

# Ashland Tidings

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Bert R. Greer, Editor and Manager. Lyan Mowat, News Reporter

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**TALK ABOUT GRAFT**

The Ashland Record filed a bill against the Springs Water Commission on June 14, claiming \$448.30 for publishing the weekly financial statement from May 5, 1915, to June 14, 1916. This statement was never ordered published in the Record. Mr. Wolf has been howling loud and long of late about graft and has made many dirty insinuations against the commission. We wonder whether he did that with a view of bulldozing the commission into paying him \$448.30 for something they never ordered, on an imaginary claim?

It seems to make a difference whose ox is gored in these graft charges.

The claim, of course, was disallowed.

The Record has never charged that the Springs Commission paid a larger rate for the publications than was proper—the Record's bill at the same rate as has been charged by the Tidings—the whole complaint of the Record being that it was not given the publications.

## The People's Forum

**Thanks For The Hearty Endorsement**

Editor Tidings: Whatever Enders and his cohorts may think, or say, of Greer, the fact remains that he is the one man who interested the head officials of the Southern Pacific company in Ashland's watering resort possibilities which interest has resulted in such publicity through the railroad's influence and literature as to make Ashland the most talked-of city on the Coast. Another thing is certain, Ashland needs a continuance of that good favor and wide publicity.

The railroad people have looked upon Mr. Greer as the moving spirit—really the life of the springs movement. By the force they have thrown behind the movement they have shown that they have confidence in Mr. Greer's ability to successfully establish the resort. Can we afford now, through bickerings and jealousies, to turn down the one man who can hold that influence?

For one, I am not ready to do that. Just the other day, in a distant Oregon city, I saw great bills issued by the Southern Pacific company heralding to the world the advantages of Ashland as a resort center and the newspapers all over the Coast have been carrying advertisements of the Southern Pacific company advertising the beauties and advantages of our little city.

We cannot succeed alone. We need the help of such organizations. This help alone, brought about by Mr. Greer's influence with the railroad people, is worth more to Ashland than all the Enders' blocks that can be built in the town. I do not propose to throw him down. He has and is delivering the goods. When Enders has done as much really unselfish work for our good city as Mr. Greer has accomplished, then I may listen to his advice, but not now.

Every time I look at the magnificent results in Lithia park, and I go there almost every day, I thank God that Mr. Greer came to Ashland and has given freely of his time and talents in that splendid work.

Let's stand by him with such a

rousing majority against the recall as to make no question but that Ashland will stand up for its benefactors.

If we are going to make a success of our enterprise we need such men and we must not condemn them on such unestablished charges as have been lodged against him. Personally I do not agree with Mr. Greer in many things—especially in politics—but I have witnessed his handiwork in putting Ashland forward and I am going to stand by him in our hour of need.

C. B. WATSON.

### The Anvil Chorus

Editor Tidings: I am sending you the enclosed from the pen of Herbert Coffman, and published Sunday in the Examiner, in the hope that you will give it space in the Tidings. While it was written as a general notice, it seems to me to be particularly apropos in the recall campaign now raging. If the author did not have the local situation in mind when he wrote it, he must have been governed at least by that subtle subconscious etherial transfer that causes the nail to be hit at such long range.

MRS. MAUD ROCHO.

"When Fortune knocks, Envy promptly follow suit. Every winning starts a whining. Disappointment often consoles itself with defamation and depreciation.

"Jealousy is a bitter cur, but seldom a biting one. So don't be disturbed by the bark of toothless brains.

"It's mainly insignificant folks who resent the existence of accomplishments beyond their own range. The Adam Family is notoriously reluctant to accept the superiority of any fellow. If failure would concede successes more graciously, they would soon learn to conceive them.

"Only big men appreciate the merit of others—that's the quality that makes them great. To recognize genius is the next thing to possessing it.

"Ignorance and inefficiency are least ready to accord merit its due. The less a man knows, the wilder his jeers against knowledge. Vanity is intolerant of a better—the dog in the manger is Conceit's special pet.

"Your progress is sure to arouse the resentment and provoke the hostility of numbers who secretly want what you have and wish to be what you are.

"An admission that you can honestly achieve beyond their capacities, necessitates a frank self-measurement to which few are willing to submit—demands a confession of inferiority.

"You can't put your name on all men's tongues without leaving a bitter taste in some of their mouths. The derision of fools and the mud-flinging of sore-heads is a standard penalty for ambition.

"Distinction can only be gained through bold and positive courses. No decisive action ever lacked the disapproval of those who held opposite views, or who were profiting by the continuance of contrary conditions.

"Do your best and don't mind the rest. Assumption of power invites slander and malice—is a challenge to back-biters and dirt throwers.

"It's a hopeless aspiration to escape the rut and misinterpretation. The most you can look for is a set of partisans sufficient to offset an inevitable batch of ill-wishers.

"Nonentities are not talked about—there's no subject for discussion.

"People who are without enemies simply haven't attracted notice. You can't please everybody.

"No rule of conduct is acceptable to the entire community. The thief is hostile to honesty. Hypocrisy frowns upon frankness. Originality threatens the security of reactionaries. Wisdom exposes folly.

"Right cannot prevail without thwarting wrong. The inauguration of an improvement unmaaks the authorities who fail to fulfill their responsibilities.

"Shirkers can't be expected to applaud the example of zealous workers.

"Self-interest is a paramount trait in human nature, and is asserting itself when a displaced individual discounts the intelligence which thrashed him.

"Generosity is a rare coin and is stingily spent. Even when we have breadth enough to understand why we lost, egotism still insinuates that the other man didn't honestly earn his recognition.

"Bunglers have an arsenal of unworthy hints with which to explain the advancement of their associates. Mediocrity loves company and seeks to reduce its betters to the common level.

"The road to the top is filled with muddy stretches. You can't escape them and get there."

A strong man cannot assert himself without trampling upon the aspirations of weaker opponents—therefore there's certain to be an out-

cry in his wake. "The only time you need begin to worry, is when you hear nothing but kind things about yourself. Then you can be sure that you are a 'dead one'—of no one else do all speak gently."

### A Man Up the Tree

Editor Tidings: As it appears to a man up the tree, Mr. Enders has gotten a good many good people on a false trail.

There is, of course, such a thing as an HONEST difference of opinion. No doubt, some may have been led to think there is good cause for this recall, if Enders got a setting with them, but the man up the tree can not see where there will be any thing gained except to gratify the senior Enders' venomous spleen.

Those who vote to brand Greer must feel that they put the finger of scorn in the face of, and the brand of dishonor upon the associate commissioners.

It looks like they would vote to punish Greer to gratify dissatisfaction without investigation.

It seems that Enders has spread the poison so lavishly that it has struck in on some good people who can not give any definite good reason for a recall, except Enders.

It looks like Enders had his stringer at work to satisfy his enmity and jealousy.

He wants to destroy for personal and selfish reasons.

Greer is in Enders' way. He wants Greer's place, and promises to make a bat's nest of the place if he gets it.

But many know all of this and do not forget his selfish and blocking maneuvers.

He fought the buying of the park entrance, but lost.

He then schemed for a long while trying to buy the park entrance ground (the old mill property). Lost again.

He tore around fiercely, bitterly opposing the remodeling of the city building (he had a place for it). Another defeat.

Made a hard fight before a committee of taxpayers to get the Plaza property assessed three times as high as his own business property. Lost again.

He then repeatedly vowed that he would make a "bat's roost," "Chinese town", "red light district," etc. of the Plaza district. But can't quite cut it.

He opposed any scheme to remodel the Hotel Oregon until forced into the "band wagon".

True, he has made some magnificent bonus offerings, but the man up the tree always saw a strong string on the offer, one end in the fist of Enders. Always bluff.

He has freely charged Graft, Theft, until one may fear he has or will become infected with these ills and curses.

He has openly said "he has the goods on Greer", but it looks to the man up a tree that if Enders had the goods he would use them now. What rot! Why not sue on Greer's bond instead of an expensive recall?

No wonder, all this hatred and jealousy, after the commission have succeeded as well as it has with this serpent crossing and recrossing their paths, spreading poison where he could not bite.

Too bad that many innocent acquaintances of his have been coaxed into this ill-advised crusade at this time.

Voters should ask themselves, "will be better ourselves in voting in favor of Enders' recall?"

Who can promise better service than the present commission?

Who offers, except Enders, to render as good and faithful service as already given by Greer and the commissioners?

It looks to the man up a tree that the mistakes of the commission have been honest ones, and that the goose that laid the golden egg should not be killed simply because she did not lay it in the Enders' nest.

### THE MAN UP THE TREE.

**Why Do They Use His Name?**

Bert R. Greer, Editor Tidings—At first I was at a loss to know how the Enders' knockers succeeded in coaxing our fellow townsman, M. C. Reed, to stand as a candidate against you in the recall election.

I could not understand for the life of me why he would allow his influence to be used to aid Enders in blasting and dishonoring you for life, through spite, after you had done so much for Ashland as is apparent in the splendid success of the springs undertaking.

However, yesterday I was told that immediately after the resignation of Mr. Duryea as publicity manager, Mr. Reed made application for the place and the commission gave it to Mr. Frohbach instead; that since that time Mr. Reed has expressed great dissatisfaction as to the way the springs matters were handled, while before that he was a strong advocate of the Springs Water Commis-

sion. Is this story true? Did Mr. Reed apply for the place?

### FAIR PLAY.

ANSWER—Mr. Reed did make application for the position of publicity manager after Mr. Duryea resigned. He had always been a strong advocate of the Springs Commission, but we did not think, until recently, that he was grieved because he did not get it.—Bert R. Greer.

### To the People of Ashland.

It is to the intelligence of all the people of Ashland that I make this appeal regarding the recall election that will be held on next Monday in our city.

First, what is all the fuss about? Just simply this and nothing more: A few individuals that have some sore places against Mr. Greer have let their jealous, selfish spirit get the better of them and have let it work on them until their minds have become diseased, not realizing that it is a fundamental law that to see so much bad in the other fellow, one must have the same qualities in himself or he could not recognize it in the other fellow.

There are people in our midst who are making some very extravagant assertions against Mr. Greer, calling him a grafter and dishonest and disreputable citizen. Now, good people of Ashland, this is just what this recall means: It will forever brand Mr. Greer as a grafter, a dishonest and disreputable citizen, and I hope that the voters of Ashland will stop and think before they ever place such a stain on the character of any man.

And I sincerely hope that you will ponder well what the good name of Ashland and its people means to the public, especially just at this time.

We have heard this and that charged, but that does not make it so—not by any manner of means. There have been mistakes made which Mr. Greer and the springs commission admit. And no doubt the great Creator of all sees many mistakes that he has made and no doubt that he would make many changes were he to do things over again. But I think they all did their best, without any plans or specifications; anyway, I shall call it well done, and if any of our people don't agree with me it would be well for them to go up into the park and look carefully into things. The answer is there.

It is preposterous to suppose that a proposition of this size and magnitude could be carried to completion without some mistakes. "It is by our mistakes that we learn." I ask you, each and every one, to lay aside your prejudice and think for a few moments what Mr. Greer has done for us. Just go up in the park and see what has been accomplished and bring yourself to realize what it means, and then can you, alone with your conscience, go to the ballot box and brand Mr. Greer forever a grafter, a dishonest and disreputable citizen, without more proof than is apparent? If anyone has proof of these charges he has a remedy in the courts. We have penal laws for such offenses.

The recall law is a very good law, but never was intended to be used for personal spite. It should never be abused, and I hope the people will be careful of its use.

Now a few words in conclusion. The writer has known Mr. Greer personally since he came to Ashland, as an upright, progressive citizen, full of individuality, and I don't believe that he has taken a dollar that did not rightfully belong to him; and if anyone knows of his doing so, let him come forward with his complaint in court, where Mr. Greer will have to prove his innocence or, in other words, they can prove their complaint. As to his incompetency, go up in the park and look around. The answer is there.

I will say this: Simply an assertion as to some misdeed doesn't spell anything. People are not generally careful enough with their criticism of public officials. A few words more and you will know what I have to say. It seems to me that the bringing of this recall election just at this time is very inopportune when we have invited the world to come and help us dedicate to the use of the public the fruits of Mr. Greer's dreams, plans and labors, and then to have him branded with such a stain. I can't believe the intelligent people of Ashland will stand for any such a thing. Of course, Mr. Greer has known from the start that he would be held responsible to the people for the accomplishment of his dreams, and as he was the main factor of the springs commission he could not be guided by you or me on what this one thought or that one thought. He had to rely on his best judgment, and I believe he has accomplished what he undertook to the best of his ability. While I might have had some things different, and no doubt each of us could have done the same thing and had it better, still I call it well done, and believe that the people will all be out on electio-

day and give the proposition their approval and Mr. Greer their thanks. I plead for every voter to be at the polls on election day.

F. W. MOORE.

### Haman or Mordecai—Which Shall It Be?

Editor Tidings: If I am granted space in your valued paper that always comes as a welcome as a welcome visitor to my home. Should like to say from the best authority obtainable, that the human body, aside from the 70 per cent water, is composed of fourteen elements or chemicals, oxygen, carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, calcium, chlorine, phosphorus, potassium, magnesium, silicon, sulphur, sodium, iron, fluorine, and I think it is a well-established fact that the science of medicine has reached a point of efficiency unknown to our fathers, and that our enlightened physicians now ascertain the cause of disease and in their diagnosis determine the particular chemical lacking and supply the deficiency, and the depleted nerve is fed, and thereby the law of supply and demand in our physical nature is scientifically met.

Now if you will compare the analysis of the springs installed in Lithia Park with the analysis of our bodies as given above, you may be surprised to find the number of chemicals that are identical, and that Nature demands in order to feed the depleted nerves caused by the many drafts made upon her.

Now take the U. S. Dispensatory, a standard authority, and see the therapeutic or medicinal values of these various chemicals. Space will only permit quoting one or two. Example: "Sulphur—A laxative, diuretic or eliminative and alterative. Valuable in gout, rheumatism, catarrh, asthma, and all skin eruptions and blood diseases; and when combined with diseases; and when combined with magnesium it becomes a stimulant to the circulation, a tonic and promotes digestion."

"Chloride of sodium is a stimulant, antiseptic and resolvent, valuable in weakness and great prostration, dyspepsia and all bilious and chronic diseases of the stomach; a tonic laxative, and increases the number of red corpuscles, and the weight of the body."

"Magnesia is anti-acid, laxative, diuretic or eliminative, valuable in dyspepsia, sour stomach, constipation, and eliminates uric acid in rheumatism."

Candidly, friends, are these springs valuable, or are they not? And what shall our attitude be towards them? But stop! How did Ashland happen to get the monopoly of these valuable waters, and how did they happen to be piped to the city, so they are accessible to all?

Why, everybody knows that it is that "old grafter, Bert Greer," that brought them here.

Well, it may be that he is all that, but I am that man from Missouri. For if he was all that his enemies say he is, he could long since have been the head of a large and growing department store, and run a city newspaper merely for pastime.

But where are Mr. Dodge and Mr. Minkler? Are they merely pigmies, or unimportant, irresponsible, inefficient pigeon stools? Where are the voters that stood behind this whole project? Are they, are we, freed from any responsibility? And why should Mr. Greer be chosen as the one and only scapegoat?

Now, friends, you will probably appreciate the illustrations which follow better if you read, or recall at least, the incidents recorded in the book of Esther. Here is Haman, who stands at the head of all the departments of the kingdom, and in whom the king, Ahasverus, delights to honor. But he has become very wroth and jealous because there is one Bert Mordecai, that sits in the gates, that refuses to bow to Haman's insolence, his acquisitions, his threats and arrogance, and thereby has aroused the prejudices and hatred of a small portion of the newcomers, visitors and some of the good old ladies of our city against this old Bert Mordecai, as the recall list will show, and in this case even some of the animals are educated to hate him, for Haman has a pet educated Wolf taught to throw an ink bottle at this "old grafter" every time he takes in fifteen cents for keeping the taxpayers posted on the legitimate expenditures connected with this springs project.

Now this Haman, vested with the power of the king's ring, has purchased a bolt with which to lock the barn after the horse is stolen, and to purchase material and build a gallows fifty cubic high on which to hang this "old grafter," Bert Mordecai. Of course all this at the public expense. While the taxpayers are saying, if it was the real desire of Haman and his associates to save taxes and stop this so-called graft, why bring all this extra expense at this particular period, instead of suing Bert on his \$10,000 bond and

get the stolen money back? Why did not Haman, if he is so efficient and really awake to the best interest of the public, see to this on the start, and not wait until this hour when the physical plant was established, the goods produced, the money expended and the plant about ready to be turned over to the city? Question. Why lock the barn door now? Why build the gallows now? Why add hundreds of dollars expense to recall him now?

Before the banquet Queen Esther appears before the King Ahasverus—appears and in the presence of Hamanman, now the king, says: "Haman, what wilt thou that shall be done to the man in whom the king delights? Oh, place the king's ring on his finger and let the royal robes be placed upon him, and he be mounted on the best horse or in the best auto in southern Oregon, and in all the glory of thy kingdom, on this coming banquet day, let him be paraded through the streets with the proclamation, 'Here is the man in whom the king delighteth to know.'"

"Bring in the guards," says the king, "and read from the record what Haman has done for my kingdom. He has created prejudice against the springs project, condemned the waters, engendered strife against one Bert Mordecai, and with money from your treasury is building a gallows on which to hang this Bert Mordecai and to destroy his influence in all your realm."

"Very well, guards, read what Bert Mordecai has done. He has carefully laid the plans to build up the kingdom of Ahasverus, and untiringly and patiently and comparatively uncomplainingly carried out the project in spite of the most bitter prejudices and continuous jealousies."

"And you now, O king, have in your Lithia Park throughly installed the most invigorating, vitalizing, health-giving, sparkling waters, and plans made for the largest banquet ever known in all the great realm of our noble king."

"And now, most noble Queen Esther, what is thy request, and it shall be granted thee even to the half of my kingdom."

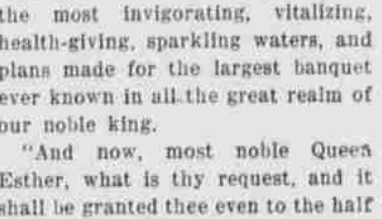
"O King Ahasverus, if I have found favor in thy sight, let Haman and his associates be hanged on the gallows that Haman has prepared for Bert Mordecai, and let Bert Mordecai be clothed and robed and rode through the streets, and all done for him that Haman has planned for himself, and let shouts go up from all thy noble sons and daughters and Queen Esther in all thy whole dominion proclaiming that Bert Mordecai is the one man the king desires to honor on the coming banquet days, as 'KING SULPHUR.' And proclaim, O King, that if love, peace and harmony prevail, you will guarantee thy kingdom to grow while Lithia flows."

DR. C. B. ROBAT.

### A Reed Blown By The Winds.

Editor Tidings: In discussing the embarrassing situation in which Miss Ashland has been placed by the effort to recall Mr. Bert R. Greer from the office of springs commissioner, it might not be amiss to inquire in negro language, "Wha' for?" Is it because that, in spite of the continuous prediction of the knockers, "It cannot be done; he can never do it," it was done? Is it possible that "nothing succeeds like success" is not so? Guess we will have to change the axiom so it will read, "Nothing succeeds like failure. Can the opposition point to any act of Mr. Greer wherein any inquisition could point and say his act was wilfully wrong or for selfish profit? Or could it say, "This omission was a violation of the trust of office"? If these questions cannot be answered in the affirmative, what kind of a person is one who would seek or desire an office as a gift of any people, who would treat his predecessor to a recall when he had nothing worthy of condemnation? Had Mr. Greer done

(Continued on Page Seven)



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