

WATER MAINS IS STILL TURBID

Within Three Days, However, Clear Bull Run Will Be Flowing as Usual.

EMPLOYEES ARE UNDER FIRE

Board Has Discovered Sufficient Evidence of Incompetence to Warrant Full Investigation at Next Meeting.

Superintendent Dodge does not yet know how many turns are required to close the valve gate at Mill street, which was the cause of Portland being supplied with Willamette River water for four days. When asked yesterday afternoon the direct question, he replied, "I can't exactly say."

Engineers were asked the same question and gave the same reply; foremen were queried on the same subject and admitted their ignorance, and the humble rank and file were approached they replied to the same effect with force and fluency.

Entire Outfit Is Ignorant.

"Of course they don't know," said R. B. Lamson of the Water Board, with as much sarcasm as would possibly inject into a mere utterance. "How can they be expected to know? Figures? Why, yes, they are easy to access, or should be, but you can hardly expect the water officials and employes will try to hunt them up."

It appears to have been a somewhat extraordinary accident that enabled the Water Engineer Clark to discover that after all the 24-inch cast-iron main was quite intact. More by luck than by any possible care exercised the valve-lock gate was closed properly on Tuesday. It was tried in the same happy-go-lucky manner that it had been tried before, say members of the Water Board, and just because the terrific force of water had managed to wash away the rock, sand or gravel that was acting as an obstruction, Portland was saved what would probably have cost several weeks devoted to drinking the murky Willamette water.

Superintendent Dodge did not believe that it was incumbent on officials to become acquainted with the number of turns necessary to lock the gates. The reason, he said, they were all acquainted with the Mount Tabor gate was that a certain number of turns are used as an index of the quantity of water flowing through the mains to the West Side. When the City Park reservoir runs fairly low, the employe in charge telephones to Mount Tabor for a further supply of water. So many turns are given to the valve to accomplish this, said the superintendent. "We might know, for instance, that ten turns would mean another 5,000,000 gallons."

Don't Understand Situation.

The superintendent did not appear to realize that any special attention should have been given to the gate around which the controversy will settle, or indeed, to any of the six gates which control the city water supply during its course under the river conduits. The different engineers who were seen had a similar falling.

It was ascertained from the Water Board office that when the regulating gate is turned on, which it was for a considerable part of the four days the city was without Bull Run, the pressure on the pipe is 135 pounds. During the entire four days it was noticed that at the Junction of the auxiliary main with the city water mains, there was a constant pressure of 20 pounds.

That this pressure would never have been maintained had the balance of pressure, 135 pounds approximately, been working on a small leak is the opinion of embodied in 135 pounds of water pressure is said to be able to tear open a cast-iron main in a very few hours. In such an eventuality there would have been no any competent water engineer did not at once get the question of the Water Board's line of questions, that will be presented to different officials today or at an adjourned meeting of the Board, Saturday or some day early next week.

Polite, but Stupidly Ignorant.

When this aspect of the case was presented to the various officials concerned they professed polite incredulity. Instead of replying as to whether the effect of the water on the cast-iron pipe would be to burst it open, they said, "force of water applied in a steel pipe would tend to crack it or split it and not to burst it open."

R. B. Lamson said yesterday that he trusted that there would be a very full meeting of members of the Water Board today. "Unless this is the case," commented Mr. Lamson, "I shall hardly feel like taking up the question of an investigation. I sincerely trust that all the members will appreciate their responsibility and be present in order that we can settle the matter."

Mayor Lane expressed himself along the same lines and it appears to be quite unquestioned that a very rigid inquiry will be held. Water Board officials admitted that this would be the case, but their admitted consciousness of rectitude was, it appeared to be generally thought, their only necessary defense.

Yesterday was occupied in cleaning the mains of the city. Several blocks at a time were locked off by the usual gate system and the water emptied from the system and the fire hydrants. When all the water had been emptied, Bull Run water was turned in, in order that all the silt and tainted water lying in the dead-end of the pipes might be thoroughly removed.

Water Engineers Are a Joke.

Numerous citizens watched the process of cleansing the mains. Many favorable comments were heard on the appearance of the flood—mud—but strongly expressed disapproval of the utter disregard of the fact that mere commonplace citizens had been forced to imbibe the water. One conspicuous individual at Fifth and Morrison suggested to the crowd, gathered to watch the proceedings, that the best treatment for the water engineers was to make them drink the "water" then issuing from the pipes. "Errand boys took advantage of the flood to thoroughly clean their wheels, while more than one city gamin sat and batted

TAMBOURINE SPECIALTY IN SPANISH DANCE AT KIRMESS



MISS LULLIE HALL.

his feet in the small lake formed every time the hydrants were turned on. On the advice of Mayor Lane, pipe water was not used in the schools yesterday, but this was only owing to its muddy condition. A similar state of affairs existed on the East Side, where silt formed freely in the bathtubs and washbowl. Superintendent Dodge was at a loss to explain this, but thought that it was merely local, resulting probably from street sprinkling or a fire, which, causing a very rapid flow of water, tended to stir up the silt. Mayor Lane stated that this had been mentioned to him also, but it did not appear as if the numerous complainants were in any way domiciled in one neighborhood.

DANCES ARE RESUMED

KIRMESS FULL PROGRAMME TO BE GIVEN AGAIN.

Popularity Contest Continues Until Last Day—Pluffy Ruffles Are in the Lead.

BY LEONE CARL BAER.

Tonight the Armory will again be the enchanted palace beautiful, the Kirmess dances are resumed and the full programme given again. The respite from dancing allowed the various participants and their prowess and lend concentrated energy to the rest of the production.

If any one doubts the ability of society folk to dance everything from the languid but rhythmic Spanish dance to the good old Irish jig steps, let that person go but once to one of the Kirmess performances and be convinced.

The debutantes, the society matrons and the men of the social world appear in a series of dances that have never before been equaled here. It is all done for charity, and whenever charity is mentioned the society men and women are ever ready with purse and time. This occasion especially appeals to men and women in every walk and station in life, since it is given for the Open Air Sanitarium for Tuberculosis, and also the Woman's Exchange.

Much enthusiasm and comment has been voiced regarding the solo dancing of Miss Lullie Hall. Her "tambourine dance" is the best individual work given and her grace of interpretation is marvelous.

A fact that has received little mention is that the use of the Armory and its men to serve as ushers was tendered to the Kirmess management by the board of directors of the Armory.

The voting for popularity of the dances was held at the conclusion of the Kirmess on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings resulted in a showing of preference for the Pluffy Ruffles dance, with the Marsovan a close second, the Spanish third and the swing dance fourth.

The contest waged amid increasing excitement and revealed a total lack of conscience by the audience in the matter of ballot stuffing. The only restraint in the stuffing was the exhaustion of the staff person to vote as many times as desired, provided 10 cents was deposited with each vote, with full recognition of equality in suffrage.

Frank Branch Riley, who at each performance directs this feature from the stage, explains the character of the contest and keeps the interest and enthusiasm of the great audience on the qui vive with his impromptu speeches, with personalities and spontaneity of manner.

The vote-gatherers are representative society men to whom the supervision of the contest has been intrusted because of their supposed neutral attitude toward the dancers. They are: Elliott Corbett, in charge; William Alford, Dave

Honeyman, Tom Robertson, Max Wood, Julius Meier, J. R. Bowles, Thales Lindholm, Mr. Bradley, Mr. Nevins, Harry Felling, Harold Wells, Robert Strong, Bruce Honeyman, Walter Beebe, Will Lipman, Lansing Stout, Guy Talbot.

The candidates themselves crowded about the wings and watched the results of the voting, chalked upon huge blackboards in view of the entire house. Much interest is centered in the remarkable arithmetical performances of Arthur O. Jones, Ed Jorgensen, Bert Allen and Arthur Springer, who work at the blackboard and show the totals for all the dances as each new ballot is reported. The result of the voting will not be regarded as final until the last performance.

JUVENILE COURT PRAISED

Boys' and Girls' Aid Society Commends Its Work.

At the monthly meeting of the board of trustees of the Boys' and Girls' Aid Society, Judge W. B. Gilbert and Dr. T. L. Elliot, of the executive committee, offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

This society, recognizing the good and efficient work done by the Juvenile Court of Multnomah County during the incumbency of Judge Gantenbein, wishes to congratulate the sincere regret of the board of trustees of this society to hear that he is about to withdraw as presiding officer. The board recognizes that during his incumbency the work of the court has increased in method, thoroughness and quiet efficiency and that the numerous cases of dependent and delinquent children have been considered with primary regard to the character and true welfare of the individuals and for the restraint of those who would injure or corrupt them.

Swell English pumps at Rosenthal's.

HIGH PRESSURE SYSTEM URGED

Fire Committee Recommends Sale of \$275,000 Improvements Bond Issue.

STEEL FIREBOAT NEEDED

Mayor Wants Installing of Modern Apparatus to Begin at Waterfront—Automobile Apparatus for Fire Department.

The building of the proposed steel fireboat, installation of reinforcing mains for the waterfront district, a high-pressure water system and automobile apparatus for the fire department are recommended by the fire committee of the Executive Board, which held its bi-weekly meeting yesterday afternoon. Mayor Lane presiding. The sale of \$275,000 worth of bonds by the City Council is requested, in order that the boat and mains may be provided. The issue was voted two years ago and is ready for sale at the pleasure of the Council.

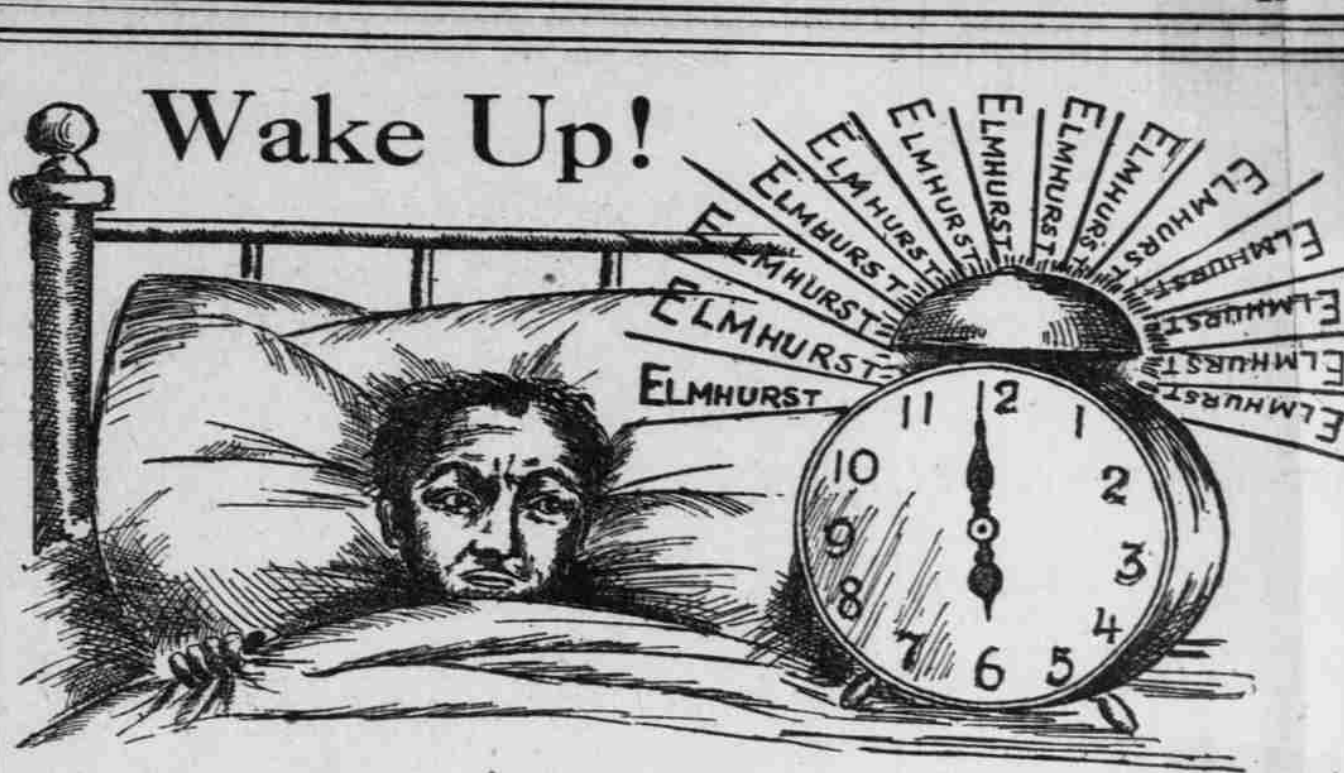
That the time has come when Portland should prepare to equip its Fire Department with first-class modern apparatus, and that this should include the steel fireboat, reinforcing mains and automobile engines, hose-carts and chemical wagons is the expressed belief of Mayor Lane, John Montag, P. E. Sullivan and Isaac Sweet, comprising the committee. They recommended to the Executive Board, which will meet today, that the Council be requested to sell the issue of bonds for the boat and reinforcing mains. The matter of the kind of apparatus to be purchased is one for the Board to determine, the charter giving it that responsibility.

A high-pressure water system is said to be urgently needed, and it is said that it is generally conceded in the large Eastern cities that this is the most economical course to pursue in equipping fire-fighting where there are skyscrapers. The mains used in this service are not brought into requisition for anything else. A pumping station is required, but it is said that it is inexpensive. Mayor Lane said yesterday afternoon at the meeting that a good engine can be purchased for \$1200 or \$1500 "that will hydrate the whole town, and that will knock the walls out of any building in the city."

"It really seems to me," said Mayor Lane, "that it is just the right time to begin installing an up-to-date fire-fighting system where there is no better place to begin than by building the steel fireboat, laying the large reinforcing mains and installing a high-pressure water plant. The high-pressure water system is extended from time to time, as the needs grow, but there is no better place to start it than along the waterfront, and five or six blocks back each way, for the protection of the wholesale districts. As to the automobile apparatus, I feel that it is what we need, and it would save us money right along to purchase it from now on. We could do with fewer engine-houses, for we could cover much more territory with an automobile engine, chemical wagon or hose-cart, and it would be unnecessary to have so many expensive houses, and the cost of maintaining each would be increased, as there would be no horses to feed, an item that is well worth considering."

All of the members of the committee are in favor of following on the plan suggested by the Mayor, and it is doubtful if any more so-called old-fashioned apparatus will be purchased, at least while the present administration holds the reins of government. While perfection has not been reached in the manufacture of automobile apparatus, especially the heavy engines, it is said by competent authorities that great progress has been made and that the electric-propelled hose-carts and chemical wagons are doing excellent service in New York, Boston and various other Eastern cities. The engines are not regarded very good for speedy trips as yet, and are used only when the occasion requires it. They are so heavy that they are cumbersome, and the high speed cannot be attained that is desired in reaching a fire.

Chief Campbell called attention to the need of the new steel fireboat and reinforcing mains for the waterfront district, and his recommendation that the bond issue be sold by the Council was acted upon favorably.



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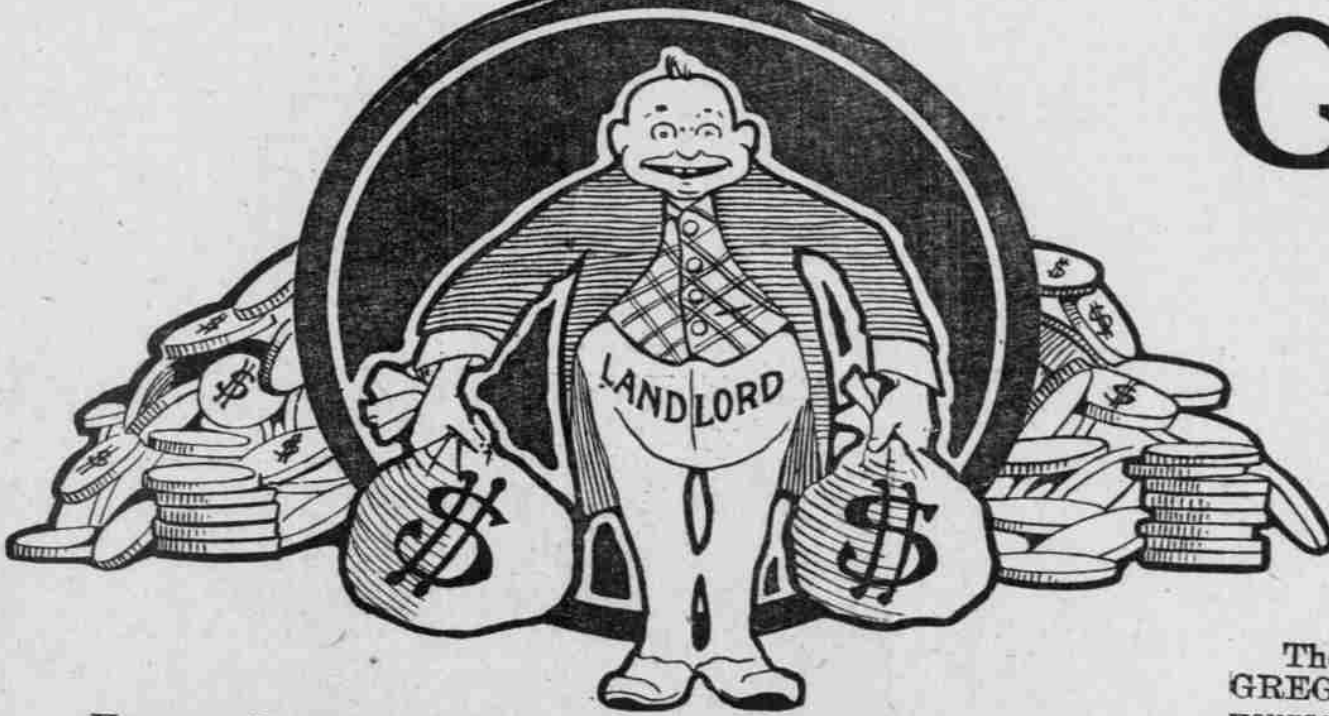
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GREGORY HEIGHTS is at end of East Ankeny-Rose City Park carline. Office on grounds and at Corbett building, Fifth and Morrison.



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