Medford Mall Tribune




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## arbitrate the water controversy

 $\mathbf{T}^{\mathrm{HE}}$ water question slould be settled and settled at held ountas the resulter of further riinlitigation, the the experienee of a year in court has convinced the most skeptical that the law's delay would be far more costly than a compromise.The Mail Tribune suggests that the matter be left to arbitration, that Mr. Hanley select one of the arbitrators, the city another, and the agreement is re
parties as final.
If the water is not turned in the wooden main already constructed by June first, serious results will ensue, and
the damage from this source alone will probably equal the damages demanded by Mr. Hanley. In addition to this, there is the constant loss to the city occasioned through having an inadequate, poor water supply
The general sentiment among the citizens is that time enough has been wasted in the water controversy, and that the wrangling should end. Every day that the present situation continues means a loss to the city, and there is no reason why it cannot be prolonged indefinitely through one legal technicality or another. All danger of typhoid epidemic must be removed before another winter.

As many of the citizens of Medford are new comers the following brief summary of the water case will enable them to grasp the situation:

Two years ago, when it was voted to construct a wa ter system, the council decided upon Wasson canyon as
a source of supply, agreeing to pay M. F. Hanley $\$ 25,000$ for 300 inches of water. At a special election, the people of Medford by an overwhelming majority, amended the charter so as to give the council the authority to contract
for this water, it being understood that Wasson canyon was the supply. The contract with M. F. Hanley for the Wasson canyon was duly entered into and signed the mayor and recorder.

Investigation and a dry summer showed that, while Wasson canyon was ideally situated and contained the finest water, the flow was not equal to the amount sold. This Mr. Hanley agreed to remedy by sumnlving the additional amount of water required from Little Butte creek, but public discontent with Wasson canyon forced the council to resubmit the matter to the people. Water propotion the people chose that submitted by the Fish Lake company, and a second contract was entered into, whereby the Fish Lake company deeded to the city 300 inches of Little Butte water for $\$ 15,000$. They also took the contract for constructing the pipeline from the intake above the Hanley ranch to the city.

As the city's pipeline must cross the Hanley ranch for a considerable distance, Mr. Hanley refused a right of way
unless the provisions of his contract for Wasson unless the provisions of his contract for Wasson canyon water were carried out. He has been suing the city to
enforce this contract, while the city has been suing him for the right of way.

The condemnation suit against Mr. Hanley was delayed a year ago until after the regular term of court. Judge Hanna was petitioned by the city to call a special term. This he twice refused to do. The city then appealed to the governor under a law passed at the last session of the legislature, asking that another circuit judge be sent here to call a special term. The governor sent Judge Coke of Marshfield, who called the special term, at which a jury gave Hanley a verdict of $\$ 650$ damages. Mr. Hanley contended that this special term was illegal and secured an injunction from Judge Hanna, who took the same view, restraining the city from entering the Hanley premises. straining the city from entering the Hons later the supreme court rendered its decision sustaining the injunction, and leaving the situation just where it was a year ago.
The city has now secured a special term at which new condemnation proceedings will be begun, and another jury will assess damages for Mr. Hanley, but upon some techicality or other the matter will probably be again appealed and another summer roll away with Medford's water prop osition still in the air.

Even though Mr. Hanley only receives nominal damages for the right of way, and the city is allowed to cross his premises, he still stands a chance of forcing the city to fulfill their contract with him, and pay him $\$ 25,000$ for the Wasson canyon water.

If a compromise can be arranged with Mr. Hanley, and he says it can be, the city will secure the 300 inches of Wasson canyon water they contracted for from him, as well as the 300 inches contracted for from the Fish Lake company, and within ten years all the water will be needed and will be hard to get at double the price. If Wasson canyon
water is used, it will save approximately $\$ 10,000$ in pipeline, considerably reducing the amount of money the city will be out.

It is not common sense nor sound business to further

PORTLINO MEN EABER TO COME Much Enthusiasm Is Manifest Over Business Men's Excursion South in Order to Know More of the State of Oregon.
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\section*{| THEIR QUEUES CUT OFF | $\begin{array}{l}\text { tremes of emotion. } \\ \text { "Honesty, chastity, sobriety } \\ \text { these are the essentials of a suc- } \\ \text { cessful career." }\end{array}$ |
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| SAN FRANCISCO, CaL., April |  |}



## Tree Auction

Iadies of the Greater Medford club will on Saturday morning, April 23, at 90 clock, sell at bargain prices, at the Exhibit bulding, the shade trees ordered for planting along streets, but refused after being ordered and left on the club's hands
This is your opportunity
People who have contracted for trees must secure them
before Saturday. They will not be held after that date.
Greater Medford Club

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chance for solid, sound investment to be found in chance for solid, sound investment to be found in
America. A high-class bearing orchard of proven America. A high-class bearing orchard of proven worth is certainly a more profitable investment than
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cinating as well as healthful and profitable employJohn D. Olwell

