

SECRET IS OUT

Exact Facts Are Known About Sewer.

TUNNEL IS IN BAD STATE

Experts' Report Shows More Defects Than Suspected.

WATER BREAKS THROUGH TOP

Summary of Written Statements Presented to Star Chamber Session Shows Charges Against Tanner Sewer Substantiated.

WHAT THE EXPERTS FOUND IN THE TANNER-CREEK SEWER.

That the plans had been changed so that cheaper sewer was built in place of the expensive new sewer charged for.

That mortar was used on the outside ring of bricks only.

That in places there is only one ring of brick.

That the mortar was improperly mixed.

That water is pouring into the sewer in one place.

That for 70 feet there is no bottom.

That the arch rests on mud silt instead of concrete.

That the arch is not true and will soon spread out in places.

That in one spot immediate repair is necessary or the tunnel will collapse before spring.

Hidden until next Wednesday according to schedule, the facts concerning the condition of the Tanner-Creek sewer are known at last. The Oregonian is able this morning to present a complete summary of the report of the four expert examiners, whose written statements were considered at the locked-door session of the special investigation committee of the Council Friday.

In brief, the report shows a far worse state of affairs than was suspected by the property-owners when they asked for examination. A photograph included in the report, shows one point where the water is pouring through the top of the big tunnel, showing a lack of mortar between the old sewer. Another section is recommended for immediate repair, else the tunnel will collapse before spring.

Two separate plans were drawn up by the City Engineer's Department for the big sewer. One, plan A, was for the construction of a new tunnel, plan B was for the repair of the old sewer, which could still be utilized in places.

According to the report, however, 22 feet, at \$1 per lineal foot, was taken off plan B by the contractor and the feet, at \$20 per lineal foot, added to plan A. Thus 1175 feet would have been allowed at the rate of \$20 a foot, and 22 feet have been taken off the lower-rated plan B.

Brick Work Without Mortar.

Examination of the brick work discloses the fact that 50 per cent above no mortar. Where mortar is shown it proved to be a mixture of 4 to 1 instead of 2 to 1, that is, four parts of sand were used to one part of brick. The inside ring of the tunnel shows that mortar was used to some extent, but in breaking through the two outside rings, the experts found the bricks to be dry, and when removed they were as clean as when shipped from the brick yard.

Only one ring of brick was found in certain stated places in the tunnel. All through the report the exact location of all defects is clearly stated. Three rings were called for in the specifications.

HISTORY OF CONTRACT.

July 16—Four bids opened by Executive Board, afterwards all rejected because lowest was \$12,000 above City Engineer's estimate of \$25,000.

July 23—New bids opened, and R. M. Riner's \$12,500—accepted.

October 12—First written remonstrance filed.

October 22—Sewer accepted by Executive Board on recommendation of sewer committee.

Two additional manholes and 541 cubic yards of concrete bring total bills to \$25,000.

Also it is stated that these brick were laid flat instead of edgewise as required. In two other places where the walls were broken through two rings of brick were discovered.

Seventy Feet Without Bottom.

Seventy feet of the sewer has no bottom at all. The arch rests on mud silt.

Samples of concrete were secured by the committee and placed in sacks "as the stuff had no adhesive quality," says the report. Where concrete was found, just enough cement was mixed with sand and stone to give it color. Through plan A—the new sewer—the bottom is resting on sand and gravel, termed concrete.

Sewer Has Not Been Tamped.

The sewer has not been tamped, and any weight coming on the arch would cause the shell to spread. This is a serious defect. The transverse egg-shaped tunnel was planned particularly to resist the tremendous weight of earth upon it, for from its location in the bottom of a rapidly-filling gulch this weight was an important element to be reckoned with.

Arch in Two Places Not True.

Another serious defect is that the arch in two places is not true, and therefore could not withstand any weight. Rock, concrete and brick to the extent of two or eight inches are found as debris throughout the interior of the plan A portion of the sewer.

Far less concrete has been used than the specifications call for. This was one of the first objections made by the property-owners.

"We do not see at this time how the sewer can be tamped," says the report. Here in one of the gravest defects, for tamping should have been done throughout the construction.

Concrete Foundation Omitted.

As to plan B, the repair job, the examiners found that the entire length is laid on the outer ring of brick of the old sewer, instead of being imbedded in the concrete foundation called for. E. W. Riner has said this was done with the permission of Mr. Elliott, but no deduction on account of this utilization of the old bricks was made in the bills. The experts did not concern themselves with this feature of the case, however.

This report, covering several typewritten pages and including half a dozen photographs taken by flashlight, is signed by the four experts who went through the sewer, taking four days in the work. Two of them, R. S. Greenleaf and J. H. Cunningham, were recommended to the Council committee by the protesting property-owners, represented by R. W. Montague and J. C. Moreland. The others, Peter Flynn and George Knight, were selected directly by the committee. One set of flashlight photographs was spoiled by the falling of the apparatus into the torrent of water which rushed down the big tube throughout the investigation.

This report was gone over in detail at the session of the committee Friday, at which several of the property-owners were present by invitation. The roll of secrecy hanging over the meeting is also lifting. It was a warm session lasting for two and a half hours, and those who attended say it was a trying ordeal to all concerned.

City Engineer Is Questioned.

Here is one of the questions asked City Engineer Elliott by the committee: "What have you to say with reference to this report, and the condition in which you found the sewer?"

"I am not at the report states, for all I know," said Mr. Elliott. "Mr. Caywood, who passed the civil service examination, was my inspector."

Here is where trouble loomed up for the City Engineer. When the acceptance of the Tanner-Creek sewer was first questioned, following the first protest of property-owners, Mr. Elliott immediately stated that he knew of no knowledge that it was a good job. But he said last Tuesday the same as at the session Friday, that he relied upon his inspector.

James Caywood, the inspector on the sewer for 60 days, working 12 hours a day, was not found in the City Hall when he was asked to appear before the committee. Mr. Elliott said he believed him to be sick. Mr. Zimmerman suggested that the city physician visit him. It is reported that the inspector soon after appeared. His testimony revealed little or nothing, however.

Contractor Stands Pat.

E. W. Riner, who, with his father, built the sewer, was present during the greater part of the session. He was asked to make a statement before the committee, but he refused to do so. He said no, that the report meant practically the building of a new sewer, and he would not do it.

OFFICIAL REPORT WEDNESDAY

Special Committee Investigating the Sewer Scandal Will Then Be Heard.

The official report of the committee is to be made to the special meeting of the Council Wednesday afternoon. The session has been called for that purpose, and a lively meeting is anticipated.

The committee which has been investigating the Tanner-Creek sewer scandal is composed of L. Zimmerman, Chairman of the Sixth Ward, H. R. Albee, of the Ninth Ward, and B. D. Sigler, of the Fifth Ward. The committee was created by a resolution introduced by C. E. Rummel, chairman of the street committee, November 2. The statement that the experts had been appointed by the sewer committee of the Council which appeared in yesterday's Oregonian was an error.

The standing sewer committee of the Council has had nothing to do with the investigation thus far, although Mr. Sigler, one of its members, is also a member of the special investigation committee. Such a resolution was necessary, as the jurisdiction of the standing committee would not warrant its ordering such a proceeding.

Mr. Sigler thinks that the criticism of the star chamber methods of the committee altogether unwarranted. "In the first place the Council exceeded its authority in ordering such an investigation," said he yesterday. "The Council by the present charter is a purely legislative body. It authorizes the Executive Board to make an improvement, and directs the City Engineer to prepare the plans and specifications. Then it has nothing to do with the improvement until the time comes to enact an ordinance for the assessment of a district to pay for that improvement."

In this case the only excuse for the action of the Council in appointing the committee was to learn whether it was proper that the assessment ordinance should be passed. The City Engineer had reported favorably upon the Tanner-Creek sewer; the Executive Board had accepted it. In reality, therefore, there was nothing else for the Council to do but to pass the assessment ordinance. Not a complaint could have legally been made against the Council had it done so instead of starting this investigation.

"People are so full of the idea that the Council does everything as to letting contracts and accepting the work. The Council hasn't a thing to do with such matters according to the present charter. All I ask is, put the blame where it belongs. The Council has certainly acted squarely in this case."

In connection with this, one of the protesting property-owners said the other day that he had recently changed his opinion of the Council; that he has always considered the Council Chamber a den of thieves, but that the treatment accorded the property-owners in this case had forced a new opinion upon him.

As to the Executive Board, it took the words of the City Engineer and accepted the sewer. The appearance of a lawyer representing anonymous clients one day

CLOSE TO 43,000

Republicans Won in Oregon by 42,896 Votes.

TOTAL BALLOT, 90,268

Official Returns From All the Counties but Curry.

MANY DID NOT GO TO POLLS

Prohibition Carried in Six Counties—Socialists Show Gain Since 1900 of Over 6000 Votes, Casting a Total of 7615.

COMPARATIVE VOTE SINCE 1900.

	1904.	1900.	1900.	1900.
Republican	50,433	46,418	45,328	45,779
Democrat	37,831	30,602	30,365	30,365
Prohibition	2,615	5,761	1,494	1,494
Populist	782	5,309	2,858	2,858
Fusion	1,602	368	368	368
Totals	90,268	87,566	84,144	84,144

*Vote on State Treasurer in state election.

Official returns from every county except Curry show the Republican plurality in the last election to be 42,896, and the total vote in the state 90,268. This is the largest plurality the Republican ticket ever received and the heaviest vote ever cast in a Presidential election in Oregon except in 1856, when the money question brought out a total vote of 95,441. That the vote of 1904 was so large is due chiefly to the prohibition issue, which threw into the campaign a local interest that could not be aroused by discussion of National subjects.

One of the noteworthy features of the returns is the evidence of the rapid growth of socialism, the vote of the Socialist party having grown from 1484 in 1900, to 5762 in 1902, and 7615 in 1904.

Compared with the vote of four years ago, the returns show a Republican gain of 14,000 votes, and a Democratic loss of 15,000. Comparisons can scarcely be made with the vote of 1896, for in that year the opposition to the Republican party was represented by a fusion organization in which the strength of the Democratic party could not be very accurately estimated.

The influence of the prohibition question in bringing out the voters in this

OREGON VOTE FOR PRESIDENT, 1904.

COUNTIES.	Republican.	Democrat.	Prohibition.	Socialist.	Fusionist.
Baker	1,922	850	54	348	15
Benton	2,107	418	32	125	1
Blackhawk	1,349	683	144	426	7
Clatsop	1,407	329	41	259	10
Columbia	1,713	699	85	342	32
Coos	299	266	18	117	7
Curry	2,443	918	16	368	33
Deschutes	568	195	28	47	4
Gilliam	1,012	187	17	78	4
Grant	1,012	187	17	78	4
Harney	1,012	187	17	78	4
Josephine	904	426	38	125	2
Klamath	1,349	683	144	426	7
Lake	327	118	9	5	19
Lane	1,349	683	144	426	7
Lincoln	2,344	1,290	297	409	17
Malheur	1,115	1,000	312	302	64
Morrow	875	238	79	157	7
Multnomah	13,201	2,234	62	1,348	45
Polk	1,372	321	120	126	27
Sherman	704	163	38	24	6
Tillamook	2,643	840	224	266	24
Union	1,875	776	112	302	20
Wallowa	2,065	598	252	24	29
Washington	2,203	453	150	130	18
Yamhill	1,349	683	144	426	7
Totals	90,433	37,831	7,615	7,615	762

*No election on prohibition.

*Prohibition carried in only precinct election in Clatsop; lost in only precinct election in Wallowa.

*Estimated.

OREGON VOTE FOR PROHIBITION, 1904.

COUNTIES.	Prohibition.	Yes.	No.
Baker	1,922	850	54
Benton	2,107	418	32
Blackhawk	1,349	683	144
Clatsop	1,407	329	41
Columbia	1,713	699	85
Coos	299	266	18
Curry	2,443	918	16
Deschutes	568	195	28
Gilliam	1,012	187	17
Grant	1,012	187	17
Harney	1,012	187	17
Josephine	904	426	38
Klamath	1,349	683	144
Lake	327	118	9
Lane	1,349	683	144
Lincoln	2,344	1,290	297
Malheur	1,115	1,000	312
Morrow	875	238	79
Multnomah	13,201	2,234	62
Polk	1,372	321	120
Sherman	704	163	38
Tillamook	2,643	840	224
Union	1,875	776	112
Wallowa	2,065	598	252
Washington	2,203	453	150
Yamhill	1,349	683	144
Totals	90,433	37,831	7,615

*No election on prohibition.

*Prohibition carried in only precinct election in Clatsop; lost in only precinct election in Wallowa.

*Estimated.

election is shown by a comparison of votes in counties where the prohibition question was submitted, with the vote in counties where no prohibition fight had been raised. Thus, Polk County, which had no vote on prohibition this year, fell off 110 in its total vote, while Marion, an adjoining county, in which the prohibition question was presented, experienced a gain of 130 votes in the total.

Josephine County, whose voters were not asked to pass upon the merits of the prohibition question, fell off 240 in its total vote, while Jackson, adjoining, made a slight gain in the number of votes cast, the prohibition issue serving to overcome the apathy which otherwise characterized the campaign. Even the warm fight under the provisions of the local option law did not bring out enough votes to make the total vote as great as in the state election last June, when \$2,908 votes were cast for Congressman and 22,688 for Supreme Judge.

In 23 counties in which there was a vote on prohibition, there were cast 2,945 votes, while Jackson, adjoining, showing a majority of 13,637 against prohibition. Prohibition carried in six counties, two in the Willamette Valley, Benton and Yamhill, one in Eastern Oregon, Gilliam and three on the coast, Tillamook, Coos and Curry. The accompanying table shows the vote in the several counties. The figures for Curry County are estimated, except that the Republican plurality shown, 243, is known to be correct.

FOUNDERED IN MIDOCEAN.

Such a Report Is Current Regarding Red Star Line.

LONDON, Nov. 20.—A news agency report from Brussels states that rumors are afloat at Antwerp that the Red Star Line steamer Kronland foundered in midocean. Officials of the company here deny all reports of the alleged disaster, and discredit the rumors.

Fireman Fatally Injured.

LAFAYETTE, Ind., Nov. 19.—The Porter furniture store was completely destroyed by fire today. Lafa, 100,000. Benjamin O'Connor, 38, was fatally injured by a fall, and 11 other firemen were overcome by smoke.

CONTENTS OF TODAY'S PAPER

The Weather. YESTERDAY'S WEATHER—Maximum temperature, 32 degrees; minimum temperature, 42 degrees. Precipitation, .48 of an inch. TODAY'S WEATHER—Occasional rain, southwest winds decreasing in force.

Russo-Japanese War.

Japanese diplomats fear Chile and Argentina will sell warships to Russia, despite official denials. Page 2.

St. Petersburg.

St. Petersburg reports that booming of cannon is constant at Mukden. Page 2.

Stoessel estimates recent Japanese losses at Port Arthur at 10,000. Page 2.

Japanese gain more positions at Port Arthur. Page 2.

Domestic.

Fire destroys Missouri building at St. Louis. Explosion; one woman killed and several injured. Page 2.

Salt Lake man, with mania to kill women, assaults a young girl in heart of city. Page 2.

Peunah & Sells' circus pay wagon is broken into and \$20,000 stolen. Page 3.

San Francisco unions tender Federation of Labor delegates a banquet. Page 14.

Foreign.

Representatives of Zemstvo meet at St. Petersburg, and decide to ask Carr to give them a voice in national affairs. Page 2.

Irish Nationalist party faces a crisis, three strong factions leading Richmond he must desert O'Brien or they will split. Page 3.

National.

Status of Frederick the Great, gift of the Kaiser to America, is unveiled and accepted with great ceremony at Washington. Page 24.

Naval estimates for year ending June 30, 1900, are \$17,372,448 over the last appropriation. Page 2.

Football Scores.

University of Oregon defeats Oregon Agricultural College, 6-0. Page 1.

Yale defeats Harvard, 12-0. Page 14.

Portland Academy defeats High School, 5-0. Page 15.

Northwest Political.

King County declares for Pile, and Pile declares for a railroad commission. Page 7.

Division of the spoils in making Washington politicians very anxious. Page 6.

Pacific Coast.

Barkentine Makaroff wreck on Vancouver Island; crew of 12 drowned. Page 7.

Storm does great damage on Northwest coast. Page 7.

Only 15,000,000 salmon eggs taken in Columbia River waters this year. Page 6.

Grand county cattle-raiser threatens summary justice to rustlers. Page 6.

Commercial and Marine.

Active shipping movement in hops. Page 15.

Reactionary tendency of stock market. Page 15.

New York bank statement shows large decreases in loans and cash. Page 15.

Bad break in Chicago wheat prices. Page 13.

Advance in raisins in San Francisco market. Page 15.

Mystery surrounds coming of steamship El-lamy. Page 11.

Large cargo goes out on Nicomedia. Page 11.

Sports.

Hunt Club hosts for Kerr cup Thursday. Page 22.

Military board to supervise indoor baseball games at Astoria. Page 22.

Review of events in field of sports. Page 22.

Portland and Vicinity.

Summary of sewer report, presented in star-chamber session, discloses exact facts as to defective condition of Tanner-Creek sewer. Page 1.

National Grange confers higher degree. Page 12.

New laws are proposed by Taxpayers' League. Page 10.

Induction in poloism case is denied. Page 10.

New Jones declared by Chinese. Page 10.

Portage road is now an assured fact. Page 11.

Bills asked for erection of Oregon building for Exposition. Page 10.

Denial students show freshmen new points. Page 10.

High School and Portland Academy boys engage in riot. Page 13.

Features and Departments.

Church announcements. Page 25.

Classified advertisements. Pages 25-29.

The Simple Life. Page 35.

Best infantry soldier in the world. Page 32.