

CONSIDERING THE CANAL

Session of the County Board Devoted to Discussion of the Platte Project.

REPORTS OF THE ENGINEERS RECEIVED

Results of the Recent Survey of the Elkhorn and Platte Rivers—The Scheme Thoroughly Discussed—Final Disposition Next Friday.

Next Friday morning the county commissioners will hold a special session, at which time they will decide the question of whether or not they will submit the proposition allowing the voters of the county precincts to cast their ballots for or against the issuing of bonds in the sum of \$1,000,000 to aid in the construction of the Platte river canal from a point near Fremont to Seymour park, just south west of this city.

Yesterday the members of the board met to receive the reports of the engineers appointed to make the survey of the Elkhorn and the Platte rivers, and also to hear what they had to say with reference to the volume of water, but before any action was taken they listened to a communication from Curtis C. Turner, in which he asked that the canal was built the city of Omaha be compelled to maintain a roadway along the banks and over the dams crossing the streams.

County Surveyor Smith, in submitting his reports of measurements, and also of the Niagara falling Elkhorn at a point three-fourths of a mile above the Arlington bridge he had found a flow of 512 cubic feet of water per second, and that the Platte, at a point below Fremont, discharged 1,024 cubic feet per second, making a total of 1,536 cubic feet per second for the two streams.

Engineer Howell, in his report, stated that he found 400 cubic feet per second in the Elkhorn and 2,300 in the Platte, which would give a total power as the maximum capacity of the canal.

City Engineer Rosewater's Report.

In submitting his report upon the same subject City Engineer Rosewater, said: "In reference to your request, seconded by that of the mayor and city council of Omaha, I have made such investigations as would show the essential features of the proposed Platte and Elkhorn river canal for the development of water power and water supply as are pertinent to the main question at hand."

The essential features are, first, the available water supply; second, the attainable head at the point of application; third, the practicality of transmission of the powers developed to the city; fourth, the adaptability of the water for domestic purposes.

"To meet the first proposition I have made gaugings of the Elkhorn river at Arlington and the Platte river at Fremont. Careful cross sections of the Elkhorn channel at six points on each of two sections 100 feet apart, and gaugings of the mean flow on Friday, October 6, gave results as follows: Mean area, 234.9 square feet; mean velocity, 1.1 feet per second; discharge, 449.3 feet per second. The Platte river is divided into two main channels and several smaller ones. For the purpose of safety only results only the two main channels were measured, with results as follows: North channel—Mean area, 1,125 square feet; mean velocity, 2.35 feet per second; discharge, 659.3 cubic feet per second. South channel—Mean area, 329.25 square feet; mean velocity, 2.35 feet per second; discharge, 1,508.4 cubic feet per second. Summary:

Table with 2 columns: Location, Cubic feet per second. Total: 2,048.0

Head of Water Obtainable.

"Taking the datum levels of the low water mark of the Missouri at Omaha the Elkhorn river at Arlington has an altitude of 191 feet. The table land at Seymour park has elevations varying from 177 to 181. The Papillion creek is 27.3 at the present flow line and 38 feet at the banks. Without the detailed plans of the projected line before me it is sufficiently evident that with a dam of the Elkhorn at Arlington below its proposed confluence with the Platte a fall of one foot per mile can be secured with a water level at the enlargement of 165 feet. This, with a power station of the Papillion to the necessary width for an outlet, will give a clear available fall of 130 feet for power purposes.

"We thus have on the basis of the present discharge of the Elkhorn and the Platte rivers as available 2,648 cubic feet per second with a fall of 130 feet. The Platte river at the present gauging is at its lowest, whilst the Elkhorn will probably attain to its minimum flow in December or January. Doubtless the same will be the case with the Platte, which supplies the greater portion of the Platte river flow at this time. It may, therefore, be assumed for safety that the present discharge of the Loup and Elkhorn rivers will supply only one-half of the present discharge, which would leave 1,324 cubic feet per second. The increased flow is present induced by snow in the mountains will more than double this loss. Ignoring this almost insignificant compensating feature and allowing 20 per cent for other possible losses, evaporation, seepage, etc., I assume as a basis as absolutely certain a flow of 1,000 cubic feet per second—with a head of 125 feet. With this safe assumption we have the following result:

Horse Power Obtainable.

"Theoretical horse power for turbines—14,380, based on twenty-four hours run, and based on the basis of a twenty-four hour run as heretofore assumed, a net minimum delivery of 5,692 horse power and 20,718 horse power on a ten-hour continuous run and storage. The storage of 1,000 cubic feet per second flow during fourteen hours run is a matter of easy attainment, requiring less than 300 acres of four-foot depth storage area.

"We now come to the question of transmission. There are two feasible methods of doing this. By compressed air through pneumatic tubes or over wires by electricity. Each of these methods have their special and peculiar advantages. The compressed air method dispenses with the necessity of any expenditure on the part of the power users, the compressed air being available at all times by being simply turned on in the place of steam, doing away with fires, boilers, etc., the exhaust air serving as a cooling and ventilating medium.

Compressed Air Considered.

"Messrs. Foy and Pletcher of Paris and Berlin, who have the most extensive compressed air plant in the world in operation in Paris, offered to transmit 75,000 horse power from the Niagara falls to Buffalo in two pipe mains, twenty-four inches diameter each, with a guaranteed efficiency of 85 per cent—this including loss in compressor and tube. The transmission is accomplished by compressed air over such a distance, fourteen miles, has not yet been tried, whilst that of electric transmission has. The Niagara Falls Power company has provided for transmission of 5,000 horse power by this method; its practical efficiency will therefore be known before the question of transmission can possibly become a factor for consideration here. Its applicability to both power and refrigeration will doubtless make it most desirable for the South Omaha packing houses. In either the application of electrical or compressed air for transmission it will be safe to assume a loss of from 30 to 35 per cent between the turbine and the point of application.

Available for Use in Omaha.

"Assuming a net loss of 25 per cent, through this source we will secure at Omaha, on the basis of a twenty-four hour run as heretofore assumed, a net minimum delivery of 5,692 horse power and 20,718 horse power on a ten-hour continuous run and storage. The storage of 1,000 cubic feet per second flow during fourteen hours run is a matter of easy attainment, requiring less than 300 acres of four-foot depth storage area.

"We now come to the question of adaptability to domestic use. With a 1,000 cubic feet per second flow the daily discharge at the wheels will be 640,720 gallons. Assuming a future population of 300,000 and 150 gallons per capita, we need 45,000,000 gallons daily, or less than 7 per cent of this

flow. This can readily be diverted into settling basins or otherwise filtered, if found necessary, and delivered into high distributing reservoirs on the hills west of the city, ready for use either for direct pressure or through the medium of a standpipe. The latter would not be needed to exceed 150 feet in height to deliver direct to the city.

Some Insurmountable Difficulties.

"One more feature in connection with the proposed canal may be here appropriately referred to, inasmuch as it is daily questioned in connection with this project. Why not bring this power directly into Omaha or above Omaha at Florence, in place of a point seven miles from the city? A canal cannot be made to run up hill. With a fall of one foot per mile the canal at Seymour park is 103 feet, above the Missouri river. To continue this canal would necessitate either the crossing of the Papillion valley over railway lines at a height of 125 feet or more, with a supporting capacity of not less than 500 pounds per square foot for half a mile or more, involving an enormous expense, and after that continuous very heavy cuts for six miles at another enormous expense. In addition to this the right of way would add another very large amount. These in the aggregate would involve several million dollars expenditure without any compensating feature to commend them. To carry the line northward would involve still heavier and much more extended excavations, add fifteen miles to the length of the canal and incur difficulties in connection with crossings over and under railway lines, which, in the former case, would double the cost of the canal. For these reasons I regard the main project as outlined by the canal company as the most practical.

Feasibility of the Enterprise.

"In my opinion, from the data furnished by the company's engineers and that obtained independently by myself, the canal project for power purposes is a feasible and commendable one. For water works purposes it is practically to secure a water supply from the canal or to use the power transmitted by the Missouri river and pump from the Missouri to the city. The latter method works for development of power and its transmission will require thorough consideration by boards of competent engineers, which, in the former case, would be the Niagara falls. These questions are not, however, confronting us. The proposed canal project can be successfully carried out under proper management and direction."

Colonel Carpenter Was Off.

After listening to the reports Stephen Carpenter, one of the residents of Valley, said that the county of Douglas was opposed to the building of the canal, as the farmers had been contributing annually the sum of \$300,000 to help maintain the city of Omaha. Chairman Stenberg of the board wanted to know how the gentleman proposed to contribute such a large sum each year. He was informed that the county people paid \$100,000 into the Omaha schools each year and that that went into the city school fund, that the county had to support the city hospitals and poor farm, and that without getting any return.

Mr. Stenberg then asked the statement and showed that the county precincts had received more taxes during the past ten years than they had paid. In these county precincts the money expended on the roads aggregated much more than the entire payments made by all of the precincts. Besides this the county which were worth from \$50 to \$60 were assessed at only \$4 per acre. If the canal was built it would enhance the value of the land, placing it in a condition where the county would be more than double the amount of the increased tax.

In opposing the canal scheme County Surveyor Smith contended that it meant a dump for Fremont and all of the towns along the line of the ditch, and that the water would become so impregnated with filth that when it reached Omaha it would not be fit for domestic purposes. Isaac Haswell, a member of the council committee, opined that when once the canal was built it would be much more valuable for furnishing power than for furnishing water to drink or to use in the houses.

Smith Opposes the Scheme.

Saying that the fall at Seymour park was as high as it could be, and that a drop of 150 feet could not be obtained unless the lower end of the canal was built in the air. So far as he was concerned, he said that he was of the opinion that the whole scheme was in the air, for if it was a good thing it would have been constructed by the original promoters, instead of being farmed out to the city and county. Another thing, he said, was in the way. During the past year the city had been unable to dispose of its sewage, and with another debt of \$2,500,000 saddled upon the city and county the situation would be even worse.

City Engineer Rosewater Thought that that was dodging the real issue.

Mr. Smith was ready to find fault with the plan and was trying to get out of a hole into which he had fallen. In the first place he opposed the statement that there was a sufficient quantity of water to develop the necessary power, but by a rough figure he showed that 900 cubic feet per second for losses, there would be 21,000 horse power available at each day of the year.

TESTED THE PRESSURE.

The insurance men, together with Mayor Bemis and Commissioners Hartman, Strickler and Smith, witnessed a test of the water pressure at Fourteenth and Farnam streets at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The test streams were 110 feet according to the judgment of the mayor and other interested spectators the average height of the streams was not over 70 feet.

City Engineer Rosewater had his assistants stationed on the roof of the Board of Trade building with their instruments, and according to their measurements such of the eight streams reached the 110 feet height by the contract of the water works system with the city.

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

Transaction of Regular Routine Business at Last Evening's Session.

The regular meeting of the city council last evening was entirely of a routine nature. The resolution regarding the water works investigation was not reported. Several minor ordinances were considered. The mayor submitted his veto of the contract of Samuel Katz for filling certain lots in Kirkwood. The city engineer submitted the appointment of John T. Flock, W. H. Gates and George W. Holbrook as appraisers for the winding of the twenty-fourth street between Cass and Cluming streets was approved. Chairman Winbury of the Board of Public Works was granted a ten days leave of absence. Several resolutions were introduced for damages for personal injuries sustained by a defective sidewalk. A resolution was introduced setting aside \$5,000 for the use of the street commissioner's department. Several paving ordinances were introduced and referred.

Closed by the Sheriff.

AUBURN, N. Y., Oct. 10.—The works of the Birdzell company, manufacturers of traction engines, grain threshers and portable sawmills here, have been closed by the sheriff on an execution of \$103,000. The judgment was in favor of Henry H. Cook of New York city and is for money loaned to the concern.

Cure Indigestion and biliousness with De Witt's Little Early Risers.

Twenty-five Passengers Drowned. SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 9.—Advices brought by the steamer Rio de Janeiro state that the sailing vessel Synou Maru was wrecked off the coast of Japan on the 4th inst. Twenty-two of the passengers were drowned.

DODGE COUNTY MURDER CASE

Trial of Charles Carleton for the Killing of August Gotthman Near Fremont.

STORIES OF THE PRISONER'S NEIGHBORS

Testimony to the Effect that the Accused Concealed Many Facts in the Case and Wanted to Dispose of His Victim Secretly.

FREMONT, Oct. 10.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The jury in the case of Charles Carleton for the murder of August Gotthman on June 8, as finally agreed upon, is as follows: A. F. Mitchell, F. J. W. Smith, H. Wallace, J. A. Dris, H. A. Burch, A. J. Hale, Ellis Doane, E. W. Harker, E. A. Wagner, J. G. Gamble, George W. Sullivan, Thomas Johnson. It is interesting to be selected from a county in which the case has received such general publicity. The case was called at 9 a. m. this morning. Judge William Marshall was on the bench. County Attorney Hollenbeck and ex-County Attorney Loomis represented the state and Erick and Deleaz the defense. Attorney Hollenbeck presented the case to the jury on the part of the state. He related the incidents connected with the tragedy and dwelt on the statement made by the defendant when he appeared in court for the purpose of giving himself up, and which was about as follows: A tramp had come to him while alone and had asked for something to eat, which he refused, a witness the tramp had seized a revolver, which was lying on the table, and attempted to shoot him, but a scuffle ensued, and the weapon from him and killed him.

This, the attorney claimed, would be entirely disproved by the evidence and it would be shown that Carleton knew at the time that the man he had killed was the husband of the woman he had recently married and that he had laid his plans by sending off the family and the man to perform the deed alone and unwittingly. The evidence would show that Carleton had first intended to give his victim in the corn field, but that while attempting to wash up the blood stains his heart seemed to fail him and he determined upon the story he told concerning the tramp.

Other Side of the Case.

Mr. Erick opened for the defense. He hoped the jury would remain unprejudiced and keep their minds clear so that they would be able to give careful and dispassionate consideration to the facts of the case. He said that he was sure the jury would be self-defense.

The county attorney then read a list of fifty witnesses in behalf of the state. They were duly sworn and excused from the room until called. A circumstance occurred here that is worthy of notice. One of the witnesses, a man named Arthur Bonner, a Milwaukee name was announced by the state and he was expelled from the room, notwithstanding he has charge of the prisoner and is responsible for him.

The first witness called was James J. Maloy, a neighbor of the Carletons, residing about four miles west of Fremont. He stated that he was present at the house on the morning of the murder. He saw the defendant about noon on the day of the murder at his own place in the presence of his family. Carleton called him to the door from the dinner table and asked to go up to his house as he had killed a man. He would become so impregnated with filth that when it reached Omaha it would not be fit for domestic purposes.

Isaac Haswell, a member of the council committee, opined that when once the canal was built it would be much more valuable for furnishing power than for furnishing water to drink or to use in the houses.

How the Body Was Found.

The witness started up to the Carleton place and the defendant started for town. At the house the witness found James Kimmel and went into the house with him. On entering the kitchen they found that the floor had been wet, as if involving \$100,000 worth of property, which went over to next term on a motion.

Testimony of a Neighbor.

James Kimmel resides near the Carleton place. He saw Carleton the day of the killing. He was in the cornfield when Carleton shot a man, but by a rough figure he showed that 900 cubic feet per second for losses, there would be 21,000 horse power available at each day of the year.

Carleton Wanted to Bury His Victim.

J. C. Midgault testified that he had lived in the present neighborhood of the Carletons for twenty years. He was at the Carleton residence on the day of the killing. He approached him and gave the same story of the "tramp" as related to the other witnesses. He examined the revolver produced in court and pronounced it the same showed him by Carleton on that day. There were at that time three empty chambers. Carleton was excited and wanted to know what to do. Thought it better to bury the man and say nothing about it. Witness advised him to go and give himself up if it was in self defense. Carleton said that he had burned the dead man's hat and mopped up the blood on the floor; that he had shot the man twice, once after he fell.

Henry De Wolf Dead.

ILLINOIS CENTRAL TREASURER HAD A FATAL ATTACK OF HEART DISEASE THIS MORNING. CHICAGO, Oct. 10.—Henry de Wolf, the treasurer of the Illinois Central Railway company, died suddenly this morning. For some time he had been a sufferer from angina pectoris. He was stricken this morning with the fatal attack as he was standing on the outer steps of the Illinois Central terminal station at Park Row. Friends called him to his office on upper floor and medical aid was called, but the physicians were too late to check the violence of the attack.

Investigating a Mine Horror.

CRYSTAL FALLS, Mich., Oct. 10.—The official investigation of the Mansfield mine disaster, in which twenty-seven lost their lives on the night of September 28 as a result of the Michigan river plunging into the underground workings of the mine, was instituted this morning by Prosecuting Attorney Mortary, acting under direction of Judge Stone of the Twenty-fifth judicial circuit. The jury was taken to the scene of the disaster and there sworn in. They returned to Crystal Falls and the taking of testimony is now in progress.

Guatemala and Her Border Handicraft.

NEW YORK, Oct. 10.—A special to morning paper from Guatemala says that the government will take steps to put a stop to the depredations of the bandits on the borders. Ex-President Barillas came here and had a long conference with President Barrios, after which he returned to his country estate. There is much smallpox on the northern frontier.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Advertisement for ABSTRACT PREPARED BY SHERMAN & McCONNELL, OMAHA, NEB.

of Cass county to avoid service being made upon him, but was finally intercepted at Greenwood in the extreme northwest corner of the county, while en route from Lincoln to his home in Omaha on a B. & M. train. The trial is being warmly contested and may require two or three days hearing before its conclusion.

ANOTHER INSTANCE OF NEGLIGENCE.

STATE OFFICIALS WERE NOT TRIED ON ALL POSSIBLE CHARGES. LINCOLN, Oct. 10.—[Special to THE BEE.]—In a painful effort to score a point against Auditor Moore the Omaha World-Herald unwittingly uncovers another piece of fine work accomplished by the impeached state officials. It is true that the Board of Public Lands and Buildings rejected the claim of the Lincoln furniture man for brass bedsteads, etc. The claim was rejected on February 6, but on April 3, a few days before they were temporarily deprived of their offices pending their trial for malfeasance in office, Messrs. Humphrey and Allen approved the same claim and it was sent to the auditor from the office of the secretary of state, together with a huge stack of other claims which the impeached officials railroaded through as soon as it was morally certain that they were to stand trial for their neglect of public duty. Instead of "discovering their mistake a few days later" they did not discover it until after they had resigned and met with the board early in July. And even then they begged the auditor to keep the matter quiet for their sakes. The bill should not have been paid, but the responsibility for its final payment must rest where it properly belongs, upon the men who approved it.

ROBBERS' HOLD WORK.

MASKED MEN ENTER A NEBRASKA CITY REAL-ESTATE AND HOLD UP THE PROPRIETOR. NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Oct. 10.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Charles Schmidt, an aged German, was aroused last night by a knock at his door. On opening it he was confronted by two masked men, who thrust revolvers into his face and demanded that he show where his money was hidden. He protested that he had no money, but the burglars forced him to enter through the house while they ransacked every nook. After some search they found \$28 in ready money, which they appropriated. While the burglars were busy with their search Schmidt made his escape and gave the alarm. When assistance arrived he had been dead for some time. A large vineyard and makes a living by selling grapes and wine. As he is miserably in his habits the thieves supposed he had a large sum of money hidden about the house. He says he would be able to identify the men.

NOT YET IDENTIFIED.

GRAND ISLAND, Oct. 10.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The remains of the dead burglar will probably be held for the rest of the week. The police authorities are still in doubt as to the identity of the man who was shot last night. It is believed to be Charles Fisher of Omaha. Since this identification has been knocked out a man has called to see the remains and stated that the dead man was none other than his brother. But the police do not credit him with average intelligence. His name is E. C. Bonner and he said he had been in the city for some time. The Bonner authorities say that Bonner is from that city, but that he is not always in possession of a valid identity card. He is not, therefore, fully relied upon. Owing to his appearance the remains were not interred yesterday, as was intended.

Attain at Lansing.

GERING, Neb., Oct. 10.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The greater portion of the cases on the docket of the October term of district court just closed were continued. The most important civil case was that of the estate of Peter H. Gering, who was worth of property, which went over to next term on a motion.

Logan Democrats Meet.

GANDY, Neb., Oct. 10.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The democratic party of Logan county, to the number of sixteen, met in convention Saturday and placed in nomination James H. Crawford for sheriff, and Charles W. Brooks for coroner.

George Warren Not Guilty.

HASTINGS, Oct. 10.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The jury in the case of the State against George Warren, charged with having shot and killed the Rev. G. W. Hayward, brought in a verdict of not guilty today.

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