



## DALLAS WATER SYSTEM.

Results of a Thorough and Personal Investigation by Councilman Emery.

EDITOR GAZETTE—The following statements of some facts learned during a recent visit to Dallas, concerning its mountain water gravity system will probably be of interest to your readers, in that it may throw some light upon several of the vexed problems that confronts our citizens on the eve of casting a vote upon our proposed bond issue. I will state that in order to reach all of the citizens of our city I have handed to the editor of the Times a similar article giving the same facts, which will no doubt appear in its next issue.

As a citizen of our city, and a member of its council, having at heart its future welfare, I feel that all reliable facts in regard to gravity systems are worthy of consideration. I particularly wish to call attention to the difference between the statements that have appeared in late issues of the Corvallis Times regarding reduced insurance rates, etc., at Dallas and the statements of the business men and citizens of Dallas.

I am indebted to the kindness of Messrs. Eakin & Sibley, the well-known and prominent law firm and insurance men of Dallas, for the figures and data herewith in regard to insurance rates and costs of right of way, etc. Other facts are collected from merchants, doctors, and other business men of the city, and by interviews at the homes of the citizens.

### THE DALLAS WATER SYSTEM.

The Dallas water system consists of a galvanized iron pipe line of 10 inches in diameter, 6 miles in length, which taps a stream at its source in the mountains west of the city, conveying the water to a reservoir, capacity one million gallons, located one mile from the city limits and at an elevation of 190 feet. The feed pipe from the reservoir to the distributing system is of redwood and is 12 inches in diameter. The distributing system consists of 8, 6 and 4 inch mains, of iron pipe. The city has 36 fire hydrants, and is equipped with a complete up-to-date fire apparatus that is able to throw 3 streams of water to a height of nearly 70 feet in any portion of the city limits. Before the installation of the present system the water supply of the city was derived from wells, and the fire protection consisted of 5 small cisterns and a hand fire engine.

### INSURANCE RATES.

Previous to the installation of mountain water the greater portion of the residence district was entirely unprotected from fire and insurance rates on residence property was 7 to 10 per cent. The rate on wooden buildings in the business part of the town was 7 to 10 per cent. Brick and stone buildings were rated from \$1.50 to \$2.00 per hundred. Statements were freely made before the bond election by the city newspapers, and by those interested in the installation of the proposed gravity system, that these rates would be reduced at least 30 to 40 per cent. in the business part of town and 50 per cent. in the residence districts.

Promises to that effect were also made by insurance adjusters. One year has passed and what are the conditions today? Instead of a reduction of from "10 to 30 per cent," as asserted by the Times, the rate on residence property is still 7 to 10 per cent, and on wooden buildings in the business districts is still 7 to 10 per cent. On brick buildings the insurance rate has in a few instances been reduced from \$2.00 to \$1.75 per \$100, but only where similar buildings have recently been erected, thus reducing the fire risk.

"The citizens of Dallas have

saved enough money by reduction in insurance rates since the installation of their mountain water system, to pay the interest on their bonds," asserts the Times in an editorial, in the issue of the 24 inst.

May not all other statements prophesying a 25 per cent reduction in insurance rates in Corvallis after the installation of a gravity system here be equally as unreasonable as were the antecedent statements by Dallas newspapers?

### WATER RATES.

Rates now charged for mountain water in Dallas are \$1.50 per month for family; 50 cents additional for each bath tub, 50 cents additional for each water closet, and \$2.25 per month for each lot 100 feet square, making the total for summer months \$4.75 per family. In addition, 50 cents is charged for each cow or horse a family may own. The ice factory pays \$3.00 per day for its water, in addition to the well water it uses. Hotels pay \$10 per month; livery stables \$10 per month; \$24 per month is charged for sprinkling the lawn surrounding the court house, and \$15 per month is charged for the use of water in the building. The court house grounds are one block in size.

Before the bond election in Dallas the citizens were lead to believe that water rates would be \$1.25 or less per family. Engineer Miller uses \$1.25 as a basis in his estimate on the city's revenues. Who will guarantee that Corvallis water rates, should the proposed plant be installed, will not be the same as Dallas, viz: \$4.25 per month? Can any one guarantee that it will not be?

### COST OF RIGHT OF WAY.

Three thousand dollars in cash, besides the cost in lawsuits over damage cases, was the price Dallas had to pay for right of way and water rights before completing construction work on her water system. This sum would have been much larger but for the fact that Judge Boise and a Mrs. Halleck owned most of the land along the pipe line route and a mere nominal sum was all they asked as damages. One man got \$380 damage for crossing a tract of 20 acres, beside having the cost of the lawsuit about \$100 assessed to the city.

The owner of a small sawmill on the stream below the one from which the water was taken was allowed \$400 damages and costs by the court although the mill was abandoned 7 years ago. All other damages settled with the city for from \$50 to \$100 each.

If the damages for right of way for 7 miles cost \$3,000 and several lawsuits, how many dollars and how many lawsuits will 16 1/2 miles cost?

### CAUSE OF HIGH WATER RATES.

Dallas has approximately 400 families within its city limits; of these less than 50 per cent are using the city's water in spite of the fact that it was asserted and believed before the plant was installed that all, or almost all, would discard their wells for mountain water, and it was upon this hypothesis that a rate of \$1.25 per month for all purposes was confidently asserted to be the maximum rate that would be charged.

As only half the number expected made connections with the mains, the rates were simply raised to meet the deficiency. The reason that mountain water did not prove as popular as expected was that citizens in poor or moderate circumstances, and many plenty able to pay the price, hesitated to incur an expense of from \$20 to \$40 per family for water and sewer connections, beside the charges asked for water, when they could get good well water for nothing. Human nature is the same the world over, and people always did and always will

hesitate to pay out their hard-earned money for an article when they can get practically the same thing elsewhere for nothing. Besides as the months rolled around after the plant was installed it was seen that the pure cold, sparkling mountain water has not turned out to be all that was claimed for it.

Last summer, during the long hot days, it became undrinkable on account of heat and people using it were compelled to return to their wells for water for family use. During the rains of the winter, and after very heavy rain, the water became muddy and the wells were again resorted to. The result was a condition of affairs never dreamed of by Dallas citizens. Their pure sparkling mountain water was relegated to the lawns, and water closets, and the despised well water had to be depended upon for drinking and cooking purposes.

It is realized that such a statement may be scoffed at by our mountain water enthusiasts, but such are the facts; nevertheless. Those of you who have friends and acquaintances among the good housewives of Dallas are urged to write and ask them whether what is asserted along this line be true or not true. In this connection remember that the Dallas water comes from mountain springs at the head of a stream as pure and cold as is Rock Creek water. It is piped only 7 miles whereas with us it is to be piped 16 1/2 miles.

### DALLAS' PROPOSED REMEDY.

The refusal of the citizens to attach to the water mains has caused the city council of Dallas to evolve a scheme to force the water upon the people, whether or no. They have forced an ordinance compelling the people to install patent closets in their homes and make sewer connections. Six dollars is charged in each instance for tapping the water main, and 15 cents a foot for piping, which in addition to the cost of closet connections, etc., will total up to anywhere between \$30 and \$50. Wherever a sewer is ordered the cost of course will be levied on the property.

Dr. T. V. B. Embree, a former well-known resident of Corvallis, who lives on a small hill within the city limits of Dallas, about one mile north of the business part of town, has been ordered by the city council to build a private sewer and make connections, also to connect with the water mains for flushing purposes. The doctor had made an estimate of the cost of this work and finds that it will amount to over \$100. He is living on acreage property and has running water in his house which he has piped from a spring further up the hill, and has excellent sanitary condition about his home. Write and ask the doctor his opinion of the Dallas gravity system.

This is an isolated instance, but it is an example of a score that can be mentioned. This condition of affairs at Dallas should possess a peculiar significance for the residents of Jobs Addition and other outlying districts within our city limits—residents who have built up little homes for themselves, many of them earned by hard labor and years of economy. They have good wells and good water, but are told they need fire protection, which is undoubtedly true. Will insurance rates be any cheaper than they are now? Will the water be any better than that you are now using? Will the luxury of mountain water under the present proposed water system compensate you for the cost of enforced sewers and sewer connections? Will the expense of a \$75,000, more likely \$100,000 plant, be all paid by the water consumers? Does not the experiences of the Dallas citizens help to answer these questions?

### Mollie Pitcher.

In Ours Fifth Reader, all can read Of Mollie Pitcher's noble deed; How Mollie jeopardized her life Upon the field of battle's strife.

No shade beneath the sun she sought But water to brav. men she brought; Mollie, the red-headed, freckled, brave, Her loved America would save.

Amid the cannon's roar she sought Him, whom she loved and water brought; But Oh! Alas! how can we tell, Beside his gun he wounded fell,

His life blood flowed in crimson hue— She saw and to her cannon flew; Fearless and strong with deadly aim Her cannon roared 'til victory came.

That Sabbath day on Monmouth field They forced the enemy to yield; In history now, whose fame is richer Than that of saddened Mollie Pitcher

Washington, who knew her daring strife, Had half jay granted for her life, While Frenchmen tilted her hat with gold And called her, Captain Pitcher bold.

Her resting place is now unknown, But still this country was her own; Here with the brave, she fought the foe And made them leave and homeward go.

Now Mollie rests beneath the sod, We trust her spirit is with God, And when the last loud trump shall sound May she be with the righteous found. JOSE.

### Feel Impending Doom.

The feeling of impending doom in the minds of many victims of Bright's disease and diabetes has been changed to thankfulness by the benefit derived from taking Foley's Kidney Cure. It will cure incipient Bright's disease and diabetes and even in worst cases gives comfort and relief. Slight disorders are cured in a few days. "I had diabetes in the worst form," writes Marion Lee of Danvers, Ind. "I tried eight physicians without relief. Only three bottles of Foley's Kidney Cure made me a well man." For sale at Graham & Wortham's drug store.

### Cheap Sunday Rates Between Portland and Willamette Valley Points.

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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.

### Three Physicians Treated Him Without Success.

W. L. Yancy, Paducah, Ky., writes: "I had a severe case of kidney disease and three of the best physicians in Kentucky treated me without success. I then took Foley's Kidney Cure. The first bottle gave immediate relief, and three bottles cured me permanently. I gladly recommend this wonderful remedy." For sale by Graham & Wortham.

GAZETTE—Bell phone No 341.

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### Hugo Ta K.

It was a huge task, to undertake the cure of such a bad case of kidney disease, as that of C. F. Collier, of Cherokee, Iowa, but Electric Bitters did it. He writes: "My kidneys were so far gone, I could not sit on a chair without a cushion; and suffered from dreadful backache, headache, and depression. In Electric Bitters, however, I found a cure, and by them was restored to perfect health. I recommend this great tonic medicine to all with weak kidneys, liver or stomach. Guaranteed by Allen Woodward, druggist; price 50c.

### Smoking in a Powder Magazine

Is courting death more suddenly but not more surely than neglecting kidney disorders. Foley's Kidney Cure will cure a slight disorder in a few days and its continued use will cure the most obstinate cases. It has cured many people of Bright's disease and diabetes who were thought to be incurable. If you have kidney or bladder trouble, commence taking Foley's Kidney Cure today, before it is too late. Graham & Wortham have it for sale.

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## Watch Right?

If your watch shows any irregularity or gives other evidence that something is wrong with it, better have it examined by a competent watchmaker. You won't find any more skillful or more experienced anywhere than right here. We clean and repair all sorts of watches thoroughly and quickly and guarantee all our work as well as our prices to be right. If your watch chain is beginning to show signs of wear, or if you'd like a new chain for any reason, we are prepared to supply you with the best gold-filled one made, at a moderate price. We carry the SIMMONS make, the best known and most strongly guaranteed chains ever sold.

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