

No. 24

WHEN WILL WATER RATES BE REDUCED?

The City of Eugene has owned the water works system for three years. Up to the present there has been no reduction in water rates and in some cases water rates have been RAISED.

Water, as everyone knows, is a prime necessity. Rich and poor alike must have it. Good water should be supplied at reasonable rates to every citizen.

It would be interesting to have an explanation from an authoritative source concerning why water rates have not been reduced. Is municipal ownership unable to sell water for less than a private company formerly sold it?

In view of the city's apparent inability to reduce the cost of water, what ground is there for belief that the city will be able to reduce the cost of electric light and power by the completion and operation of its power plant?

THE WATER WORKS AND THE MUNICIPAL POWER PLANT ARE NOW UNDER THE CONTROL OF A SINGLE BOARD.

We have shown in preceding articles that the MUNICIPALITY IS BOUND TO LOSE MONEY by entering into competition in the electric business, and we have pointed out how deficits in the municipal electric plants accounts will have to be made up by taxation.

There is however, possibly another way in which part of the deficit from electric competition may be satisfied—BY KEEPING UP THE WATER RATES, OR PERHAPS ADVANCING THEM.

With the municipal electric plant and the water works under one source of control it will not be a difficult matter to divert funds and earnings of the water works to the rescue

of the power plant, although it would be impossible to meet all or nearly all of the deficits of the power plant in this manner.

Under the conditions outlined the municipal power plant will be a stumbling block in the way of lower rates in Eugene. For the sake of trying to meet the wishes of impractical municipal ownership enthusiasts the people of Eugene may pay higher rates for the prime necessity of water than they should were the city to devote its best efforts to economy in water works administration.

This method of paying the bills of the power plant, if practiced, will also PREVENT THE EXTENSION OF MAINS to newly settled parts of the city, estop betterment of the water works generally and force the city to adopt a NARROW AND GRASPING POLICY TOWARD WATER CONSUMERS.

We do not intend to charge that any such methods will be followed by the Eugene water board, but it is proper at this time that this phase of the subject be brought to the attention of the public in order that its possibilities may be realized.

The members of the Eugene water board, the mayor and the city council may be sincere and able men today, but tomorrow the political fortune wheel may replace them with visionaries and incompetents.

Whether or not the people of Eugene wish to divert public funds which should go to the improvement and extension of water works—and to prevent possible reduction in water rates—by bolstering up a municipal ownership experiment which is foredoomed to failure, is at least a subject worthy of earnest thought and careful consideration.

Oregon Power Company

GHIZEH, THE GREAT PYRAMID OF EGYPT

A free lecture on "Ghizeh" the great pyramid of Egypt," will be given



J. A. BOHNET, V. D. M.

on in Frank's hall, 428 East Ninth street, Eugene, June 22 at 8 p. m. by J. A. Bohnet, V. D. M. of New York.

to the Abbey, few, if any, have been successful. President Taft's brother, Mr. Charles P. Taft, and the latter's wife, are among the few not holding official positions who have been granted seats in the Abbey. This was done by command of King George on the suggestion of the British ambassador to Washington, Mr. James Bryce.

The American wives of English members of the nobility figure prominently in the exercises of the day. Among these are three duchesses, namely, the Duchess of Roxburghe, the Duchess of Manchester and the Duchess of Marlborough, formerly Miss Goelet of Newport, Miss Zimmerman of Cincinnati and Miss Vanderbilt, of New York, respectively. Others are the Marchioness of Dufferin, formerly Miss Davis of New York; the Countess of Essex, formerly Miss Grant of New York; the Countess of Suffolk, formerly Miss Leiter of Washington; the Countess of Granard, formerly Miss Mills of New York; the Countess of Craven, formerly Miss Martin of New York; and the Countess of Tankerville, formerly Miss Van Marter of New York.

Other American wives of British peers are the Viscountess Falkland; Lady Cheylesmore; Lady Newborough; Lady Monson; Lady Leith; Lady Ashburton and Lady Bateman.

Many princes from East India in their gorgeous costumes are to be in attendance. They include the Sultan of Perak and the Sultan of Kedah, and the honorary Indian aides-de-camp of the king, including the Maharajas of Idar, Gwalior and Bikanir, who with the Gaekwar of Baroda, are among the special guests, but the Indian deputation is restricted on this occasion, owing to the King's inten-

tion to visit India later on and hold an Imperial durbar at Delhi.

The special ambassadors and envoys of those states and republics form an interesting group, together with the delegations from the overseas British colonies. The latter include the prime ministers of the Dominion of Canada, Sir Wilfrid Laurier; Commonwealth of Australia, the Hon. Andrew Fisher; of New Zealand, Sir Joseph George Ward; of South Africa, the Right Hon. Louis Botha; and of Newfoundland, Sir Edward P. Morris.

Besides the foregoing the prime ministers of New South Wales, Tasmania, Western Australia, Victoria, New Brunswick, Ontario, Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, British Columbia, Prince Edward Island, and Quebec take their place, while the representatives of the Bahamas, Bermuda, British Honduras, etc., complete the group.

Westminster Abbey, the venerable edifice which has witnessed the crowning of many kings and queens and then has become their final resting place, along with England's poets, authors and statesmen, has been prepared on a most elaborate scale for the coronation ceremonies of today.

The scheme of decoration of the famous cathedral on the banks of the river Thames was originated and carried out by the office of works, H. J. Stands have been erected on the square and on the turf all along the Abbey front for the seating of the guests. These annexes have altered the familiar appearance of the church to a considerable degree, although efforts have been made to lend an air of age to these stucco additions. The space in the Abbey is very limited and before it was possible to take into consideration any of the thousands of applicants for invitations from the distinguished visitors and others desirous of being present, it became necessary for the office of works to provide sitting room for no fewer than 4940 official guests.

The stands outside are covered

Americans at the Coronation
America is represented at the coronation by the American ambassador, Whitelaw Reid, the American special envoy, John Hays Hammond, and many American wives of English peers, members of the American diplomatic corps, and many unofficial Americans, including Charles P. Taft, brother of President Taft.

with red and gold draperies, but as they become filled with the distinguished guests, these colors are blotted out by the brilliant uniforms of the men and the gowns of the women until the whole scene becomes one of animated color.

Inside the Abbey there has been comparatively little attempt at display, beyond that necessary in con-

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section with the structural decorations for the seating of the spectators and the coronation ceremonial. The old gray arches lend their stately perspective to the scene, unobscured by flags or any gleam of color. Resting on the foundation of a splendid pile carpet of royal blue, tapestries which are worked in the Order of the Garter and other heraldic designs, the central figures of the historic pictures are grouped in their gorgeous robes.

Outside the twin towers of Westminster Abbey rise grandly above the temporary additions and with the stately House of Lords and the whole of parliament buildings, make an impressive background to the picture. In response to many petitions from participants in the coronation ceremonial, the office of works has decided to permit these present to purchase as souvenirs the chairs and stools on which they sat, all of which are marked with the word "Coronation" and embossed with the crown and the date of the occurrence.

The gorgeous street preparations for the coronation have been in progress for weeks. They reach their climax at Westminster Abbey and the streets immediately in the vicinity of the cathedral. The troops present are the picked regiments of the army, and the bands of music the best the best the English barracks, and the seven sea dominions could send out.

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BRITAIN'S KING IS CROWNED TODAY

(Continued from page 1.)

Lord Romilly, and four others drawn from the ranks of the nobility.

Many of the foremost men of the kingdom figure also in the various ceremonies of the coronation. The Duke of Northumberland is the bearer of St. Edward's crown. The Earl of Beauchamp is the bearer of the sword of state, Earl Roberts is the bearer of the second sword, and Viscount Kitchener the bearer of the third sword. The Duke of Argyll bears the scepter with the cross. The Bishop of Ripon carries the king's regalia, while the Duke of Somerset, the Duke of Richmond and others bear various other traditional emblems of the coronation.

Queen Mary's crown is borne by the Duke of Devonshire, while the scepter and cross are carried by the Marquis of Waterford, and the ivory rod by the Earl of Durham.

Among the other notable figures in this brilliant throng are to be repre-

Crowns of Solid Gold.
The crown placed on King George's head today is of solid gold studded with precious stones of inestimable value, including 3000 diamonds, 300 pearls, and hundreds of rubies, emeralds and sapphires. The queen's crown contains the famous Koh-i-Noor diamond with its legend of bringing good luck.

representatives of foreign rulers and states. These include the Crown Prince and Princess of Germany, the Prince and Princess Henry of Prussia, Archduke Carl Franz Josef of Austria, the Crown Prince and Princess

of Denmark, the Crown Prince of Serbia, Prince Henry of the Netherlands, and other princes and princesses from the royal houses of Europe and the entire world. In all, the official guests comprise 40 members of the royal family, 250 foreign rulers, and representatives of foreign states, 1450 peers and peeresses, 670 members of the House of Lords and House of Commons, 300 ambassadors and ministers and members of the diplomatic corps with their suites and hundreds of representatives of the clergy, the colonies, the army and navy, and many other branches of governmental administration. The capacity of Westminster Abbey is somewhat over 6,000, and the throng assembled within its walls today are expected to exceed 7,000.

The robes and the crowns worn by King George and Queen Mary today attract especial attention. The king drives to the coronation in a crimson satin robe. Later during the ceremony he dons the tunic, a long coat made of cloth of gold. The royal robe of state which the king wears during the ceremony is of rich crimson velvet, emblazoned with heavy gold lace. It has a train of great length and is lined throughout with royal ermine, hundreds of skins being necessary for this purpose. The soft white ermine of this sumptuous robe is dotted with more than 10,000 small pieces of black fur. The robe worn after the ceremony is of royal purple, and with this the king wears the Imperial Crown.

The crown placed upon the head of King George today is the historic crown of St. Edward. It is of solid gold studded with diamonds, pearls, rubies, emeralds and sapphires. This crown has passed through some of the dramatic stages of English history, being destroyed at one time in the uprising against monarchical authority, and replaced later for the coronation of Charles II.

The queen's scepter with the cross is of gold ornamented with diamonds and other precious stones. The queen's coronation ring is also of gold set with rubies. There are many other traditional features of the royal regalia which figure in today's ceremonies, including the royal scepter, the virge, the staff, the four swords

of spiritual justice, temporal justice, etc., the great golden spurs, the ring of alliance, and many other quaint and beautiful survivals of ancient days.

The coronation pageant will include the American Ambassador, Whitelaw Reid, accompanied by Mrs. Reid, and the American special ambassador, Mr. John Hays Hammond, with his wife and daughter. Mr. Reid will be attended by the officials of the

Royal Guests
Over forty members of royal families, 250 rulers of foreign states, 1450 earls, dukes, lords and ladies, 300 ambassadors and ministers, 1500 representatives of the army, navy, judiciary, clergy, etc., formed part of the 7000 guests at Westminster Abbey today.

American embassy, including the Secretary of the Embassy, Mr. William Phillips and Mrs. Phillips; the naval attaché, Commander Simpson and Mrs. Simpson; and the military attaché, Major Slocum and Mrs. Slocum.

The American special ambassador, Mr. Hammond, has as his military aide General Greeley, and his naval aide, Admiral Vreeland. Although hundreds of prominent Americans have attempted to secure admission

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