

ANSWER TO REMONSTRANCE

LETTER TO THE COUNCIL FROM W. J. ROBERTS.

The Civil Engineer Who Planned the Proposed Sewer System Defends the System Against the Objections of the Remonstrants.

The CHRONICLE published last Saturday the full text of the remonstrance that has been addressed to the common council against the sewer system which the council has under consideration. Below will be found the answer to the objections of the remonstrants that has been furnished the council at their request by Civil Engineer Roberts, who planned the system and made the estimates of cost. After the address and formal introduction Mr. Roberts says:

The need of a sewerage system for The Dalles I have never heard questioned. From a sanitary standpoint the city is unclean. Cesspools in use for forty years are full to overflowing. The ground is saturated with house-drainage. Conditions are favorable to develop zymotic diseases. You can not violate the laws of sanitation, I may almost say of decency, without punishment. It the value of a human life is \$5000 (Massachusetts and some other states fix it thus) one preventable death in three years would pay the cost of the whole system and contribute something to the sinking fund in addition. Typhoid fever, scarlet fever, diphtheria, yellow fever, cholera, and others, are classed as preventable diseases. How preventable, do you ask? By cleanliness. Remove offending matter from the soil, and the air you breathe will be purer.

No question arose over the disposal of the sewerage. Nothing seemed more natural than to discharge the sewerage into the Columbia where by dilution and dispersion it would be rendered harmless.

The location of the mains and branches as planned has invited much criticism. Assuming that a map of the system lies before you, permit me to call attention to the fact that all alleys run east and west; that in the sewerage of any particular block a lateral must run east and west, either in alley or street, to a cross street; that the alley was adopted for the following reasons:

First.—It is a shorter distance from the fixtures to be drained to the alley than to the middle of the street in front.

Second.—Interruption to traffic by construction and repairs in street would be greater than for construction in alley.

Third.—The average depth would be greater in streets that have been filled to grade than in alleys.

All three points conspire to make the alley lines less expensive than parallel lines on streets.

As to having one principal intercepting sewer running west instead of several smaller ones running north, permit me to quote from my report to you dated May 11, 1899, as follows: "It may be urged by some that the lines flowing towards the river, such as the Liberty street line, the Union, Laughlin and Monroe street lines should be continued across the railroad and discharged through separate lines into 'China Slough' or the river. Such disposal of the sewerage would be disagreeable to say the least, to inhabitants of premises north of the railroad, and the cost would exceed the proposed plan by \$1500. In order to drain the twelve lots in the average block by a single branch the sewer must be carried through the alley. The trenching and back-filling is 57 per cent of the cost of the sewer, so that the larger pipe of the sewer in alley north of Second street can be laid in the same trench as the smaller sewer at less increase of cost than the continuation northward 200 feet or more across the railroad track for each separate line."

As an illustration take the four blocks north of Second street between Union and Laughlin. That the block between Union and Court can be best sewered by a line in the alley flowing westward across Union street towards Mill Creek, in preference to northward on Union street across the railroad tracks is self-evident. The westerly course is more direct and the amount of evacuation

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noticeably less. Also the crossing of a railroad with a sewer involves tunnelling and timbering at a large expense which can be avoided by going under the O. R. & N. Co's track through the trestle on the bank of Mill Creek.

Take next the block between Court and Washington, north of Second. Having laid the lateral through the alley from Washington to Court, would you after going 30 or 40 feet into Court street turn north on Court 500 feet to the river, or continue westward 30 or 40 feet to the line already built west of Court street? It is true the sewer west of Court would have to be increased in size to admit the additional sewerage from one block, but this increase in diameter of pipe requires no extra trenching for sizes under fifteen inches in diameter of pipe, and the difference in price per foot of the pipe of average diameter in the system and one increased enough to admit the sewerage from one block amounts to one third cent per foot or \$3.33 for each 1000 feet. Apply this increased cost from Court street to the outlet, if you please, and it only amounts to \$4.00. Does any one think the sewer for the block mentioned can be built northward on Court street, across the railroad to river for \$4.00 or even fifty times that sum?

Take the third block,—the one north of Second, between Federal and Washington. At this point opinions will be expressed that the lateral sewer through the alley should flow eastward and then turn northward on Federal to the river, or continue east to Laughlin street and then north to the river. This comes from the fact that Washington street is the backbone of the city. It is noticeably higher than cross-streets east or west of it especially at fourth and third streets,—less marked at second street, and the ridge disappears altogether on Main street.

Examine the profile of the alley between Main and Second and the eleva-

tions of Federal and Washington differ by less than six inches. Indeed the natural slope of the ground is westward, Federal street being two feet higher than a point in the alley thirty feet east of Washington, though in Washington street an artificial fill has raised the grade six inches above Federal. With the sewer constructed through the alley to Washington will it not be cheaper to construct the sewer westward to the line west of Washington than northward across the railroad to "China Slough"?

The same reasoning applies to the block north of Second street between Federal and Laughlin,—for although Federal is 2.5 feet higher than Laughlin on alley line this difference extends only fifty feet east of Federal where the difference disappears altogether and the fall in 300 feet horizontal, or 1 in 300, is called, for one block each of 15-inch and 12-inch pipes. A 12-inch pipe laid on a grade of 1 in 450 has a velocity of 2 feet per second. The same pipe with a grade of 1 in 300 flowing half full has a velocity of 2.46 feet per second. A 15-inch pipe under same condition has a velocity of 3.57 feet per second, and the velocity for either is increased 12 per cent when flowing eight tenths full. These are all "self cleansing velocities". No grade in the system is flatter than 1 in 300. The effective operation of the sewers with flow may be made as easily westward as eastward, and if westward then across Federal to unite with the three blocks of sewer already mentioned.

It now remains to show that the proposed intercepting sewer through this alley north of Second street has sufficient fall or slope to give the velocity required to make the sewer self-cleansing. Prominent engineers agree that the velocities should be greater than two feet per second in sewers 10 to 18 inches diameter such as this. The flattest grade proposed on this line or any line is one foot these gradients is as certain as the law of gravity.

To be continued.

No Right to Ugliness.

The woman who is lovely in face, form and temper will always have friends, but one who would be attractive must keep her health. If she is weak, sickly and all run down, she will be nervous and irritable. If she has constipation or kidney trouble, her impure blood will cause pimples, blotches, skin eruptions and a wretched complexion. Electric Bitters is the best medicine in the world to regulate stomach, liver and kidneys and to purify the blood. It gives strong nerves, bright eyes, smooth, velvety skin, rich complexion. It will make a good-looking, charming woman of a run-down invalid. Only 50 cents at Blakeley & Houghton's drugstore.

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From the Vindicator, Rutherfordton, N. C. The editor of the Vindicator has had occasion to test the efficacy of Chamberlain's Pain Balm twice with the most remarkable results in each case. First, with rheumatism in the shoulder from which he suffered excruciating pain for ten days, which was relieved with two applications of Pain Balm, rubbing the parts afflicted and realizing instant benefit and entire relief in a very short time. Second, in rheumatism in thigh joint, almost prostrating him with severe pain, which was relieved by two applications, rubbing with the liniment on retiring at night, and getting up free from pain. For sale by Blakeley & Houghton.

Notice of Dissolution.

Notice is hereby given that the firm of Fouts & Johannsen has this day been dissolved by mutual consent, P. F. Fouts retiring from said firm. The business, heretofore conducted by the said Fouts & Johannsen, will from now on be owned and managed by C. P. Johannsen. The said Johannsen will collect all accounts due said firm and will pay all bills due therefrom.

Dated at The Dalles, Oregon, this 19th day of March, 1900.

P. F. FOUTS,
C. P. JOHANNSEN.

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The Salvation Army has now 19,000 salvation soldiers in India, who, with 30,000,000 of poor heathens are on the verge of starvation. Thousands and tens of thousands have already succumbed. Will you help to save them by giving something? by taking part in the self-denial effort of the Salvation Army? You are invited to attend the half night of prayer tonight. Come and let us wait upon the Lord.

Your servant in Jesus' name,
CAPTAIN J. P. SIMPSON.

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