

THE CORVALLIS GAZETTE

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WE REST OUR CASE.

Before the next issue of the GAZETTE the city election deciding whether Corvallis shall be bonded or not in the sum of \$75,000 for the construction of a gravity water system will have been decided and have passed into history. At all times the GAZETTE has tried to be fair to those on both sides of this question and such is the present purpose:

This is the greatest problem ever before the people of this municipality and requires the calmest judgment. Remember, you who vote for bonding the city, that you are voting an obligation on the people—an obligation that few of you will live to see dissolved. If it is a good thing the future generation will bless you as you deserve no doubt, but should it prove other than a blessing your sons will damn you for the burden you have placed upon them. It is not pleasing to a father to contemplate the future curse of a son.

Will the plant as at present proposed outlive the term of bondage for the people? is a legitimate question. It is not pleasing to look forward to paying for anything, say 10 or 20 years after it has ceased to be. Will it last? Good men declare it will, while many of equal experience do not hesitate to assert that the pipe in our soil will not endure the forty years the bonds run. Such being the state of affairs, it devolves upon you, Mr. Voter, to give the answer. What say you?

A thought occurs that may be worthy of consideration: Is it wise and proper for any man, any body of men, or the citizens as a whole, to advocate an enterprise that they would not entertain individually? Nearly all will answer no to this question. Well, now, how many would consider the installation of the Rock Creek gravity system a good investment had they sufficient means to undertake the matter? Consider these points seriously and vote as you should, were it your own private affair.

Another idea occurs to this effect: The men composing the water commission have capital enough among them to install this system and own it; if it is a good investment for the city why would it not be a good investment for them? If it is a good investment for them why do they not engage in it? To this no one would offer the least objection and it would eliminate a lot of wrangling about the eternal perpetuity clause. It is argued that municipal ownership within itself is a doubtful quantity.

We each and all of us are honest in our views—we have a right to these views. It is in recognition of this right that we are allowed the privilege of the ballot. In this matter it is a case of majority rule. We have faith in the people as judges and now rest our case.

Kings Valley Schools.

The first 8th grade graduation exercises ever held in Kings Valley occurred last Saturday evening in the United Evangelical church. The church was so well filled even standing room was at a premium.

Promptly at 8 o'clock James R. Chambers played the march for the class, consisting of Jessie Bush, Lizzie Dunn, Israel Eddy, Chester Chambers, William Winniford, Revilla Lundt, R. Caves, Laura Van Meter and Ina Whiting. Each member of the class had

a part in the program. The efforts of the members of the class were highly spoken of by all present. T. T. Vincent delivered an excellent address to the class. It was filled with good advice, and couched in eloquent language. Supt. Denman, in a few words, presented in the name of the state of Oregon each member with a diploma.

During the exercises, James R. Chambers rendered a pleasing instrumental solo. Miss Mabel Ross sang a vocal solo and, being loudly encored, responded with another excellent selection. A trio also gave two fine selections.

After the regular exercises, a social hour was spent, and refreshments were served.

The decorations by the class added much toward increasing the interest and making the occasion successful.

Where He Stands.

To the Editor of the Investigator, Sir: You ask me if I am willing to stand sponsor for the articles that have been appearing in the Corvallis Times, concerning the present water controversy. In reply I beg to say, I would be glad to answer you personally or in the columns of your paper, but am unable to learn who its editors are and must, therefore, adopt the present means of reaching you.

In the first place, I have neither time nor inclination to investigate personally anything that has appeared in the Times so that I might be able to vouch for the truthfulness of what appears in its columns. In a general way, however, I do endorse what it has said about mountain water, but in this controversy the Corvallis Times is not an issue, and whether I or anyone else in this community is willing to stand sponsor for its utterances is not an argument either for or against mountain water.

According to my judgment there are only two or three questions for the voters to decide and they are, "Do we want mountain water and a better system?" "Are we willing to stand for municipal ownership?" "From a business standpoint is it wise to bond the city for \$75,000 for the installation of a water plant?" Outside the editor's of the Investigator, who seem to think Willamette river water good enough, I think the community would be practically unanimous in voting "yes" to the first question.

On the matter of municipal ownership there can be honest differences of opinion. Personally, I have heretofore been opposed to the proposition, but within the past few months have become convinced of the wisdom of the present plan, and further that only by such a plan would we be able to get mountain water. Furthermore I realize that in matters of this kind there is a community of interests and our individual ideas must necessarily be merged into some general plan in order to get results at all. In other words we must give and take and not quibble over minor details if we expect to get together on matters that concern the public good.

The fact that practically all of the business men of Corvallis and a majority of the largest tax payers of the city favor the bond issue ought to satisfy any reasonable person, that, from a business point of view, the investment of \$75,000 in a water plant is a good one, and particularly as the majority of these men have carefully investigated the subject. The high business standing and integrity of the men who compose the "Water Committee" should guarantee that it is no "wild cat" scheme.

To my mind the foregoing are the only questions at issue. The personnel of the "Water Committee," wood pipe, the Dallas water and sewerage system, the Times, personalities, Engineer Miller, and Mrs. Purdy's cow, are not proper matters to be injected into this controversy.

To my mind to vote against this proposition is to vote against the advancement, improvement and betterment of Corvallis; to vote for bonds is to vote for municipal improvement, increased property values, and to show to the world that we are a live, progressive people. We want to show that mess-backism is dead and that Corvallis is not suffering from dry rot. B. W. JOHNSON.

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Climate, while it may be an aid in some cases, has much less influence on tuberculosis, except in the later stages, than is generally supposed. Fresh air is the thing. Even the tenement dweller has a chance. A New York physician who does charity work on the East Side was talking with a friend at his club about some of his patients, relates Samuel Hopkins Adams, in McClure's.

"I've got half a dozen of the most pitiful cases down there you ever heard of," he said. "They're good, honest, fine fellows; handy workmen, five of them with families to support; and they've all got to die, I suppose, of consumption." "Hopeless cases?" asked his friend.

"Hopeless, because they've got factory jobs and tenement rooms and can't get good air to breathe. If I could get them outdoor employment I think they'd all pull through. But they can't leave their families to go to the country."

"I beg your pardon," said a man sitting near by; "but do I understand that out-of-door work in the city would help them?"

"I'll guarantee it'll save four of the six, anyway," replied the doctor, eagerly.

"I suppose," said the stranger, "that ticket-chopping on the elevated would be pretty exposed work for a consumptive? No? Well, if you wish to try the experiment, send your men to this address." He handed a card to the doctor.

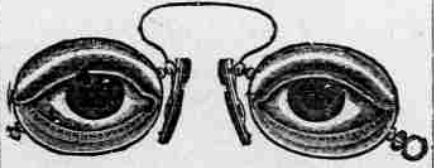
The six men became ticket-choppers. Five of the men are well today. The sixth is holding his own and a little more.

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Mr. Robert O. Burke, Elmora, N. Y., writes: "Before I started to use Foley's Kidney Cure I had to get up from twelve to twenty times a night, and was all bloated up with dropsy and my eyesight was so impaired I could scarcely see one of my family across the room. I had given up hope of living when a friend recommended Foley's Kidney Cure. One 50 cent bottle worked wonders and before I had taken the third bottle the dropsy had gone, as well as all other symptoms of Bright's disease." Sold by Graham & Wortham.

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