliked the idea of bonding. The waterworks also were leased to private parties."

The mayor of Pittsfield, Ill., assigns the following reason for the sale of the electric plant formerly owned by that city:

"Cheaper to pay the Pittsfield Electric company than to do it ourselves. We ran it ourselves for several years and have had it run by contract at least five years, saving money by contracting it to outsiders."

The people of East Chicago, Ind., thought that they could save money by running the electric plant themselves. They bought it in 1900, but by 1903 it was in the hands of a receiver, and as the city was unable to redeem, the plant it was sold in 1907, together with a twenty-five year franchise.

The town of Lowell, Ind., purchased in 1901 for \$4,500 the electric light plant which had been installed two years before. In 1907 the plant was sold for \$2,730, the difference between this and the purchase price representing a depreciation of 10 per cent a year. The purchaser installed a new plant, as the old one was worth only about \$1,500 as junk. The reasons assigned for the sale are that the plant was being run at a loss and was in very bad condition, while the town was so heavily bonded that it could not install a new plant. A twenty-five year franchise went with the plant.

According to the mayor, the electric plant at Mentone, Ind., was purchased in 1899 from a private company for \$2,000 and was sold in 1903 for \$600 because it was a "losing proposition." Another correspondent assigns "poor service and lack of management" as the reason for the return to private ownership.

The electric plant of Lyons, Ia., installed in 1880 at a cost of \$13,000, was sold for \$5,000 in 1902 when Lyons was annexed to Clinton because better service could be obtained from a company.

The municipal electric plant of Somerset, Ky., installed in 1903 at a cost of \$18,000, was sold or leased to a private company after being in operation about two years.

In 1903 the city of Langdon, N. D., purchased the electric plant from its owners and spent \$10,000 in improving it. As it could not be made to pay it was sold in 1906 for \$9,000, entailing a loss of \$8,500 in three years, not including the loss in operating, which amounted to about \$2,000 a year.

The borough of Emmaus, Pa., installed an electric plant in 1880 and sold it five years later at about one-third of its cost. The borough clerk states that the reason for abandoning the plant was chiefly its heavy expense, the lights costing considerably more than the borough could get them from a private company.

Some years ago the city of Dayton, Tenn., purchased or leased an electric plant, but was compelled to retire from the business because the expense of running it was about three times the cost of contracting for lights from a company.

Kent, Wash., purchased its electric plant from a private company in 1892 and sold it ten years later for about half what it paid for it. The mayor assigns as the reason for selling, "Could not make it pay."

INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVE.

How It Provided a Great Need in a Big Public Department.

Congressman Bennett, who learned at a meeting of the welfare department of the National Civic Federation of the emergency hospitals installed in many factories, introduced a resolution of inquiry in the house of representatives with reference to facilities in government buildings in the city of Washington for administering first aid to employees. President Roosevelt immediately asked for reports from the various departments, and it was found that such provision was made in only one.

An employee of the government, a compositor in the department of public printing, whose sympathy was stirred by the sight of employees lying on the floor waiting for the arrival of an ambulance for the purpose of carrying them to a hospital, had fitted up a small room in which to care for such employees. As there was no appropriation for supplies, he personally paid for drugs, surgical dressings, bandages and other necessities.

The public printer reported to President Roosevelt that the arrangement had been very beneficial to the employees, as some of the cases were very urgent and need immediate attention. That 1,250 cases have been treated since that emergency room has been installed and that previously it was necessary to send out for a physician, and if he were not at home the employee was left lying on the floor of the workroom or toilet room suffering until one could be located.—National Civic Federation Review.

Municipal Electricity a Burden.

In 1903 the village of Hampshire, Ill., installed dynamos and a distributing system at a cost of \$5,000. This has just been sold for \$3,600. In the ordinance providing for the sale it is set forth that the plant "has become unprofitable to and a burden upon said village."

TEAZEL CREEK

The ladies here now have plenty to do, as blackberries are ripe and pretty plentiful. All are anxious to can some of them.

A large crowd went to Wilhoit last Sunday.

Francis Quinn brought out from Oregon City another fine load of ice for the Robbins Bros. one day last week.

Mr. Dave Fox expects to start in a few days for Hot Springs. His son-in-law, George Darr, and wife will stay with Mrs. Fox and run business while he is gone.

CHEAPER TO BUY CURRENT.

Many Cities Are Becoming Mere Retailers of Electric Power Generated by Private Companies.

Among the cities which have recently closed down their generating plants because they found that private companies could supply current more cheaply than the city plants could generate it are New Westminster, B. C.; Millers Falls, Mass.; Mooresville, N. C.; and Fort William, Ont.; Souderton, Pa., and New Richmond, Wis. In all these cases the investment for power-house and generating machinery is almost a total loss.

In Millers Falls the plant had been in use only four years. The lamps were of only 1,500 candle power and burned only 3.63 hours a night, yet the cost, as shown by the annual report, was \$75.91 a year, in spite of only 3 per cent being charged off for depreciation and there being no allowance for lost taxes, etc. Now at a lower cost the streets are lighted all night on moonlight schedule.

Fort William, besides its electric plant, owns its waterworks and telephone system and until recently was widely advertised as an example of successful municipal ownership. Now, however, expressions of dissatisfaction are frequently heard, and the town was glad to modify its experiment by taking advantage of the saving to be derived from private enterprise.

The chief burgess of Souderton writes that the reasons for contracting for current were the high cost of operating the plant, trouble with engineers and superintendent and the fact that the plant was too small for the load. Only a year ago the plant was enlarged, but evidently without sufficient foresight. The change was heartily indorsed by the citizens, one of whom said that the chief trouble was that "everybody in power wanted to monkey with the plant."

A PLEA FOR FAIR DEALING.

A Platform on Which All Good Citizens Can Stand Together.

In Cincinnati there is a Municipal Voters' league with the following platform:

1. The entire separation of municipal affairs from national party politics.
  2. The election of honest and efficient men for public office in the city of Cincinnati irrespective of party politics.
  3. The establishment of the merit system in all branches of the city government; the discharge of no employee of the city government on account of political affiliations.
  4. Opposition to any sinister control by the great public service corporations over the executive and legislative officials of the city; opposition to the operation of such corporations by the city officials; absolute fair dealing between the city and such corporations.
  5. A greater, better and more beautiful city; a city government free from graft and favoritism in letting of contracts; improvement of streets at prices not greater than those paid by other cities; a system for their preservation in good repair and to prevent their indiscriminate opening; for the elimination without unnecessary delay of all grade crossings; the rehabilitation and efficient maintenance of our city institutions.
  6. A generous treatment of the public school of the city and insistence upon the most efficient methods of education.
  7. An untainted registration and an honest election.
  8. The indorsement by this association of such candidates only as will subscribe to the principles stated above and as will pledge that their official action shall not be nominated or controlled by any political boss or organization.
- This is a step in the right direction. If generally adopted and heartily supported such a movement would eliminate the causes of friction between the public and the companies which serve it and would make needless any agitation for municipal ownership. It should be welcomed by corporations who are now persistently bled by the political middlemen who act as self constituted brokers for franchises and other privileges.

Not a Paying Business.

In December, 1905, the city of South Pittsburg, Tenn., purchased for \$5,000 the electric plant, on which \$9,500 had been expended. In November, 1907, the city resold the plant, taking its pay in lighting. A disinterested citizen writes as follows:

"After about two years' operation of the plant by the city it was demonstrated that the project was not paying, and, in fact, the actual expense of operation could not be met; hence the main reason for selling, and, too, the plant was in very poor condition even after the city had expended about \$1,000 for repairs, and no more money could be raised by the corporation for additional repairs."

Fire Ended These Experiments.

The electric light plant installed in 1902 by the city of Rockville, Md., was destroyed by fire in 1904 and was not rebuilt. There was no insurance and the city lost \$10,000.

When the municipal electric light plant of Marceline, Mo., installed at a cost of \$8,000, was burned it was not rebuilt because the people realized that it did not pay.

The mayor of Bradford, O., writes: "We operated electric plant under lease. It burned in December, 1892, and has been in litigation since. A plant is now being constructed by a private corporation to furnish street and commercial lights."

A Vanishing Profit.

Burlington, Vt., has been claiming a good round profit from its electric plant. Recently, however, a firm of expert accountants was employed to investigate the finances and reported a loss in something like over three years of \$7,138. Even this does not allow for lost taxes, rent of site, insurance, provision for damages, etc., while depreciation of machinery is estimated at only 5 per cent.

Fish Dynamiters Arrested.

The Oregon City Rod and Gun Club last week received information that some men in the vicinity of Molalla had been using explosives for the purpose of getting fish out of the Molalla river. Attorney O. D. Eby of this city, on behalf of the club filed complaint Friday in the justice court charging C. D. Smith, Jack Linehart and J. G. Clayton with the offense. Sheriff Bastic arrested the trio and they were given a hearing Monday before Justice Sampson.

Do People Read Advertisements?

Why Sure! You Are Reading This Ad

ADVERTISE

ADVERTISE

Are you not? If you read this ad others will read yours if you will place it where it will be seen. If you place your advertisement in some paper that people do not care to read of course you cannot expect results from your efforts. But if you go to a paper that is aggressive and alive and is brim full of news you are sure of reaping results from the money you spend. And again you cannot expect to place an ad in any paper and expect people to come and buy you out the next day. You must give them a dose one week and then double the dose the next time; give them both doses the next week. If this does not fix them repeat what you have given before but add a greater amount of vim. When you have done all this get in and ADVERTISE

Did you ever stop and consider why the Courier leads in advertising? It is easy to see why if you will stop and consider how much larger a circulation the Courier has than other Clackamas County papers. And why this larger circulation? Because the management of the Courier is ever on the lookout for new ideas to give their readers; new features to add that will give a greater variety that will please everybody. To give the readers of the Courier the news in an unbiased form. These and many more are the reasons why the Courier has a larger circulation than other Clackamas County newspapers, and the reason why the Courier has a great deal more advertising matter than other Clackamas County papers.

The Courier's job plant is excelled only by the larger plants of Portland, and is prepared to print anything from the finest society stationery to the big wholesaler's catalogue.

IF YOU WANT GOOD PRINTING

CALL ON

THE OREGON CITY COURIER

THE HOME OF GOOD PRINTING

Local Happenings

Miss Florence Grace is visiting friends in Seattle.

Miss Nellie Nisbeth of Portland is visiting at the home of Mrs. G. W. Gray.

WANTED—Thoroughly capable and experienced girl for house work. Call at Courier office.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Loder will leave Monday morning for two weeks' vacation at Cannon Beach.

Mrs. Janie Corrin, of Seattle, is visiting at the home of Mrs. J. M. Hamilton on High street.

J. J. Cooke is planning to leave this city August 6th with his family for a two weeks' outing in the mountains.

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Cross and Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Dyar attended the closing exercises at Chemawa school Wednesday.

Miss Grace Smith has just returned from Mr. Hood, where she has been spending her vacation. She reports plenty of snow and fun.

A fine drove of 200 steers were driven through this city Wednesday from eastern Oregon, enroute to Smith Meat Company in Portland.

LOST—Small package containing collar and hose, in postoffice, Thursday, July 30. Finder please leave at Oregon City Courier office.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Miller, accompanied by Mrs. Miller's sister, Mrs. Shepherd, departed Wednesday for Newport to remain during the camping season.

A grass and brush fire swept from Oswego to the hills on the west side Wednesday, eating up some timber on the way, but causing no great amount of damage.

S. J. Schwerin, of Cincinnati, Ohio, with his family, who recently came to Oregon City, has received shipment of his household goods and is domiciled on Jackson street.

Oregon City Courier for one year, and beautiful oil painting, all for \$2.00. Send in your subscriptions at once. Over 200 paintings to select from.

Miss Emma Quinn, local operator of the Pacific States Telephone Company, who with her nephew has been visiting relatives in Santa Fe, N. M., has returned to her duties here.

The wearing of the sole of one shoe is always a troublesome feature in footwear. A fine new style of various styles has recently been put upon the market, the sole of which is guaranteed to outwear the upper, doing away with half-soles. It is a shoe without an equal and one which every working man needs. It is the R. P. Smith & Sons shoe of Chicago, and Oregon City people may be able to inspect its good qualities at John Adams', Masonic Temple.

"Safety Pin" Route.

O. S. Haines, who is serving a six months' sentence in the county jail, would have succeeded in taking his life Wednesday afternoon had he not been discovered by an inmate. Haines was deliberately sticking a safety pin in an artery in his wrist and had already succeeded in drawing out a quart of blood.

Deafness Cannot Be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the eustachian tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; none cases out of ten are caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give one hundred dollars for any case of deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars free.

P. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, 7c. Take Hall's Family P. D. for a test.

Notice to Contractors.

Sealed bids will be received by the street committee of the council of Oregon City, for the construction of a concrete culvert and sidewalk from Center street to the head of 7th street steps, according to the plans and specifications thereof at the office of J. U. Campbell. The bids will be filed in the office of the city recorder not later than 4 o'clock p. m., Aug. 5, 1908. A certified check for 10 per cent of the bid must accompany each bid, to be forfeited to the city of Oregon City in case the successful bidder refuses to enter into contract and give bond for the faithful performance thereof within 10 days from the date of opening the bids. The committee reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

A. KNAPP, Chairman Street Committee.

T. B. Fairclough and John B. Fairclough, accompanied by Frank Lorenz and D. C. and Joseph Ross, left Monday for the Ogle Mountain mines, having uncovered a ledge of base ore while cutting a tunnel.



The Bigger the Basket

of groceries we send you the greater your satisfaction, the larger number of articles you order the greater will be your appreciation of the all-round Excellence of our Groceries. We do not make a specialty of one good article, trusting its good quality will make up for deficiencies in other lines. Every thing we sell is the best we can get. SPECIAL—this week only: a 5c2 box of toilet soap free with each pound of tea or coffee.

SEELEY'S The Peoples' Store Main Street OREGON CITY

Over Thirty-Five Years.

In 1872 there was a great deal of diarrhoea, dysentery and cholera in a town. It was at this time that Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy was first brought into use. It proved more successful than any other remedy or treatment, and has for thirty-five years maintained that record. From a small beginning its sale and use has extended to every part of the United States and to many foreign countries. Nine druggists out of ten will recommend it when their opinion is asked, although they have other medicines that pay them a greater profit. It can always be depended upon, even in the most severe and dangerous cases. For sale by Huntley Bros., Oregon City and M. Hall.

Handy With Beer Bottles.

Joe Beardsley, who struck Officer Porter of Portland on the head with a beer bottle while resisting arrest, was arrested in this city at midnight Saturday night by Officers Shaw and Cooke. The man was found in the Cob Web saloon, and when searched a 32 calibre revolver was found in his possession. Beardsley was arrested in this city June 3 on charge of drunkenness and sentenced to ten days, but was released on his promise to leave town. June 12 he was arrested by Officer Porter in Portland for being in the same condition, but he escaped after striking the officer of the law with a beer bottle. He also took the patrolman's gun, and fired two shots in the air.

Twenty-Five Cents Is the Price of Peace.

The terrible itching and smarting incident to certain skin diseases, is almost instantly allayed by applying Chamberlain's Salve. For sale by Huntley Bros., Oregon City and M. Hall.

Sale of Lots.

Notice is hereby given that on Saturday, July 25th, 1908, at 10 o'clock a. m., at the front door of the county court house in Oregon City, Ore., I will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, lots 5 and 6 of block 164 in Oregon City. Dated July 13th, 1908. E. C. TRULLINGER, Executor.

FOR SALE—Modern Bungalow IN PORTLAND



Just Completed—All modern improvements—7 Rooms, Hot and Cold Water, Electric Lights and Bath. On one or two Lots. ROSE CITY PARK Portland's Fast Growing Addition. On the Main Street to New Driving Park. Terms.

EASTHAM, SMITH & CO.

OREGON CITY, OREGON



The discriminating farmer keeps a supply of SLOAN'S LINIMENT For spavin, curb, splint, swoeny, capped hock, founder, strained tendons, wind puffs and all lameness in horses - For thrush, foot rot and garget on cattle and sheep - For hog distemper, hog cholera, thumps and scours in hogs - For diarrhoea, canker and roup in poultry - AT ALL DEALERS - - - PRICE 25 c. 50 c. & \$ 1.00 Send for free book on Horses, Cattle, Hogs and Poultry - - - Address Dr. Earl S. Sloan, Boston, Mass.