

COOS BAY TIMES

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Dedicated to the service of the people, that no good cause shall lack a champion, and that evil shall not thrive unopposed.

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WASTE OF LIFE INCREASING IN THE UNITED STATES.

AMERICANS had come to flatter themselves during the last 10 years that at least a respectable beginning had been made in conserving health and life.

The Times without at all committing itself to this view or accepting the statistics as authoritative and final, nevertheless deems the subject of such vital importance as to justify consideration of the statements.

The public is confronted at the outset with the assertion by the company that every 50 seconds an American life is lost from a preventable cause and that every year preventable diseases and accidents destroy more American lives than all our wars since 1775 have cost.

The company claims that probably half of the cases of cancer could be prevented, that the application of reasonable precautions would reduce the mortality from degenerate diseases by 50 per cent, that 45 per cent of the deaths from pneumonia are needless, that consumption is preventable to the extent of 75 per cent, typhoid to 85 and diphtheria and croup to negligible amounts.

The lessening of the mortality from the last two diseases by 80 per cent in 28 years argues that a death rate is not a fixed and irremediable quantity. The enormous expense of deaths from preventable causes (for the producing value of a human life is set at \$1,700 and 600,000 preventable deaths annually deprive the public of at least a billion dollars' worth of human assets) teaches that even as a mere matter of economy the people can not afford this waste.

Since Herbert Spencer affirmed that "to be a nation of good animals is the first condition of national prosperity," and Disraeli, an English premier, declared that "the care of the public health is the first duty of a statesman," the United States ought to have no hesitancy in setting vigorously, systematically and liberally at the conservation of human health and life.

A PROVERBIAL TRAGEDY.

The Rolling Stone and the Turning Worm And the Cat that Looked at a King; Set forth on the Road that Leads to Rome— For Youth will have its fling, The Goose will lay the Golden Eggs, The Dog Must have his Day, And nobody locks the Stable Door Till the Horse is Stolen away. But the Rolling Stone, that was never known To Look before the Leap, Plunged down the hill to the Waters Still That run so dark, so deep; And the leaves were stirred by the Early Bird Who sought his breakfast where He marked the squirm of the Turning Worm— And the Cat was Killed by Care!

FOR HIM—A GILLETTE SAFETY Razor—at Red Cross Drug store.

FORGE BETTER WATER SERVICE

(Continued from page 1.)

pressure. These letters were read and in one, J. W. Bennett stated that a pressure of fifty pounds would be better to maintain regularly, as a seventy-five pound pressure would cause the loss of water through leaking faucets. Mr. Bennett stated that through a pressure valve, the company could increase this pressure when necessary. In connection with this, two letters from W. P. Murphy then chief of the fire department, were read. The first stated that he thought fifty pounds pressure was enough as it was more than the city fire engine furnished. The second stated that his first pressure was not exactly plain as he meant that fifty pounds pressure in the mains by supplying more lines of hose was of more value than the streams that the fire engine would throw. Another letter from F. M. Friedberg stated that Mr. Friedberg thought that fifty pounds pressure was ample.

Mr. Goss said that the city records did not show that any action was taken by the council permitting any reduction in pressure. Also that he had conferred with W. B. Curtis, E. A. Anderson and C. A. Johnson, who were on the council at the time, and that they had informed him the council did not take any action to permit a reduction in the pressure.

Then followed a humorous discussion of W. P. Murphy's letters about the pressure. Councilman Powers wanted to know if the letters could have been what Mr. Murphy wanted the medal from the council for at the time that it was suggested that O. O. Lund make him a leather medal.

New Oregon Law. Mr. Goss said that the Oregon law of 1911 giving the Oregon Railroad commission power to regulate corporations gave them ample authority to deal with the Marshfield water situation. However, he said the law was new and that he was not certain as to what the outcome would be. However, the council could make complaint to the commission and hearing would be granted, and if the commission ordered the improvements, the company could then appeal to the courts.

Mr. Cople wanted to know what advantage it would be if the council took the first course outlined by Mr. Goss of having the franchise declared invalid. Mr. Goss said that the company would be without a franchise and the city would be on better footing to negotiate with them.

Mr. Cople said that this did not appear to him to be the best step now as even though the city would have to take the water whether the quality was good or the pressure sufficient. He said he thought the thing to do was to take it up with the Oregon Railroad commission and require the improvements made.

To do this, he made a motion that the city engineer be instructed to ascertain what improvements and extensions would be necessary to give an adequate supply of pure water. He said that the facts secured in this investigation would work in well later with the facts that the engineer would have to gather later in determining the value of the property.

Chairman Coke, who was presiding in the absence of Mayor Straw, requested that Mr. Cople personally write out his motion. Mr. Powers suggested that besides this investigation the engineer at the same time ascertain the facts as to the value of the old plant, the water supply, etc. Mr. Cople first agreed to this but when he had finished writing out his motion stated that on second thought, he believed it would be best to have the two separate investigations.

Mr. Powers wanted to know if the law enacted in 1911 would apply to a franchise granted eleven years previous and Mr. Goss informed him that he thought it would.

Councilman Albrecht suggested that it might be well to take steps to ascertain what could be done in the way of the city's floating a bond issue and installing a new system.

City Attorney Goss requested that he be permitted to correspond with the Railroad Commission before the appeal was made and possibly go to Salem and confer with them in order to ascertain the mode of procedure and probable time it would take.

Mr. Cople said that meantime the city engineer could be gathering the desired data. Mr. Cople added that he was going to insist on this plan being carried out.

On motion of Councilman Albrecht, Engineer Stutsman of the fire department was instructed to keep a record of the water pressure at the city hall. Mr. Stutsman stated that the pressure had been varying from forty pounds during the day to over fifty pounds during the night. He said that when the men were flushing sewers, the pressure dropped down sometimes to twenty-seven pounds.

Claude Nasburg wanted to know about the council having the engineer fix the value of the property now but the council did not take any action in regard to this step.

Councilman Savage was not present last night.

Socialists At Work

At the recent municipal caucus, the Socialist of Marshfield nominated the following members of their party for the voters' approval at the next general election:

- For Mayor—E. Don McCrary. For Recorder—A. J. Stephan. For Councilman—Carl Everisen. For Councilman—John Holm.

No doubt many observers of this announcement will neglect to read any further than to learn the names of the party candidates. We beg you not to ignore socialism, because you have been misinformed or deprived of the opportunity to study its doctrine, we ask you to read our platform, without fear or prejudice. It contains many important and vital questions which should be considered by the people of Marshfield, and every other municipality where there are so many human lives, living a mere existence, but many people will ask, how can we remedy this evil, what assurance have we if Socialism becomes a power, or what protection have we after we have elected them to office, what is to prevent them from violating their promises to the people.

The Socialist party is composed of men and women; it is a permanent organization; every member pays a monthly fee of 25c.

The charter provides that as members of the international socialist party, they must meet at least every two weeks to discuss and vote on every question before the legislative body of the country.

When election time draws near, they endeavor to select the most able men in their party to carry out their platform—these same men we have chosen to represent the socialist party in the next election.

If elected, one can not violate any part of the socialist platform, for the simple reason that the socialist party demands of each and every candidate to sign his own resignation before the election, which is filed with the executive officers of the organization. Should he violate any part of the platform or any other additional issue which may arise during his incumbency, his resignation would be handed to the proper authorities, and another member elected in his place.

The socialist party stands for principle, not for the individual; an individual may fall, but a true principle never.

Before a representative of the socialist party can vote for any law to be placed upon our statute books, it must first be submitted to his party members and they vote on the issue and whatever their decision may be, so must he vote as the people dictate. Should he support the contrary, his vote becomes void and his resignation takes effect immediately.

There remains a great deal more to be said pertaining to the socialist movement, if we had the time and money to pay for publishing the same. We hope that all laboring people and people in sympathy with labor will kindly study our platform. If therein they find anything that could be of detriment to the majority of the people, we stand to be corrected in behalf of the hand and brain that tolls. The Socialist Campaign Committee, E. Wisti, Alex Johnson, L. J. Justen, A. J. Stephan.

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