

GRESHAM'S NEXT PROBLEM CONFRONTING THE PEOPLE

A Sewer System that Will be of Greater Benefit than the Sanitary Septic Tanks, Used Extensively Here Which Are not Entirely Sanitary.

Gresham's next greatest problem is going to be a sewerage system. It is already confronting the people of the city and how to meet it the most effectively and at the least expense is the question every property owner is considering.

A growing town must be properly drained so as to prevent disease; a system must be devised and maintained that will conform to the health regulations and be capable of doing the work expected of it. This problem comes up in every place and is usually met in some way, the general plan heretofore being to provide several conduits sufficiently large to drain certain districts, all of them leading away to places where the offensive solids will be assimilated by sufficient moisture to cause their decomposition without contaminating the atmosphere.

In most large cities the problem is comparatively easy, as nearly every place of any consequence is near a navigable stream. It is permissible to drain the sewers into such a stream where the refuse is carried away by the current; but in Gresham the case is different. Johnson creek would allow of excellent drainage for this place but the law forbids, so how can the city be properly drained?

The answer to the question seems to be the septic tank, but such a receptacle must have some sort of a drainage, and there seems to be abundant evidence that septic tanks are not always clear of odors, especially where they are built on the level ground. There are several such tanks in Gresham that appear to be doing all that is required of them, and they were built on the most scientific plans, yet their overflow is not odorless on warm days. Such tanks are a menace to health as well as offensive. So how is the problem going to be solved?

It has not been fully demonstrated yet just how large a septic tank may be built so as to contain the sewerage from a number of places all at the same time. With the state law prohibiting the pollution of Johnson creek it may become necessary to find out just how large an area may be drained into one tank. If one big tank situated at the lowest point of the city, somewhere west of the schoolhouse, say, could be built so as to drain all the territory east and north of that point it would be an easy solution of the problem with the construction of a sewer for that district. Another could be built for the district south of Powell street and east of Main street. The capabilities of a big tank will need to be investigated, as that seems to be the only feasible solution of the sewerage problem on anything like a scale large enough to embrace any considerable portion of the city.

The orders that have gone forth requiring septic tanks, some of which are now being built, are good in the main, but it seems that the enforcement of those orders are causing much expense that will eventually be money thrown away. It is true that the unbearable conditions of the past should be borne no longer and everyone is gratified to note that more sanitary efforts are being put forth and that previous conditions will be changed. However, the work and expense is only a makeshift and some day everything will have to be done over again.

The proper sewerage of the city is a subject for deep consideration and will be one of the problems for Gresham's municipal and civic associations to investigate. More than half the victory over unsanitary conditions was won when Gresham secured the best water supply in the United States. The victory will not be complete until the city has the best and safest sewerage system that intelligence may conceive.

Frank Holbrook and Al Kadderly are two well known real estate dealers of Portland who have been making shrewd bargains for so many years that they have accumulated enough money to buy two slices of Gresham property. It wouldn't be fair to say that they expected to find anything in Gresham who would consent to stand for a bit of sharp practice when they came here yesterday to look up their prospective purchases, but they did think that they had enough money to make the first payment.

DIAMOND CUT DIAMOND

Then Stapleton got mad. It is not known or reported just what he said to himself under his breath, but those who have smashed a finger can imagine what it was. What he said out loud and to his two auditors is more to the point, but it won't stand repeating. Holbrook and Kadderly won't tell, except that Stapleton wound up with a few complimentary expressions and demanded twenty-five cents apiece of his two appreciative auditors. At first they thought that Stapleton was only joking, but he knew them for two men who never overlooks chance, and he vigorously insisted upon payment, saying that he wasn't running a vaudeville show for nothing even if he was a country greenhorn.

Well, Holbrook and Kadderly just had to dig down and pass over two bits apiece. Stapleton took the money and called his daughter out of the house and sent her back with it and the show was over.

It would have been a free show to any of the Gresham people, but for Portlanders with a pocket full of money it's pay up, and next time it will be pay in advance or Stapleton will enforce union rules and strike something else besides his finger nail.

But Holbrook and Kadderly were mad—just boiling over mad. They came down town and looked up the city ordinances that they declared Stapleton—a lawyer—had violated in giving a vaudeville show without a license. And they didn't buy any Gresham property, either, for that two bits apiece just left them short on the first installment after they had bought each other and a few Gresham grafters a good cigar apiece. They are coming back though, with some more money, for they are sure Stapleton has found a good thing here and they are going to get even on him by following his example.

But they are awful sore on a lawyer who will run a vaudeville show without a license and charge for it just because he knows his audience is from Portland and will fall for most anything when out in the country.

Perhaps he knows how it is himself, now. Holbrook and Kadderly are learning and will know more next time they come to Gresham.

G. H. DAMMEIER'S PRIZE OFFER FOR MAKING CITY BEAUTIFUL

Four Award to Be Given this Year for the Best Lawns and Rose Gardens to Be Awarded Under Certain Conditions Governing the Awards.

George H. Dammeier's efforts last year to make Gresham a "city beautiful" met with a hearty response, and the three cash prizes which he offered for the best improved lawns were easily won and paid over to the successful competitors.

It will be remembered that he deposited a sum of money in the Bank of Gresham and promised to have another deposit this year. It is to be \$35 this time and is to be divided into four prizes, the largest of which is to be \$10, to be drawn for by the three women designated by the judges who are entitled to the money. The remaining \$25 is to be divided equally between the three scoring the highest points in the contest. Thus it will be possible for someone to win two prizes.

For next year, if satisfactory progress has been made and the work of beautifying the city has been continued in the right spirit, Mr. Dammeier has promised the sum of \$100 in three prizes, open to all, including those who were barred during last year and this, because of having fine dooryards already in existence.

The conditions as prescribed last

year are the same this year. Not less than three varieties of roses shall be grown, nor less than thirty plants; and there must be at least three competitors to win the money. The size of the lawn will not be considered if it is large enough to properly contain the required number of plants. Other features will go to make a favorable impression on the judges but will not be considered in making the awards except that a neat arrangement of walks, borders and expression of beautiful ideas will carry weight and will be considered.

Mr. Dammeier's idea of the annual is paramount in view of the rose carnival. It may be rather late to do much this year, but there is time for a chance to win a share of next year's premium money, and there is no reason why Gresham should not win some of the carnival honors and prizes at Portland, as well as being able to furnish a large supply of the flowers needed each succeeding year.

Next season the competition will be open to all and those who get started off right are going to have the best chance of being winners.

SLOUGH INTAKE IS SURVEYED AND FOUND TO BE FEASIBLE

George S. Shepherd Makes Journey through the Columbia Slough and Notes Obstructions together with the Average Water Conditions.

Portland, May 19, 1913.

To the Editor:—By a personal investigation made by George S. Shepherd, president of the Wood-lawn Improvement club, last week, it has been demonstrated that Columbia slough may be made a great water way from the intake at the Columbia and the Willamette rivers. Mr. Shepherd accomplished an extremely hazardous undertaking in a small skiff alone from the intake to the mouth. In many places Mr. Shepherd took his life in his hands in crossing long drifts and dragging his boat over the logs and treacherous masses that obstructed the water way.

He performed a very important service to the city of Portland and Multnomah county by making this trip. He entered the intake at the Columbia river, May 10. Here he found eight feet of water and current setting in from the Columbia river. From that point he took soundings at all available points where he thought that they might be useful in determining the character of the channel. The depth ranged from eight feet at the intake to a depth of twenty-five feet at the deepest parts. The average depth found was 10 feet, which is more than can be found in the Willamette river between Portland and Eugene City on the average. Mr. Shepherd found that the banks at the intake are solid clay and do not appear to have suffered much from erosion from the action of the water.

He dispelled the fear entertained by some that if the intake were opened up it would result in bringing in the whole current of the Columbia river through Columbia slough district, causing disaster and great loss. The banks of Columbia river were found uniformly solid clay and the depth seemed to be uniform from one side to another. There are many obstructions between the intake to the Willamette

river from the bridges over the slough and the masses of drift accumulated at points. All these obstructions, however, may be removed. The drift may be pulled out of the slough by means of an engine and chain, and the bridges may be changed to Howe trestle, spanning the slough without piling or bents.

Mr. Shepherd found that there are nineteen of these bridges over the slough between Kenton and the intake that are obstructions, and that at nearly all the bridges drift had accumulated. The slough has an average width of 70 feet, that is, the width ranges from 60 to 125 feet. Mr. Shepherd showed that the intake can be dredged at small expense and that the Columbia slough may be made a fine water way. A few dykes may be needed.

This trip was made by Mr. Shepherd alone. He did all the soundings from his skiff. At some of the wide masses of drift he had narrow escapes from falling through and being drowned. A less skillful and determined man would have failed in that work. Mr. Shepherd was brought up as a seaman, and to be afloat alone and follow the windings of Columbia slough was to him a mere incident. He has set at rest the question of making Columbia slough a great water way that will be of tremendous value to the whole city. The city has under consideration an ordinance appropriating \$1000 to make preliminary surveys of the intake, with the possibility that \$25,000 will be appropriated to dredge the intake. It will open this water way from the Columbia river near Government Island to the Willamette river. Even if the obstructions only are removed it would open up the slough to river crafts, and then later it could be dredged for deep sea crafts, thus enlarging the Portland harbor materially. L. H. WELLS.

SEPTIC TANKS VERSUS CONDUITS

Correspondent Suggests that Septic Tanks Will Increase Demand for Drainage.

GRESHAM, ORE., May 20. To the Editor:—Your reference in the Outlook last Friday to the building of septic tanks by direction of the city authorities has led me to the expression of the idea that septic tanks are not substitutes for sewers. They are only increasing the demand for sewers which will have to come soon.

The general impression of most people is that if they have septic tanks they will not need sewers, and that the tanks will be so very much cheaper and will answer the same purpose.

Septic tanks are only a little better than the old-fashioned cess pool or earth vault; just a slight improvement on them and not the ideal dispensers of sanitation that many imagine them to be, as the ground finally becomes saturated with pestilential substances and brings about unhealthy conditions. That is what cess pools and vaults do and the overflow from septic tanks on level ground will eventually do the same thing.

The building of tanks will soon demonstrate the fact that sewers must eventually follow.

(Signed) R. R. CARLSON.

READ THIS

If You want to buy a farm, Advertise in the Outlook.
If You want to sell a farm, Advertise in the Outlook.
If You want to buy or sell stock, Advertise in the Outlook.
If You have a place to rent, Advertise in the Outlook.

FOURTEEN PUPILS WILL GRADUATE

Invitations have been issued to the Gresham high school graduating exercises to be held in the assembly room at 8 o'clock, Thursday evening, May 29th. The class motto is "Conquering and still to conquer." Class colors are blue and gray; class flower is the pink tea rose. Fourteen are enrolled in the class as follows: Maybell Burch, Christine O. Burkholder, Lillian A. Edwards, Pearl M. Fleming, Helen M. Hoss, Vyola B. Mathews, Marguerite B. Michel, Cleveland A. Bliss, Jackson F. Jones, Floyed S. Metzger, Raymond A. Palmquist, Russell A. Pugh, Roland W. Quisenbury, Fred G. Wagner.

Spirella Corsets
(Not sold in stores.) Wear a corset to fit you. Ask for a demonstration. Telephone Mrs. M. A. Wilkinson, Gresham 515.

ALL DAIRY BUTTER MUST BE BRANDED

All dairy butter offered or exposed for sale will be considered misbranded if it does not have plainly marked on each square or roll the words, "Dairy Butter," "16 ounces full weight," or "32 ounces full weight," and the names and address of the manufacture. Any person offering or exposing for sale dairy butter not branded in compliance with this ruling will be prosecuted under the statutes provided for the branding of food products. This statement is made by authority of J. D. Mickie, state food and dairy commissioner.

Don't forget to bring the whole family to Aiysworth's for Shoes.

Music Teacher.
Vocal and instrumental music taught by Mrs. Margaret Lawe, 5th street and Hood avenue, Gresham.

Use of Ground Free.

Will give entire use of two acres of ground for garden purposes for season, will fence same if desired. This ground is located partly in the city limits on the northeast side of Gresham. Call Frost, phone 75x2

Piano for Sale.

\$450 Twichell upright piano, walnut case, mission style, combination bench. Brand new. Will sell for \$350. Benj. J. Freese, Naturopath, First State Bank, Gresham, Ore.

GRESHAM GRANGE ENTERS CONTEST

Gresham grange has taken up the matter of an exhibit at the coming fair and hopes to make a showing that will merit a share of the valuable prizes offered for grange exhibits.

Last Friday night a meeting was held, presided over by H. E. Davis, master of the grange, at which committees were appointed to look after the various details of planning and gathering the exhibit. It was thought that such a display would not interfere at all with individual exhibits, and that many who are not members of the grange would be glad to assist in making this a community exhibit, although entered under Gresham grange. Another meeting will be held this coming Friday night to perfect the plans. All grangers and others interested are urged to be present.

PLANS FOR FESTIVAL BEING CONSIDERED

Portland's annual Rose Festival this year will be bigger than ever and preparations are now in full swing to entertain the thousands of visitors to the city at that time. The dates are June 9 to 14 and during that period Rex Oregonus, the merry monarch who owes allegiance to no one superior, the Oregon rose, will rule the city and its people. Big delegations are coming from other coast cities. Special trains have been routed here for the week from a number of points and the hospitality of the city will be extended to all visitors. Revels, gorgeous parades, beautiful pageants, races, concerts, electric displays and special entertainments will occupy the week. The best Festival in the history of Portland is promised.

Daily Oregonian, 1 yr. reg. \$6.00
Twice-a-Week Outlook, 1 yr. 1.50
Combination, 1 yr. 6.00

FIREMEN TALK TOURNAMENT

Arrangements Being Perfected for the First Big Contest of Fire Departments.

A special meeting of the Gresham Volunteer Fire Department was held Friday night in the fire hall. Some interesting business touching on the tournament was taken up.

C. R. Wheeler, who has had some experience in firemen's tournaments, had some rope with him and made part of the running harness at the meeting. The straps to go over the shoulders were also made by him next day. These fasten onto cross pieces tied into the rope by which the cart is pulled. In case a runner gets out of wind rope is unable to keep up with the rest of the runners, his hook lets go of the rope and the cart is pulled away from him and he runs out to the side.

The matter of running suits was thoroughly discussed and Ernest Thompson was appointed a committee to look up the matter of supplying them.

Ray Metzger, Harold Kern and Ed. Aylsworth were appointed a committee to see about getting a pennant made. All firemen who desire to do so can get arm bands of the same color as the pennants.

The proceeds of the basket social were \$50.20 and the expense connected with it was \$11.20, leaving \$39 clear. Bills amounting, in all, to over \$21, were allowed. The balance on hand in the bank is over \$80.00.

Dinner Pail Social.

A program, spelling match and tin pail social will be given at the grange hall next Saturday evening, May 24, by the ladies of the M. E. church. Ladies bring lunch in your buckets for two. Young people given special invitation. 24

Eyes tested and glasses fitted. Office over First State Bank. Dr. Geo. Inglis.