

DRINKING FROM A STATE'S SEWER

A NEWCOMER'S VIEWS OF CITY'S WATER SOURCE

OUR ONE GREAT DRAWBACK

He Cannot Understand the Apathy Over This Important Matter

Editor Courier:— As one among many who have been greatly charmed by your city and have come here to make permanent residence, and to induce all whom we know to do likewise, may I ask through your columns the favor of your advice regarding an object which is surely more vital to all of us than recalls, politics or daily bread? For of what service to humanity are any of these things if the main spring of life be impure? I had always imagined that Oregon City had the finest water in Oregon. Imagine my disappointment then, when, on going to drink from one of your public fountains (as is our custom up North) I was told "Stop! Don't touch it, it's full of typhoid! But I had "tasted" it already and it seemed to me a half-warm, insipid, and unfit for any purpose except slouping or fire duty. I was awfully thirsty too, like every one else during those hot days, yet all we could do was to slake our thirst at soda fountains and feel more thirsty afterwards than before. And no pure water anywhere near fit to drink. Even the ice is made from liquid that no amount of freezing will kill. Our experiences of last week naturally led us to enquire regarding the "source of supply." "Where does this water come from," was a purely natural query. May we therefore ask you to favor us at your clemency by stating if the information we have received is correct? And if so, what is the remedy for our dissatisfaction, temporary though it may be? There are many who would like to know: 1. Source—Is it drawn from the Weir at the South end of Oregon City? 2. Appearance—If that is its source does it not look rather like a reservoir for sewage and logs of undoubted antiquity? 3. Condition—Is it not material, and even when "filtered" or "chemically treated," unfit for human consumption? 4. Contents—Is it not proven to contain specific germs, among which "typhoid" germs are indisputably in evidence? 5. Ownership—Who owns it? Do the Oregon City Water Commissioners own it? Or to the people of Oregon City? Is it true that these Commissioners are reaping enormous benefits from this "honorable service of supply" to the city? 6. Who are those most interested in retaining the present supply? Are they the said Commissioners and a few straggling residents and capitalists at the narrow end of the town? (I mean the southern extremity of it, which seems to contain only the "water system," a factory, a stable or two, and not a few establishments of the "hler-garten" class.) 7. Why do the Commissioners wish to retain the present system? Is it because they do not wish the town to grow in any direction but their direction? 8. Can these capitalists and "interested" parties hinder the normal growth of the city in the most natural expansion? Do we believe they would if they could, but—north it must go, with the picturesque bend of the river at its side, the prettiest and most romantic city in all Oregon. We believe that in less than two years from now the center of Oregon City will have for its landmark the site of the old Congregational Church on Main St., near Eleventh. 9. But in the meantime?—What are we going to do? Are we, who have chosen this Arcadia as our home—as a home for our friends and those dear to us—are we going to stand idly by and let a few of the interested section of the community reap profits from our discomfort? The continued apathy of these custodians of the people's health is already filling our hospitals to overflowing. It's typhoid, typhoid, everywhere, from every hand "But they are losing their GAIN from this very source! Surely "Me and Gott" would be a fitting motto to place over their office doors. 10. Can you tell us how long this unbecoming state of things is going to last?—and how long must we submit to being told that "the water is all right," but that we "need to boil it" or "use lemon juice with it during summer"? We wonder what would "happen" to these "public officers" were they suddenly transported to Portland or Seattle and similar conditions were in what drains or old logs run into it; its good enough for you ordinary folks; besides its easily boiled and lemon juice improves the flavor? In conclusion permit me to say that I am only one among very many who purpose permanent residence here in this "Eden of Oregon." But, Sir, when public health is menaced by the edicts of a moss-grown body of its custodians (such as we seem to have here) is it not time for us all to "wake up" and do something? 11. What's the first thing to do?—In the face of so much sickness all around us, is it not about time we all "got busy"? For this kind of thing is happening year after year! Is a "recall" necessary to effect the desired change? Let us hope not. But the change should come speedily or the growth of this fair city will be greatly retarded. As citizens of Oregon's prettiest city we surely "DON'T KNOW WHAT WE ARE MISSING" if we neglect this, the most important economy of our existence. My little niece was here just now. She said to me, "Gee! Uncle, but I'm thirsty!" and it makes me more so when they tell me not to drink the water until its "boiled!" "Man from Seattle."

AS THE STATE SEES THE RECALL

VARIOUS COMMENTS BY DIFFERENT OREGON PAPERS

FIRST COUNTY RECALL IN U.S.

Associated Press Dispatches Cover County With the News

The following comments on the recall of the county court are clipped from the exchanges that come to this office: Editor Brown, of the Oregon City Courier, has won a hard fought but decisive victory in bringing about the recall of two county officers—county judge and county commissioner—in Clackamas county, in an election held last Saturday. The vote is one of confidence in the editor who dared. The majority against the incumbents was sufficient to show what the people think of loose methods in transacting public business.—McMinnville News. All but one of the Clackamas county newspapers that we saw predicted that the recall movement against two of the county officials there would fail. They were false prophets, though. The recall is often referred to as a "club behind the door," but unless the club is used once in a while, it ceases to have any terrors.—Woodburn Independent. In this case, as in all others, the majority rules and as they are now in power let everyone uphold them in their sincere efforts for the betterment of the entire county and give them the courage to do what is right regardless of circumstances. We believe that both Mr. Anderson, and Mr. Smith are good, clean men and will make good officials. We have never in any way criticized the fitness of either gentlemen for the position to which he aspired, and now advise those who did so to emulate the boy who ate the green apple—it's down, try and digest it comfortably.—Canby Irrigator. The recall election, which occurs on Saturday of this week has aroused a great deal of interest and the Oregon City papers are fairly sizzling with charges and denials. To an old newspaper man the Enterprise seems to be badly outclassed as the editor of the Courier, M. J. Brown, is a master of ridicule and invective and has surely put up a great "scrap" for the recall of Beattie and Blair. Beattie at this writing, appears to be in a ugly mood. The people are in an ugly mood at the careless and irresponsible way in which county business has been conducted.—Cherryville Cor to Beaver State Herald. The result of the election came as a surprise to the general impression here was that Judge Beattie and Commissioner Blair would be retained in office by large majorities.—Journal, Sandy. This is the first time in Oregon's history that a recall election has resulted in defeat for office holders. The vote of the women was particularly heavy, and to this fact is attributed the defeat of the old officers. The recall resulted in dissatisfaction over the way in which the county court let contracts. They did not advertise for bids on county work and their methods resulted in a waste of the taxpayers' money. The Oregon City Courier has been a significant factor in bringing about this result, having waged a vigorous campaign against official extravagance, so much so that the editor now rests under two suits for libel, and notwithstanding this fact his equanimity seems undisturbed. It is fitting that the first successful recall should be pulled off in the home town of Mr. U'Ren, the recognized father of innovative government.—McMinnville Telephone-Register. The recall of Judge Beattie and Commissioner Blair in Clackamas county is an aftermath of the county division contest last year. The great difference in votes between Estacada and Sandy is explained because the two places fought each other in county division. Sandy won at that time, Estacada wins now and is crowing because of having helped to "bust the ring" that defeated county division.—Gresham Outlook. Now that the recall election has been successful and the County Judge and one of the commissioners have been stripped of authority, there are men bobbing up all over the county claiming credit for themselves, who were not heard to utter a word against the county court previous to the election. The credit for the success attained in this instance belongs chiefly to the Oregon City Courier, which sided by a few men in each precinct in keeping the proposition before the voters of the county. Had there been no recall.—Estacada Progress. The Democrat congratulates Editor Brown of the Oregon City Courier on the result of the recent recall election held in Clackamas county. Mr. Brown contended that the county judge and a member of the board of county commissioners were not properly performing their duties and secured the necessary number of signatures for a recall election. Both of the officers opposed by the Oregon City newspaper were recalled by a large majority. Thus have the people of Clackamas county given the editor a flattering vote of confidence.—Albany Democrat. This is the first successful recall in the history of Oregon, and that only

A SQUARE DEAL AND NO FAVORS

WHAT THE COURIER DOES AND DOES NOT WANT

ONLY WHAT IT COMPETES FOR

Let County, City and School Printing on Competitive Bids

Now that the recall fight is history and the smoke has settled, the Courier plainly wants to present them to you taxpayers to have a think or two over. One of the issues the county ring made in the campaign was that the Courier had a sore spot because it did not get the county printing. Now we want to state just as plainly as a vigorous English can state it, the Courier wasn't in this contest for the spoils and the favors, and that it does not want any spoils or favors, won't ask for them and would not accept them if offered—which they will not be. One of the strongest arguments against the county ring during the recall campaign was that it used public money for public works without competition—that jobs and favors were given to the "ring" without asking for competition. The Courier supported H. S. Anderson and J. W. Smith on the issues that this condition would be remedied if elected. And the people would certainly think highly of the Courier if it would now step in and ask that the public printing be given to it, simply because the Enterprise has had a pipe cough on it these many years. Judge Anderson and Commissioner Smith would not be a party to any such deal if asked, and the Courier will never ask. THIS PAPER ONLY WANTS THAT PART OF THE PUBLIC PRINTING THAT IT CAN GET ON COMPETITIVE BIDS. If we can do the work and save the county money, we want that work. If we can't, let the printer who can, do it. For two and a half years this office would have been glad to have bid on the work given out by the county court. BUT THEY NEVER GAVE US THE CHANCE. It went to the Enterprise, week after week, month after month, year after year. Some of the prices charged for the printing have been exorbitant, little less than that. This office could have saved the county a good deal of money. But county officials would have permitted. But never a chance was given the Courier. Now that the county managers have been changed, and the recall has won, we simply ask for a chance to do the work cheaper than it has been done. We don't want any spoils or favors. We couldn't get them if we did. This office stated to Judge Anderson after his election that all it asked was a chance to compete. And now while we are at it, we want to tell you taxpayers of Oregon City something, and see what you think of it. Almost the same condition exists with the city printing, the waterworks and the schools. There are thousands of dollars for printing paid out by these departments and hundreds of dollars could have been saved to the people had this work been open to competition, and other offices been given a chance to bid. Since Brown and Frost have owned the Courier what city printing it has had would hardly buy their boys a suit of clothes, while great sums have been handed over to the Enterprise. It is the legal and moral right of the Courier to be given a chance to do this work for less money. It is the right of the taxpayers who have to pay these big printing bills that the work be done economically. It is the legal and moral duty of the city officials to see that this work is done for the least money. WHY is the Enterprise made the official city paper from year to year without the least competition, or without giving the Courier a chance at the work? WHY is the job printing simply handed over to them without asking the prices? Last November, when the printing of the charter for the proposed commission government was done, this office tried in every way to be allowed to bid on the book, BUT WE WERE NOT PERMITTED. It was given to the Enterprise at its own price. In January this office asked the water commissioners for a chance on the big job of printing its receipts, and we were told we were too late, that the work HAD BEEN DONE. AND TWO MONTHS LATER THE WRITER OF THIS ARTICLE SAW THE PRINTING DELIVERED TO THE COLLECTOR, MR. COOPER. To be sure we have not always played the city council's game; neither have we advocated that our water was purer than our physicians said it was poison. And this office filed referendum petitions that held up Superintendent Gary's salary increase. But you taxpayers, you men who pay the bills; you men who are not interested in the little political rings and cliques—what do YOU think about it? Aren't YOU willing this office should do the printing for less if it can? Aren't you willing that your taxes may be decreased and the expenses of the city and county be decreased in its printing bills? Are you adverse to the Courier being the official city paper and doing the official printing a lot cheaper than it is now being done? And the Courier WILL do it a lot cheaper. It will do it

THREE MEN HURT IN ROCK BLAST

UNEXPECTED EXPLOSION OF A "DEAD" CHARGE

ONE OF THE MEN MAY DIE

Other Two Were Badly Burned and Bruised by Blast

Three men went up with a blasting charge at the Jones rock crusher at the end of Center street Tuesday night, two are badly bruised and burned, and one is dangerously injured. As we get the story a blast did not explode, and water was poured out to kill it while another charge was being made ready, and while the men were working over it, tamping it down the delayed blast exploded. But for the fact that the force of the blast was sideways the men would no doubt have been killed. W. C. Rainey was the most seriously injured. He was blown 15 or 20 feet by the explosion and was buried under the falling rock. It was some time before he could be extricated. One leg and one arm was broken, his skull cracked and he was internally injured. He is in a critical condition. He is about 45 years of age. Harry Cowden, aged 23 and Matt Poliner, aged 30, were carried up with the explosion, and were badly burned and bruised. Cowden's hands were badly mangled. NOW WATCH OGLE MINE. Cyanide Plant Will Be Running by November 1. There are things going out to the Ogle mine and it is now but a question of weeks when the big cyanide plant will be in operation and the mine actively operated. Fifty tons of machinery have been unloaded at Mt. Angel, part of it is already at the mine and the rest is on the road. The buildings are going up, the big tanks are in completion, new bunk houses are built, eight teams are taking in the boilers, tube mill, engines and other material, and everything is strutting at Ogle mine. Barring all unforeseen delays the mine will be in operation by November 1, when a crew of about 25 men will very soon show the public whether the Fairclough boys and the backers of old Ogle have known all these years what they were talking about and what their "lock up" in that mountain. Test after test has shown the ore had \$7 of gold to the ton and about \$2 of silver. The plant being installed has a capacity of from 100 to 150 tons a day. You can figure out on the rest. There have been many skeptical ones in this county that the cyanide plant could not be swung; that it was too big an undertaking for the company to attempt to develop the mine, and because of this skepticism it has made it hard for the boys to swing it. But they say the word "can't" is never taught to Englishmen. Anyhow the mine will be in operation by November 1, and it is now but a question of time to get the plant in place, and the mine will open and the work be carried out on a large scale. To the loyal persons who have stood behind this project for many years, with a beautiful faith, backed up by work and coin, this bringing about of the cyanide plant is a splendid satisfaction. These men just know the gold it was there, and they know the old mountain will soon be giving it up.

GETTING READY FOR THE FAIR

EVERYTHING PROMISES A BIG ENTERTAINMENT

County Will Break Records Again Next Month

Now the people of the county are squaring away for the big county fair to be held at Canby, September 24 to 27, and there is every indication that it's going to break records again this year. Starting as a little better of an attraction years ago, the fair has grown bigger and bigger of every year, and now its dates are county holidays, and every year it will grow bigger and better. The fair has now reached that permanency where all that is needed is the dates—the people will do the rest. President G. B. Dimick and Secretary M. L. Lee have worked hard to put on a big show and a wonderful bunch of attractions this year, and they have matters now tied up so that the fair is bound to be a whopper if fair weather prevails. There will be the best of music and lots of it; the best of free attractions and there is every indication that the entries will be much greater than ever before. The poultry barn is being enlarged and the race track will be improved. Concessions are already applying for space. There will be no goods sold in the big pavilion this year, as in former years. These exhibiting their wares may secure orders, but no goods delivered during the four days' session. There will be exhibits in the commercial line as well as of fruits, vegetables, grapes, prunes, etc. for the most unique booth in the commercial line will be given. There will be three prizes in this. The first prize will be \$15.00, while the second will be \$7.00, and third \$3.00. Several business houses are already planning. A baby show will also be among the features of the fair. Many of the prominent dairy men of the county are planning to exhibit their Guernseys, Jerseys, and Holstein cattle, besides the livestock growers who will exhibit their Poland Chinas, Duroc-Jerseys, Chester Whites and Berkshire swine. A. O. Hollingsworth of the Clear Creek Creamery Company, will have charge of the milk-testing contest. Mr. Hollingsworth is well posted on the production of the dairy cow, and no better selection could have been secured than this dairy man. The horse races will be given under the rules of the National Trotting Association, the entries to close September 1st. All entries must be made to M. J. Lee at Canby, and entrance fees must be paid before the races start. The following is the racing programme: Wednesday, Sept. 24. One-fourth mile (running) ... \$2000 one-half mile (running) ... 30.00; one mile (running) ... 50.00. Thursday, Sept. 25—German Day. Free for all Pace and Trot ... 300.00; 230-Trot ... 110.00; one-half mile (running) ... 25.00. Saturday, Sept. 27. 2:15 Pace ... 150.00; 2:18 Trot ... 150.00; one-half mile (running) ... 25.00. Plan to take a week off and go to the Canby fair. Take a tent and have a fine vacation at a low expense. And it is Laid to the Wells "Boil the well water—the city water is pure." This is the message sent out by the water commissioners. W. A. White of this city uses water from his private well. He wanted to know whether it contained typhoid germs or not. Three samples were taken from the well, one personally by a state board of health official, and here is the report: The sample of water sent by you August 12th, to this Laboratory for analysis, showed total organisms 66 per c. and the absence of colon bacilli. Yours truly, (Calvin S. White,) State Health Officer. This means the water is free from typhoid, but because of this do not judge that all wells are pure. Continue to boil the well water before you use it, and FRY the city water. It's Always Different There are pictures and pictures at moving picture houses, and there is as much difference in them as restaurants. The Grand shows pictures, but there is seldom a day or night it does not have a feature, a picture play that has class, and instructs. These pictures cost the management more, but they bring the patron back. And this is why Schram's Grand always does business. An Old Landmark Gone The old building just torn down at Main and Eighth streets, was used for progress, was historic. It was built 62 years ago (and that is some ancient in Oregon). It was erected where the woolen mill now stands and was once a hotel. Its timbers were fastened together with wooden nails and spikes. Mr. Smith leads the prayer meeting at the Baptist Church tonight. All invited.

JAGGAR SETTLES FOR \$34,500

Gives Promissory Note to Wife Secured by City Real Estate

The divorce action brought by Janette Jaggar against her husband Frank Jaggar, and which was filed with the county clerk three weeks ago, has been settled and dismissed. In the terms of the settlement Ed R. Roberts is named trustee for Mrs. Jaggar and the children, and the amount given as \$34,500. Mrs. Jaggar gets lots No. 2 and 7, in block 5 in Oregon City, subject to a mortgage of \$18,000, also lot 5 and southerly half of lot 6 in block 24 in Oregon City. A promissory note of \$34,500 is secured by the above, at 7 per cent, payable monthly. At the death of Mrs. Jaggar the property goes to her children. The property is two lots north of the Elks temple and two lots opposite Huntley Bros. store. It is understood and agreed that whenever the said mortgage shall pay off the said \$18,000 upon said lots 2 and 7 in Blk. 5 so that this mtg. shall be a first lien therein, then the said mortgage shall release and discharge the said lot 5 and the southerly half of lot 6 in Blk. 24 from the lien of this mtg. Preaching by E. A. Smith Rev. E. A. Smith will preach Sunday Aug. 31st, at Highland at 11 A. M., and at Henriel school house at 8 P. M. Live subjects for live people.

Let us Act

It is reported today that there are upwards of 75 cases of typhoid fever in this city. There are 16 cases in the city hospital. One death occurred Tuesday. Three cases were taken to the city hospital from the Willamette hotel Tuesday. Many cases have been sent to the Portland hospitals. There are dozens of cases in the homes in this city. Farmers are bringing in water in kegs and barrels and selling it. How much longer will residents stand these conditions and live here? If an outbreak of cholera was one-fourth as bad as the present typhoid men would leave their work and stamp it out. Are we going to sit by and die seven out of the twelve months of every year? If it's the river water, well water, milk, ice or any other cause, let us find it—and let's stop it. It's time to do something or move out.