



THE WATER QUESTION.

Warm Discussion in Council at Special Meeting Monday Evening.

Council met last Monday evening for the purpose of employing an engineer to make survey and estimate of cost of a water system from Corvallis to Rock Creek. More or less earnestness was expressed by advocates of both sides of the water question, and at present it looks as if it would end in a fight in court.

It was proposed to authorize a special committee composed of Councilman Avery, Rennie and Hansell to employ Engineer G. N. Miller to make said survey and estimate of cost and for this work it was intended to allow him \$15 per day and expenses for a period not to exceed 15 days. In order to do this it was necessary to draft and pass an ordinance to this effect.

Before the passage of this ordinance Councilman Emery made a speech opposing it. This led to a very heated discussion of the matter between Mr. Avery and Mr. Emery.

Mr. Emery opposed the matter of the city going in debt, as the city is far greater in debt at present than she is allowed to be under the city charter. According to charter laws Corvallis may only incur debts in the sum of \$10,000, while it is stated that her present debt exceeds \$20,000. Moreover, Mr. Emery contended that the council was in no wise empowered to act in this matter, according to the provisions passed by the last legislature authorizing the water commission. He said that it was the business of said commission when such commission came into power, and that at present the matter was not in any way before the council.

He knew of some of the best citizens of the city, among whom were heavy tax payers, who were going to enjoin the council from the expenditure of city money should they go ahead and employ an engineer to do the work proposed. He also thought it proper to put the true facts before the engineer before he became a party to the contract.

This is what led to the heated discussion referred to, and in the course of which Mr. Emery was accused of being an obstructionist. Now, as a matter of fact, no matter how Mr. Emery may feel privately on the water question he did no more than his duty by the people whom he represented by opposing an action which he felt was not licensed by law. Nor, is this all; if he had good reason to believe (and he declared he had) that in committing a certain act the city would incur an injunction suit it was proper that he should so state.

This is a matter greatly discussed—this water business. That we need water, mountain water, and badly too, no one will deny, but those opposing it declare they are not doing so on account of lack of necessity for the same, but that they object to the perpetuity clause whereby a commissioner held his seat forever. They claim that as their money is being spent they have a right to a voice in saying who shall direct the spending of it. The other side of the question sets forth that the present means is the only way we will ever secure water from Rock Creek and that the commission should be a non-partisan one and for this reason it is declared it should carry as it is.

Regarding the injunction proceedings which are said to be in process of incubation, it is stated as one reason why the council is not empowered to spend city money for an engineer to make survey and estimate is because they have not authority to spend corporation money outside of the corporation in a case of this character.

There are developments sure

to follow, as we are reliably informed that an injunction is sure to be forthcoming if the council proceeds. The council passed the ordinance with the following vote: Ayes, Avery, Irvine, Covell, Rennie, Buxton, Hansell; nays, Emery; Colbert and Porter were absent.

House Burned.

About 5 o'clock Tuesday afternoon the fire bell sounded the alarm and citizens gathered in short order from every direction. The residence of R. C. Kiger proved to be the scene of the conflagration and the fire company was soon on the spot.

The fire started from a defective flue and was spreading throughout the attic when the fire boys got there. Willing hands assisted in moving the household effects from the dwelling and nearly everything in the house was taken out.

There was no means of getting into the attic and it was considered necessary to cut a hole in the roof and send water in from above. The roof where they were obliged to cut through was of tin and it required considerable time to accomplish the task. Owing to the construction of the house, when the water was turned on it ran down through into every room and spoiled all the paper, as well as doing other damage. In a comparatively short time the fire was extinguished, but it is estimated that Mr. Kiger is damaged to the extent of several hundred dollars. Some who claim to be an authority claim that had the fire extinguishers already in the city awaiting acceptance been on carts so that they could have been used, that much less damage would have resulted, as less water have been required.

This was the first alarm sounded by electricity from the central office of the Independent Telephone Co. and it worked remarkably well. The bell seems to tongue clearer than usual, to be more vibrant, and there was greater volume to the tone. It may be considered a success, this new method of ringing the fire alarm and only one suggestion could be made, and that is that the fire district be rung by number.

First Permanent Road.

J. E. Banton, supervisor of road district No. 13, came out from Alsea last Monday for the purpose of taking a road grader back with him. It required four horses to haul the grader and Mr. Banton was accompanied by Hardy McCormack as an assistant in getting the grader to Alsea.

This is the first time a grader was ever in Alsea. The county court has authorized Mr. Banton to make what may be termed the first permanent road ever built in Alsea. Work will be started next week. The road to be built will begin at the store and run a mile east and west.

The residents of Alsea are up and doing. Last fall, or early winter, they voted a special 5 mill tax for the express purpose of road building and the court was duly informed for action on the matter by Jan. 1, 1905. The amount of money thus raised for road purposes amounts to between \$700 and \$800.

This is Mr. Banton's second year as supervisor of district No. 13 and the condition of the roads in his district show the wisdom of the court in selecting a supervisor.

Notice of Final Settlement.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, administratrix of the estate of James M. Wilkinson, deceased, has filed in the County Court of Benton County, State of Oregon, her Final Account as such administratrix, and that Monday, the 5th day of June, 1905, at the hour of two o'clock P. M., has been fixed by said Court as a time for hearing of objections to said report and the settlement thereof. Dated April 21, 1905.

Sarah A. Wilkinson, Administratrix of the Estate of James M. Wilkinson, deceased.

THE GAT IS OUT.

What Is to Be Done With the Brick Stable.—Guessing Contest Closed.

For many months the curious have been guessing as to what kind of a business was to occupy the brick stable when Fruit & Waggenervacated. Some months ago W. P. Lafferty purchased the property and gave out the information that he had a renter so soon as he could get possession of the property and have the building remodeled.

Fruit & Waggenervacated their auction sale last Wednesday and disposed of the greater part of their fixtures, horses, carriages, etc., and are in a position to vacate shortly. When they move Mr. Lafferty will at once start remodeling the building. The floors will be torn out and the earth beneath excavated, after which the ground will be packed with lime. Everything will be fumigated and placed in a first-class condition. The walls will be lined with pulp board and cemented. A magnificent glass front will be placed in the building. In fact, when the improvements are completed there will be nothing lacking that money can buy. All traces of a former stable will have been obliterated; there will be remaining not a thing that will indicate to any of the senses of man that the structure was ever a stable.

Now, all of this is being done for Hollenberg & Cady, the well-known furniture firm. Since going into business in this city they have enjoyed a very satisfactory patronage and trade has grown to such an extent that they feel justified in seeking more commodious quarters. When all is completed and they have moved into their new building, they will have everything to do with and Corvallis will have another up-to-date establishment that will be a credit to the city.

Western Oregon Vetch.

We are in receipt of a bulletin from OAC, by Dr. James Withycombe and Prof. A. L. Knisley, on the subject of vetch and reproduce the following:

The common vetch (*vicia sativa*) is becoming one of the most popular foliage plants grown in Western Oregon. There are perhaps a thousand tons of vetch hay produced in this section now to one eight or ten years ago. This plant is hardy, enjoys a wide range of growth and is rich in protein. Its palatability is also a feature as all classes of stock are exceedingly fond of it, either in the form of hay or green foliage.

When the virtues of this plant are more generally known to agriculturists the area of its culture will be appreciably extended. In addition to its value as a stock food, it is evidently an active nitrogen gatherer. Its roots are unusually abundantly supplied with nodules and the general increased crop production following its growth is good evidence of its value as a soil improver.

There seems to be a peculiarly wide variation in the protein content of individual plant. An investigation conducted by the Chemist of the Station in 1904 indicated that this variation in the water-free plant ranged from 12-19 per cent to 23-31 per cent total protein. Thus it would seem that this plant presents a very important field of work for the development of a race of vetch rich in protein.

New Partnership.

Bert Yates and W. E. Yates have formed a partnership under the firm name of Yates & Yates. They expect to do a general insurance and abstract business. They represent good reliable insurance companies and will furnish accurate, neat and complete abstracts of Benton county property at reasonable prices. Call on or write to Yates & Yates, Corvallis, Oregon.

Milton P. Morgan JOB PRINTER

Especially prepared to print all kinds Catalogs, Booklets, Blank Books, Legal Blanks, Receipts, Letter Heads, Bill Heads, Envelopes, Dodgers, Posters, Horse Bills, etc., etc.

ONLY EXCLUSIVE JOB OFFICE IN TOWN.

EVERYTHING IN PRINTING

Corner 3rd & Jefferson Building formerly occupied by Corvallis Steam Laundry.

Wool Pool.

Those wishing to pool their wool with me can do so by reporting the number of fleeces to me. I will handle your wool and sell to the highest bidder and give you what there is in it. Sacks, fleece and twine for sale by me at Kings Valley. F. J. CHAMBERS. 33-50

Will Interest Many.

Every person should know that good health is impossible if kidneys are deranged. Foley's Kidney Cure will cure kidney and bladder disease in every form; and will build up and strengthen these organs so they will perform their functions properly. No danger of Bright's disease nor diabetes if Foley's Kidney Cure is taken in time. Sold by Graham & Wortham.

Cheap Sunday Rates Between Portland and Willamette Valley Points.

Low round trip rates have been placed in effect between Portland and Willamette Valley points, in either direction. Tickets will be sold

SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS,

and limited to return on or before the following Monday.

RATE TO OR FROM CORVALLIS, \$3.00. Call on Southern Pacific Co's Agents for particulars.

O. C. & T. STEAMERS

Steamer Pomona, leaves Corvallis, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, for Portland and all way points. For rates, etc., call on

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Boats leave for Portland and way stations at 6 a. m.

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Makes Kidneys and Bladder Tight

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 10.

TWO PERFORMANCES DAILY. 2 & 8 P. M.

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BIG SHOWS

THE BANNER CIRCUS OF AMERICA

COLOSSAL TWO RING CIRCUS
ELEVATED STAGE
MAMMOTH MENAGERIE
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ONE GREAT TENTED AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISE THAT FULFILLS EVERY PROMISE

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A Multitude of New Features Never Before Presented in America

Sore-Back Riders	Acrobats, Gymnasts Mid-air Performers	Trained Animal Acts
Rose Dockrill Dolly Miller Estelle Setler M'lie Julien George Holland Frank Miller Austin King Jos. Lyons Herbert Rumley Wm. Dutton	Seven Marvelous Belfords Melnotte, LaNole & Melnotte Flying Victorellas Troupe Daring Aerial Weavers Five Flying Banvards Famous Gardner Family Gracielu McDonald Trio Seven Kishimona Japanese Six Sugimoto Japanese Lady Swords women & Fencers	Herd of Elephants Congress of Seals Camels, Llamas, Dromedaries Broken to Harness. Fierce Siberian Bears Cake-Walking Stallions One Hundred Shetland Pony Ballet & Drill Trained Pelicans & Pigs

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All Kinds of Exciting, Thrilling, Real Races and Tests of Skill

20 JOLLY JESTING CLOWNS 20

Headed by "Cheerful Jim" West, "Happy Billy" La Rue, The Grotesque Olipans—Tote Duckrow—"Funny Bill" Scott

MILLION DOLLAR MENAGERIE

An Imperial Collection of Rare Wild Beasts

Biggest and Best of All Features of Every Kind

GRAND GOLD GLITTERING STREET PARADE

Will Leave the Show Grounds Every Morning at 10:30

Adults, 50c. Children, 25. One Ticket Admits You to Everything

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Is one of the latest attractions. Do you need a Bed Lounge or Couch? We have some nice ones in valour and we guarantee the quality and price. Some new patterns of Linoleum, Rugs and Art Squares, just received. Tents, Hammocks, and Camp Goods always on hand.

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