

# WOULD HAVE CITY BUY WATER WORKS

### Mayor Steeves Urges the Taking Up and Final Settling of the Matter by the Council.

Determined to bring about a settlement of the water question before the end of his administration, that will be satisfactory to the people of Salem, Mayor Steeves last night sent a special message to the city council recommending that negotiations be entered into with the officials of the Salem Water Co., by the ways and means committee.

The mayor recommends a conference between the members of the committee and the officials of the company, as soon as possible, with any other persons invited to the meeting whose advice on the question may be considered of value.

The mayor has, by personal inquiry, ascertained the views of the people of the city relative to the acquisition of the plant by the city, and sets these views forth in his message. The results of all former negotiations with the company have been abrogated by the present council.

Following is the special message of the mayor:  
"To the Common Council of the City of Salem:

"Gentlemen: It has been my purpose to bring before your honorable body the water question, as soon as each of you had become familiar with the duties of his office, and had had time to study the proposition for himself, and to ascertain as nearly as possible the wishes of his constituents. It seems now that sufficient time has elapsed, and that the sooner the matter is definitely taken up the better.

**Former Efforts Reviewed.**  
"It would appear from the perusal of the report of the committee having charge of this matter in the year that the water company was very reluctant to enter into negotiations with the preceding administration, and only consented to do so after a contract agreement was entered into between it and the council that the council would purchase the plant at an appraised valuation fixed by a board consisting of the company's engineer, one engineer selected by the council, and, if necessary, a third engineer, selected by these two. By the terms of this contract the valuation fixed by these engineers would be final, and the council agreed to purchase at that price. It would appear, however, that, even after this agreement had been entered into, objections and delays were interposed at every point, so that it was impossible to accomplish anything the past year. I am not stating these matters as facts of my own knowledge, but as what appears from the report of the committee on file with the city recorder.

"The present council, in order to start the matter from the beginning, has abrogated the old agreement and the water question is now before us de novo, and just the same as if nothing whatever had been done in regard to it.

**Mayor Gets Opinions.**  
"Ever since entering upon the duties of this office, I have had the matter under consideration and have discussed it with many of our citizens, and, as a result thereof, I have come to the following conclusions:  
"Public opinion is practically unanimous in favor of obtaining a better, purer and more adequate supply for the city. As the first step necessary to bring this about, I am satisfied a large majority of the people favor the purchase of the present water plant, if such can be done on a fair and equitable basis. There is, however, some dissension to this. An inconsiderable few think the city should furnish the supply and then operate through the present water company under some form of contract or partnership. Many more think the city should not burden itself with the present plant, they regard as inadequate, and, to a large extent, worn out, but should construct an entirely new plant, planning from the beginning for a population much greater than we possess. There is not much doubt that if we ignored the rights of the present company, and acted altogether in a spirit of selfishness that this would be the most economical thing we could do, but the fair-minded people, and by far the greatest number of them, believe that this should be done only in the event that we are driven to it by the attitude of the water company itself. They believe that every fair and honorable means should be exerted to bring about an agreement of purchase between the city and the water company which would be equitable to both parties. This is, I believe, the overwhelming sentiment of the people, and, if I rightly interpret their wishes, this is what this council should earnestly endeavor to bring about. I, therefore, recommend that at this time the matter be referred to the committee on ways and means.

**Recommends Meeting.**  
"I further recommend that this committee invite the officials of the water company to a conference at an early date, so as to learn their views and wishes in the matter. I further recommend that any citizens of Salem



## WHAT IS UNCLE SAM SAYING? Send in your guess, one sentence of greeting, and the best caption will be printed in this paper

whose advice and good offices the committee may desire, be invited to this conference, and to any subsequent meetings of the committee.

"I further recommend that in this conference and all future negotiations with the water company the fullest publicity be given to every detail, so that the public may at all times be fully informed of what is going on, and, in the event that nothing can be done, the people will know exactly where to place the blame.

"I recommend also that the committee report at the next meeting, and each week thereafter, if called upon to do so by any member of the council. Let us keep this matter warm, gentlemen, until some results have been accomplished. Let us approach this matter in a spirit of perfect fairness, but with a determination to carry out the wishes of the people, or show the people why it cannot be done. I trust the water company will meet us half-way, and if so, the water question should be largely solved before our administration shall have expired. Respectfully submitted,

"B. L. STEEVES, Mayor."

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## SPLENDID WORK OF AN EXPERT IN WORDS

Webster Revised and Modernized by Harry Thurston Peck in Latest Edition.

Harry Thurston Peck has just written his latest and what its publishers believe, is the best book of his career.

Who is Harry Thurston Peck? It is not likely that such a question will be asked, but for the benefit of the entirely uninformed it might be better to explain that he is not a novelist, although this latest work of his is almost certain to be a "best seller."

The book as it is in its completion today represents the perfection of a ready reference work made possible by a broad-minded and learned editor, assisted by a board of distinguished assistants co-operating with broad-minded and progressive publishers.

Harry Thurston Peck, Ph. D., Litt. D., LL.D., editor-in-chief of the New International Encyclopedia; editor of Harper's Classical Dictionary; member of the Academy of Political Science; member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters; formerly

professor of English at Columbia University and author of learned works, is also the author of delightful stories for children, first told to his own little girl, and later put into writing.

One would hardly expect to find in the same person the compiler of encyclopedias and the teller of children's tales, but it is this touch of human interest in the makeup of Dr. Peck, perhaps, that has helped him in making the New Modern English Illustrated Dictionary "just a little different" than previous works upon language.

As the professor modestly admits the dictionary is, of course, not a cyclopedia, but still is more than a dictionary, and, while not going into extended discourse on any of its many subjects, still there is more than a bare definition difficult to understand by clever composition the editor has managed to convey a broader meaning to the words considered than is customary in works of the size.

Some further idea of the breadth

## BLUE AND DISCOURAGED

Mrs. Hamilton Tells How She Finally Found Health in Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Warren, Ind.—"I was bothered terribly with female weakness. I had pains and was not regular, my head ached all the time, I had bearing down pains and my back hurt me the biggest part of the time, I was dizzy and had weak feelings when I would stoop over, it hurt me to walk any distance and I felt blue and discouraged.

"I began taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and am now in good health. If it had not been for that medicine I would have been in my grave a long time ago."—Mrs. ARTIE E. HAMILTON, R.F.D. No. 6, Warren, Ind.

### Another Case.

Esmond, R.I.—"I write to tell you how much good your medicine has done me and to let other women know that there is help for them. I suffered with bearing down pains, headache, was irregular and felt blue and depressed all the time. I took Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and commenced to gain in a short time and I am a well woman today. I am on my feet from early morning until late at night running a boarding house and do all my own work. I hope that many suffering women will try your medicine. It makes happier wives and mothers."—Mrs. ANNA HANSEN, Esmond, Rhode Island.

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**POTATO DOUGHNUTS**  
Cream 3 tablespoons Cottolene, add 1 cup sugar and 1 yolk of egg well beaten with 1 white, stir in 1 cup of freshly mashed potato and 1 cup milk. Sift 2 cups flour with 1 teaspoon baking powder, 1/2 teaspoon each of salt and ground nutmeg, also a little nutmeg, and add to first mixture, working in flour enough to handle lightly. Roll and cut before frying and have Cottolene hot enough to brown a bit of bread lightly in half a minute. Turn doughnuts as they come to the top, and again when nicely browned.

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of Dr. Peck's knowledge may be secured from the naming of a few of the many books of which he is the author. His work on Latin Pronunciation, and his books on the Latin Historians are extensively used as textbooks. His 'Harper's Dictionary of Classical Literature and Antiquities' displaced every other work on antiquities and philology. Dr. Peck collaborated with Prof. G. P. Pease, of Bowdoin and Leland Stanford universities in editing 39 volumes of Latin classics. He has translated into English the first example of the ancient novel converted into modern slang; written the first history of classical philology that has yet been given in English in a form suitable for the use of the ordinary college student; prepared and published as the result of five years work the well known work on contemporaneous history, 'Twenty Years of the Republic,' including the period from 1885 to 1905. Among the many other works of the professor is a book of travel dealing with things as he saw them, and incidents that actually happened, and also a number of children's books. Now comes the latest and best dictionary.

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**PLENTY OF WORK BUT THE PAY IS INADEQUATE**  
County treasurers of Oregon are all wrought up over the legislation in the present session taking the collection of taxes out of the hands of the sheriffs and placing it in the hands of the treasurers. The cause of the rising among the treasurers is that no additional salary is provided by the bill. The salaries of treasurers in some counties of Oregon are merely nominal sums, while the collection of taxes is a herculean job in most counties. An amendment was proposed to the bill at one time during the session to add \$300 to the salary of the treasurer, but this failed to go through.

There is a bare possibility that the Gill county salary bill may be resurrected this week, and provisions made to compensate the county treasurers for their additional duties.

### They Reach Chicago.

[UNITED PRESS LEARNED WIRE]  
Chicago, March 3.—Olaf A. Tveit-moe and E. A. Clancy, the San Francisco labor leaders, who were released yesterday from Leavenworth prison, arrived here today, and conferred with their attorneys and the officials of the local Ironworkers' union. They expect to remain several days.

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