

COOS BAYTIMES

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FRATERNAL FEELING.

THE splendid social success of the Elks dance recalls the debt that we all owe to the fraternal societies. Marshfield is fortunate in having many of these societies. They all do their share to make life more pleasant in this rough old world, which is hard enough at best.

FEARS' STRAW IS HEADSTRONG

Voter Cites Sandberg Incident to Show How He Might Delay Waterworks.

Editor Times: If you will kindly permit an "outsider," who is vitally affected by the waterworks situation in Marshfield, the same as every other man, woman or child who owns property here or who make their home here, a little space in your valuable paper, I will try and give some reasons why every voter should be at the polls next Tuesday and do his duty.

The water question is not new to me or any other resident of Marshfield. I have seen fire losses here that would have been prevented if we had only had pressure in the mains to enable the firemen to do their duty. If you or any other man does not believe this, just ask any member of the Marshfield Fire Department. I read in The Times that Fire Chief Traver recently told the city council that the loss at the Fernalde brewery would have been practically nothing if there had been some pressure in the water mains.

This was the latest instance. Over a year ago, Fire Chief Traver reported to the city council the necessity of getting more fire hydrants and extensions of mains to protect all of the residence of South Marshfield and the new Marshfield High school building. He made a report showing the necessity of these extensions and pointed out the great number of homes that were practically without fire protection.

In your paper at that time, you reported Mayor Straw as stating that he had spoken to the Coos Bay Water company about this matter and said that the company would afford relief just as soon as they were granted a new franchise. He also urged, if I remember the report of the Town Board meeting correctly, that the fire and water committee immediately meet with the water company about the new franchise.

Mayor Straw did not then take any steps to compel the company to furnish the service we were entitled to but his whole attitude was more to give the water company an extension of their franchise or a new franchise. Has he really changed since he expressed this attitude?

I thought then that the shortage of water was the only thing but in a short time came the report of our city health officers and the officers of the Oregon State Board of Health that our health and lives were endangered by the contaminated water. What did Mayor Straw do then? I was present at a council meeting or two and did not hear him say a word about taking action to remedy the situation and protect our lives and our health.

Again the water question came up

and City Attorney Goss was instructed by some of the members of the Town Board to look up the franchise. Your paper quoted Mr. Goss as saying first that the original franchise had been lost. Later it was evidently found, for The Times quoted Mr. Goss as saying that the only "good thing about the franchise was that it only had seventeen years yet to run," and that "it was evidently drawn up by J. W. Bennett for Mr. Bennett and the town had practically no rights under it." I haven't the paper at hand and am not sure that this is exact quotation but it was the sense of it.

A few months ago when the water question was again forced up to the city officials for action, Mr. Copple, who is now a candidate for mayor and pledged to give us relief and the control of our water system as soon as possible, took the matter up. It was again referred to City Attorney Goss for his legal opinion as to what steps the city might take to secure redress. Mr. Goss found that there was a means under the franchise of possibly accomplishing something. Then, according to the report in your paper of the meeting, Mr. Copple called the city attorney's attention to the new Oregon law regulating public service corporations. This law, as I have found by consulting an attorney, plainly affords a means of securing early relief from the troubles we have suffered at the hands of the Coos Bay Water company. I see Mr. Goss said that he thought it did too but was dubious about what interpretation the courts might place on it.

I noticed that some of the councilmen, according to the report in your paper, raised the question about the "great expense it might incur if it started a lawsuit to get our rights" and referred to the expense the city went to in fighting the C. A. Smith company to get a public street. The paper didn't quote any of those councilmen as pointing out the outrage of expecting us Marshfield people to pay Claude Nasburg \$5,000 and Nolan and Jackson \$10,000 more in order to buy these waterworks at a great, big price for the old waterworks in order to improve it and give us fire protection and pure water which the company should have been giving us for years under the franchise that has enabled them to make big profits.

But to revert to the real question for us to decide next Tuesday, let me say a word about Mayor Straw. In some ways, I like him but it isn't a question of personal likes or dislikes now. It is a business proposition. I have found Mayor Straw very headstrong in dealing with city affairs and I think the people have. In his platform, I notice he says now that "everyone knows that our present most crying need is an adequate supply of pure water, etc." Why didn't he think of that a long time ago on some of the innumerable occasions that the fire department, citizens and others told him of the inadequate pressure for fire protection? Why didn't he think of it last spring when the physicians reported that the health of the community was endangered by the contamination of the supply? Why didn't he think of it before R. A. Copple, Duncan Ferguson, Carl Albrecht and other active ones forced it to an issue?

Furthermore, Mayor Straw says in his platform, "I would call attention to the manner in which the various appointive offices have been filled by my selection and confidently ask the voters' approval thereof." This again goes to show the headstrong policy of Mayor Straw which makes me seriously doubt the mayor's intention to handle the waterworks situation as nine-tenths of the people on Coos Bay want it handled. You remember, I remember and so does every other citizen of Coos Bay remember the case of City Engineer Sandberg which is included in the list which Mayor Straw now wants us to approve. For two years, the people had been trying to get rid of Sandberg. First we elected Councilmen Cole and Albrecht to do it. They failed. Then we elected Councilmen Copple and Ferguson to do it. Then, with a majority of the officials who had the say, trying to accomplish the wish of the people what did Mayor Straw do? Did he fall in line and let the people have their say? No. Didn't he hold on the action of the council for a month or two, threaten to throw the matter into the courts and force the city to pay Sandberg for a long time during which the city did not get any services?

What assurance have we that Mayor Straw would not act the same about the water question as he did about the Sandberg affair? Straw, probably thought he was right in the Sandberg affair and probably thinks he is right in opposing municipal ownership and favoring the granting of a franchise, consequently he would be justified in his own mind in standing out against forwarding municipal ownership the same as he did against ousting Sandberg. It was this same headstrong policy that led him to leave the office of city engineer vacant for months regardless of what the city might have suffered from the action. There is only one thing for every

BELIEVE ROAD HILL INTEREST

Recent Moves Indicate Summer Is Employed by the Great Empire Builder.

That Hill's hand is seen in the proposed line from Eugene to Coos Bay and that Engineer Sumner is working for the Hill interests is stated in an article published in the Portland Journal. It says:

"By the incorporation of the Pacific Coast Railway Land company in Salem and Portland two weeks ago, as the official townsite syndicate of the Pacific Great Western railroad between Eugene and Coos Bay, the first light is thrown on the identity of the backers of the new line whose survey parallels that of the Southern Pacific. Everything connected with the new company points to a relationship with James J. Hill that is so close as to be almost final.

"The Pacific Coast Railway Land company was incorporated by Victor A. Johnson, a Minneapolis man, with offices in the Lumberman's building; Fred S. Forrest, who was Mr. Hill's first general superintendent of the North Bank; Charles Worth, a Minnesota capitalist, and C. M. Hyskell, who a year ago negotiated the sale of the United Railways to the Hill interests. The capital was given in the incorporation papers as \$100,000.

"The syndicate is known to be investing heavily in lands along the route of the rival roads. It has purchased the townsite of Glenada from the Florence State bank and others and has secured several thousand acres of land between that point and North Bend. Glenada is on the south bank of the Siuslaw river near its mouth and where the channel affords excellent anchorage for shipping. The company's purchases include a portion of the townsite of Florence, across the river from Glenada, the townsite of Mapleton, at the head of tidewater, about 20 miles up the Siuslaw, a large tract at Eugene and a townsite at Lakecreek, midway between Eugene and Mapleton, where the railroad is said to have planned its principal inland point for development in Lane county.

"Filings are also said to have been made on Lake Clewax, a small body of pure water a few miles above Glenada, and plans have been made for waterworks to supply the needs of the railroad as well as of the town."

The article goes on to tell of supposed connection at Eugene between the Oregon Electric and Pacific Great Western.

About Sumner.

"The engineering and right-of-way work of the Pacific Great Western has been done with remarkable skill and dispatch, under the direction of H. A. Sumner, formerly chief engineer of the Denver, Northwestern & Pacific—known as the Moffat road—in Colorado. His son, L. A. Sumner, has been actively in charge of the work of securing right of way and it is said that the entire right-of-way from Roseburg to Coos Bay is in the hands of the railroad.

"Evidently master of the ins and outs of railroad scheming for right of way, Mr. Sumner has stolen a march on the Harriman lines by using their own methods to contract them. The surveys of the Southern Pacific and the Pacific Great Western are parallel for almost the entire distance from Eugene to Coos Bay. In anticipation of a right for possession of rights of way acquired by his line between Mapleton and the tunnel site selected by him in the Coos range summit, Sumner had shipped to that point several weeks ago a large amount of barbed wire and he is fencing the right of way. It was by using this same unique method that the O. R. & N. company a few years ago put a quietus upon a proposed electric railroad that was surveyed through the Willawo valley to Joseph.

voter on Coos Bay to do next Tuesday to get the water question solved the way he wants to and that is to vote for R. A. Copple.

Mayor Straw has repeatedly said that he didn't want the office again and that he was running now at the request of friends and so his defeat will not mean any particular chagrin to him but will only mean the denunciation of the "Bennett Machine" that has forced him into the race against his will.

I had not intended to write so much but the situation appeals so strongly to me that I could not stop before. Yours for the bigger, healthier and better Marshfield and Coos Bay which municipal control of the waterworks will hasten.

A VOTER.

SCIENTIST DIES.

(By Associated Press to the Coos Bay Times)

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 2.—Professor George Davidson, for thirty years head of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey of the Pacific coast, died last night, aged 86.

Photo supplies and finishing.—Walker Studio.

TOYS NOW ON DISPLAY. Shop early. COOS BAY CASH STORE.

HOLIDAY GOODS now being shown. Shop early. COOS BAY CASH STORE.

FINE UMBRELLAS for presents. RED CROSS DRUG STORE.

Artists' materials and picture framing.—Walker Studio.

SEES "CATCH" IN PLATFORM

Voter Fears "As Soon As Practical" Phrase In Straw's Policy.

EDITOR TIMES:

In Dr. Straw's platform, I notice a statement that every voter who is in favor of an early solution of the water question should be familiar with. It is contained in a paragraph near the end of his platform and lest many have overlooked it, I wish you would reprint it. The statement which relates to his attitude on the water question is:

"TO AVOID ANY POSSIBLE EXCUSE FOR FURTHER MISUNDERSTANDING I WILL NOW SAY THAT I WILL USE MY HONEST ENDEAVOR TO GET THIS WHOLE MATTER BEFORE THE PEOPLE OF THIS COMMUNITY AS SOON AS PRACTICAL FOR THEIR VOTE UPON THE SAME."

"As soon as practical" the people will get a chance to vote on what to do about the water question!

Think it over. How soon will it be practical to J. W. Bennett and Claude Nesburg to have the people of Marshfield pass on the water question?

"As soon as practical" evidently means as soon as Mayor Straw gets ready and that maybe a long time. For one, I am not going to take any chances and am going to vote for R. A. Copple who is pledged to get immediate action.

A VOTER.

PERSIANS ARE MUCH EXCITED

Report That Russians Are Moving on Capital Makes a Big Stir.

(From Associated Press to Coos Bay Times)

TEHERAN, Persia, Dec. 2.—Excitement over the news of a Russian advance on the capital is intense. The walls of the city and legations are covered today with placards "Death or independence."

ACCOMPANY BASKET BALL TEAM

Quite a boat load of people made the trip to North Bend to see the game and to root for the home team. Among those going were Mr. Barker, Mr. Grannis, Mr. Dindinger, Halbert Carille, Max Reigard, Norman Johnson, Roy Abbott, John Ferguson, Madoc Gulovsen, Ernest Harrington, Will Horton, Abner Tribbey, the team boy, C. Clarke, S. Clarke, Lee Beverly, Noble Pittman, Guy Strassman, M'lon Carlson, Leslie Isaacson, and several of the High school girls and teachers.

GOMPERS GIVES HIS OPINIONS

Says That Labor Was Greatly Deceived In Believing Accused Innocent.

(By Associated Press to the Coos Bay Times.)

TROY, N. Y., Dec. 2.—"Labor was grossly deceived," said Samuel Gompers today with considerable emotion. "We had every cause to accept their innocence as a fact. Think of men declaring to be falsely accused, expressing confidence to their fellows they would be adjudged innocent and then plead guilty to a crime of this character. Would it not unsettle any man interested in our cause?"

Gompers told of seeing McNamara in jail at Los Angeles, of their assurances of their innocence, and severely condemned the imposition and more severely arraigned the crime. "If this was a crime against society," said Gompers, "it would be different. Then it would be revolution, but it is an attack on business, and an individual and that leads business men to think that labor unions have duped them. No one likes this and it would be better for us if it were against society."

NOTHING TO SAY.

Roosevelt Will Not Talk About McNamara Case. (From Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—"Not a word," said Roosevelt, when asked about the statement in the McNamara case. "But," he added quickly, "just turn back to my editorial in the Outlook 'Murder is Murder' and compare what was said then with what is being said now."

REBELS NOW HOLD NANKING

(From Associated Press to the Coos Bay Times)

NANKING, China, Dec. 2.—The revolutionary forces took possession of this city today after a parley with the Imperial government forces who were in occupation. At midday the white flag was displayed on Lion Fort indicating the gunners had joined the revolutionists.

The LADIES' EMPORIUM will be open EVENINGS next week.

HOLIDAY GOODS now being shown. Shop early. COOS BAY CASH STORE

Petates and framing—Walker Studio.

TOYS now on display. Shop early. COOS BAY CASH STORE.

PLAN RALLIES MONDAY NIGHT

The Marshfield city campaign will come to a close next Monday evening when big rallies will be held by both sides.

It is announced that the Copple forces have leased the Royal theatre for their rally. Mr. Copple and several others will address the rally. Special moving pictures, portraying features of the campaign, will be shown.

The Straw forces have arranged for a big rally to be held at the corner of Front and Market streets. The weather will permit an open air meeting. If the weather is unfavorable, the rally will be held in a hall. Several prominent supporters of Mayor Straw, including himself, will address the rally.

After Illegal Voters. Owing to rumors that illegal voting may be attempted next Tuesday, steps are being taken today to put a stop to it early Tuesday morning.

It is understood that both the Copple and Straw forces have compiled poll lists so that careful check will be kept on the voters. It is understood that there are in the neighborhood of 725 voters in Marshfield now.

The Copple forces this afternoon were planning to raise a fund to offer rewards for evidence that will lead to the arrest and conviction of illegal voters next Tuesday. A reward of \$50 for the conviction of each illegal voter participating in the election will probably be offered.

F. E. ALLEN'S PLATFORM.

To the People of Marshfield:— Since I have been nominated as a candidate for the Marshfield city council, and in response to inquiries regarding my position on municipal affairs, I will try to state my policy briefly.

First—I am strongly in favor first, last and all the time of a city owning and controlling its water system and favor Marshfield's securing its system just as quickly as it can economically do so. I would not favor paying an extra bonus for the present system, not a cent more than a fair valuation. I am strongly opposed to any extension of the present franchise. In fact, I am in favor of a city owning and controlling all public utilities possible.

Second—I am strongly in favor of cleaning up the Marshfield waterfront and converting it into a place which will delight the eyes of strangers who view it for the first time. Instead of allowing it to remain an eyesore to a progressive people.

Third—in regard to improving streets and the city generally, I proudly approve what has been accomplished and wish to see the good work continued as rapidly as development of the city warrants. In fact I would like to see Marshfield known all over the Pacific coast as the most progressive and up-to-date city in the west—a city where the surroundings will elevate the rising generation and make one proud to call it "home."

F. E. ALLEN

Saltiest Salt on Earth! IN FACT The Salt of the Earth Lester's Violet Grain Salt Flows Freely. Ask Your Grocer About It.

Photo supplies and finishing.—Walker Studio. TOYS NOW ON DISPLAY. Shop early. COOS BAY CASH STORE. HOLIDAY GOODS now being shown. Shop early. COOS BAY CASH STORE. FINE UMBRELLAS for presents. RED CROSS DRUG STORE. Artists' materials and picture framing.—Walker Studio.

A Dainty Bathroom is an absolute necessity to the modern home. Porcelain enameled fixtures form the ideal ware for the up-to-date bathroom. Their glossy, white surface presents the same attractive appearance as fine table china, and yet they have the strength and durability of iron. "Standard" porcelain enameled fixtures represent the highest type of sanitary ware in design, materials and workmanship. The guarantee accompanying this ware is a protection against faulty construction or materials—the buyer runs no risk. For promptness and reliability you will find our plumbing service unequalled. Why not ask us for estimates today. Orders for repairs receive our prompt attention. Pioneer Hardware Co. FRONT ST. MARSHFIELD, ORE.