

The Corvallis Times.

WEEKLY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.

Vol. XVIII.-No. 17.

CORVALLIS, OREGON, JULY 1, 1905.

R. F. IRVING, Editor and Proprietor

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On Hot Summer days Can be

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See for Men, our line of light weight Shoes and Oxfords in Black or Tan, Serges, Mohair and Linen Coats and Vests, big line Straw Hats Etc. All at low prices.

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Star Brand Shoes are Better!

For Shoes, Clothing, Hats, Gloves, Hosiery, Notions, Fruits, Meats, Staple and Fancy Groceries, see

WELLSHER & GRAY.

Highest Market Price Paid for all Kinds of Produce

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Always Fresh from the Dairies, tasty and good.

Eggs.

Fresh and always direct from the hens.

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Truck, nothing but best, grown by good gardeners.

The best canned Fruits and Vegetables on the market.

OUR METHODS OF BUSINESS

All appeal to the thrifty housewife who wants the very best groceries for the least money.

HERE IS THE STORE

P. M. ZIEROLF.

HIS LETTER

COUNCIL EMERY AND "THE FUTURE WELFARE OF OUR BEAUTIFUL CITY."

He Writes Alleged Facts About the Dallas System, and With Reference Thereto—Some Affidavits by Dallas Citizens Appear.

EDITOR TIMES:—

In discussing the merits of the proposed water system for Corvallis a number of purported facts have appeared in your columns concerning the Dallas gravity system lately installed, and inferences have been drawn therefrom as to the advantages and results that will consequently follow the installation of our proposed system. There being a marked difference between the facts as published by you and the statements asserted to be true by other citizens of our town, I have decided to look into the questions for my own satisfaction. Marked copies of your paper containing the statements above referred to were forwarded to a member of the Dallas city council for verification. "Come over and see for yourself," was his answer. I did so, and I would make the same suggestion to every one in our city, especially those, if any, who make statements of the facts as appear herein. Messrs. Eakin and Sibley, the well-known and prominent law firm of Dallas, and who are credited with having the largest insurance and realty business in that city, very kindly placed in my possession the date in regard to insurance rates in their city and as to the damage suits, costs of right of way, etc. Other facts were obtained from other business men and at the homes of the citizens.

The system.—The Dallas water system consists of a pipe line 6 miles in length which laps a stream near its source in the mountains west of the city; the water is ice cold and tests have proven it to be almost pure. The pipe line is of 18 feet galvanized iron dipped in asphalt and is 10 inches in diameter, giving a flow of one million gallons per day. The reserve water is stored in a reservoir, capacity one million gallons, located on a hill one mile west of the city and at an elevation of 190 feet. The feed pipe from the reservoir to the city is of redwood and is 12 inches in diameter making the total length of the pipe system about 7 miles. The distributing system is of 8,694, 35 fire hydrants in the city and is equipped with a complete up-to-date fire apparatus, giving the most perfect fire protection to any building within the city limits.

Insurance Rates.—Previous to the installation of the water system the greater portion of the residence district was entirely protected from fire, and insurance rates on residence property was therefore necessarily high. From 7 to 10 per cent was the established rate for these and all wooden buildings in the business portion of the town, seldom less than 10 per cent. In the latter instance, brick and stone buildings were rated at from 1.50 to 2.00 per hundred. Statements were freely made before the bond election by the city newspaper, and by those working for the installation of the system that these rates would positively be reduced at least 20 to 40 per cent in business districts and 50 per cent in the residence district. Promises to that effect were also made by insurance adjusters. One year has passed and how does the present state of affairs compare with the ante-election promises. In your paper, Mr. Editor, you have repeatedly stated that a reduction of from 10 to 20 per cent, has resulted in that city. In fact, on June 24, you state: "The citizens of Dallas have saved enough money by reduction in insurance rates since the installation of their mountain water system to pay the interest on their water bonds." The facts prove the contrary to be the truth. Residence property is still 7 to 10 per cent. Wooden buildings in the business districts are still rated from 7 to 10 per cent. In one or two instances there has been a slight reduction allowed on brick buildings where other brick have been erected on same block. This, however, cannot be credited to mountain water. To quote the words of a prominent business man to whom your statement was read in regard to money saved on insurance: "Such assertions are untrue, we have not saved money enough to pay for printing the bonds, much less any interest on them."

Water Rates.—Now charged for mountain water in Dallas are \$1.50 per month per family, 50 cents additional for bath tubs, 30 cents for water closet and \$2.25 per month for each 100 feet square for lawn sprinkling. This makes a total of \$4.75 per month during the summer months. In addition 50 cents is charged per family for each cow and horse. The ice factory pays \$3 per day for its water in addition to the well water it uses. Hotels pay \$10 per month, \$24 paid for sprinkling the courthouse lawn and \$15 per month is charged for the water used in the building. The courthouse and grounds cover the same area as do ours. Before the bond election in Dallas the citizens were led to believe that water rates would be \$1.25 or less per family per month.

Right of Way, Etc.—Thousand dollars in cash besides the costs in several lawsuits over damage suits was the price Dallas paid for the right of way and water rights before they completed their gravity system. This sum would have been even larger but for the fact that a large portion of the land across which the pipe line was laid is owned by Judge Boise and a Mrs. Hallack. These only asked nominal damages for right of way. One claimant received \$300 for damages caused a 20-acre tract besides having the costs of a lawsuit assessed to the city. The owner of a small saw mill situated on a stream below that lapped by the pipe line was awarded \$400 and costs amounting to about \$100 by the courts after a long legal fight, and this in spite of the fact that the mill had not been in operation for seven years. All other claimants for damages settled with the city at from \$50 to \$100 each, if the damages for 7 miles of pipe

line cost \$3,000 and three lawsuits, how many dollars and how many lawsuits would 16 1/2 miles of pipe line cost.

Causes of high water rates and proposed remedy.—Dallas has approximately 400 families within the city limits. Of these less than 50 per cent are using the city water in spite of the fact that it was asserted and believed before the bond election that all or almost all would discard the use of well water, and it was upon this hypothesis that the promised rate of \$1.25 per month or less was based. Every water plant must necessarily have a minimum revenue or be run at a loss to the city. In case of municipal ownership this loss necessarily would have to be made up by direct taxation. As 400 families in Dallas did not pay \$1.25 per month, the 200 or less families that do use the water have to pay double for family use. Besides the extra mentioned above, and under similar conditions the results in Corvallis would logically be the same. In Dallas, the people in poor or moderate circumstances, and many who were able to heat their houses with the expense of water connections, piping, faucets and fixtures, not counting water charges when they could get well water for nothing. Besides as the months rolled round, it was found that the ice cold, pure sparkling water at the intake of the pipeline had become so warm that the road much of these desirable characteristics. Last summer and fall during the long sultry days it became so warm that it was not only unpalatable but with ice. During the winter months and after heavy rains the water became muddy and impure. The result is a condition of affairs never dreamed of by the citizens of Dallas. The much wanted mountain water is now being used principally for lawn sprinkling, flushing closets and sewers and the old fashioned caken bucket and the moss covered wells are depended on for water for family use. I had the pleasure of interviewing quite a number of the good households of Dallas and their statements in regard to the matter are emphatic and to the point.

The city council of Dallas has evolved a unique scheme for forcing the citizens to attach to the water mains whether they want or not. The laws are being built in the city and an ordinance has been passed compelling property owners to install patent closets in the residences and make sewer connections. If they are not near a main sewer they must build private sewers. By the time the charges for tapping the water main and cost of pipe, patent closet and connect with the sewer is met, a necessarily large bill confronts the owner. Dr. T. V. B. Embree, a former well-known citizen of Corvallis, who lives about a mile from the business part of the town, and who, by means of owning water piped from a spring on a hill above him has spent considerable money about his home, has been ordered to build a private sewer and make connections with the water main. The estimated cost of this work is over \$100. This is merely given as one of a score of similar cases in Dallas.

In conclusion I will say that in this presentation the real facts as to Dallas and her mountain water system, I am doing simply what I consider my duty as a citizen of Corvallis and a member of the city council interested in the future welfare of our beautiful city.

W. G. EMERY.

SOME AFFIDAVITS

That Discredit Mr. Emery's Statements—They Are From Dallas.

In spite of its great length, and in spite of the further fact that the Dallas system has little or no bearing on the Corvallis system, the TIMES gives place to the above letter by Mr. Emery. Somewhat care had to be taken, however, to ascertain whether or not Mr. Emery's statements were facts and application was made by phone to Dallas people.

"It's a pack of lies," said one man. "The d—d rascal," said another. Accordingly the letter was sent to Dallas with the result that the affidavits printed below were supplied the TIMES without solicitation. Others in the same line were offered, but these two, especially as one is by an uncle of Mr. Emery, are deemed sufficient.

All along, it has been apparent that the opposition to mountain water had to be based on misrepresentation. The theory that the commission could not be made elective was exploded and resort had to be made to other features. Going from one thing to another the Dallas plant was taken up and this letter by Mr. Emery concocted.

SAYS IT'S A LIE.

STATE OF OREGON,)
COUNTY OF POLK,) SS.

I, Dan P. Stouffer, being first duly sworn according to law, depose and say: That I am the auditor and police judge of the city of Dallas, Oregon, and as such officer am the legal custodian of and have charge of all the ordinances and records of the city of Dallas; that with the exception of about one month, I have filled said office continuously for a period of more than ten years last past.

That I have read the communication of W. G. Emery to the Corvallis TIMES, in which it is said: "The city council of Dallas has evolved a unique scheme for forcing the citizen to attach to the water mains whether they want or not. Sewers are being built in the city and an ordinance has been passed compelling property owners to install patent closets in the residences and make sewer connections. If they are not near a main sewer they must build private sewers. By that time the charges for tapping the water main and cost of pipe, patent closet and connect with the sewer is met, a necessary large bill confronts the owner."

That said statement is false in every detail and particular; that no person whomsoever has ever been compelled to connect with a sewer or to build a private sewer; neither has a person ever been compelled to install a patent closet of any kind and to connect with the water mains of said city; that such matters are left wholly to the choice of the citizens of Dallas, and no ordinance continued on page 4.

JARS! JARS!

Ball Masons Royal and Weir Stone Jars

Tumblers and Jelly Glasses!

BUY THE

Diamond W Jar Rubbers, BEST ON EARTH

Parafine and Sealing Wax

WE SELL THE

SAGINAW TOOTHPICKS

Flat, Polished, Double Pointed Price 5 cents per Box.

Hodes' Grocery.

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WE DO NOT OFTEN CHANGE

Our ad., but our goods change hands every day. Your money exchanged for Value and Quality is the idea.

Big Line Fresh Groceries

Domestic and Imported.

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A large and varied line.

We always keep Vegetables when when they are to be had.

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Keep your eyes open for the Clearance Sale at

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Eyes tested free of charge and glasses fitted correctly at prices within reach of all. Fine watch repairing a specialty.

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