

## HUMPHREY & SLEDGE HARDWARE

**You Irrigation Men and Alfalfa**  
Raisers, Fruit Tree Folks and Gardeners, why not  
fence your fields with Union Fence before the rab-  
bits entirely destroy the results of your year's labor.

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### THE TOWN WILL COME INTO ITS OWN AGAIN

The Board of Trustees Cause Petitions Representing Both Sides of the  
Power Plant Question to be Circulated.

The Petition for the Town to Operate the Plant was the Favorite by  
More Than Four to One and the Town Will Bring Suit.

Friday morning, at a call meeting, the city council decided to draw up petitions, as to whether or not the majority of the citizens and tax payers of the city wished the city to take legal steps to take the electric light and water works plant over and operate it or leave it to be run by the Public Service company. The petitions were shown on the public square to everyone that could be seen and signed by a good many. Some stated that they had no interest in the matter and did not sign. A majority of the people seen, however, signed one of the petitions. Fifty-four signed the petition requesting the city to take charge of the power plant and operate. Thirteen signed the petition requesting the city council to let the matter remain in the hands of the Public Service company.

Saturday morning the city board met and instructed Judge Reese, the present city attorney, to begin legal proceedings against the Public Service company for the power plant to be turned over to the city, on the grounds that the contract made by the former city council was null and void as it is the opinion of the city attorney and the council that the former council overstepped the bounds of their authority when the power plant was leased to the Public Service company.

It is stated that the reason that the matter came up before the council is that numerous complaints were made because the water was inadequate to supply the demand and when water was on the pressure was insufficient. It is also reported that the Public Service company did not charge uniform prices when installing lighting and water service in residences and business houses, some paying exceedingly high prices for the installation and some very reasonable. Another reason for the investigation, it is stated is, the Public Service company is a corporation with a capital stock of \$3,000.00 with a non-liability clause on record. The present plant cost the city practically \$75,000.00. The Public Service company has this amount of property in charge and has not put up a bond, as none has been requested of them, to guarantee the keeping up of repairs or that electric lights and water service would be rendered to the patrons.

An injunction will be brought against the Public Service company immediately and it is assumed that the case will not be fought as the law seems to be with the city.

However if the Public Service Co., does fight the case things will be lively as the board of Aldermen are determined to take

the plant in charge and have employed some of the best legal talent in the state to assist in the matter.

#### Civic Department Meeting of Woman's Club.

The Civic department of the Woman's club held their annual meeting at the home of Mrs. C. O. Leach, Monday, May 13th.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Humphrey, the chairman for the past year.

The work of this committee has been directed principally toward securing the present site of the cemetery and surveying and plotting the site. This work has been so well done that the committee has ample reason to be proud of the results of its work, and deserve the most grateful thanks of the community.

The committee has a book showing the location of each grave with a short biography of the deceased. As time passes the wisdom of having such a beautifully arranged history of the deceased will grow in our estimation.

For this valuable work the committee feels very largely indebted to Mrs. W. E. Lindsey and Mrs. Inda Humphrey through whose untiring energy the site was secured and through whose direction the organization has come to be so much appreciated by the community.

The report of Mrs. J. B. Sledge, treasurer for the past year, shows this society to have received two hundred and sixty-four dollars of which two hundred dollars has been expended in improving the cemetery, leaving on hand a balance of sixty-four dollars.

Election of officers for the ensuing year resulted in the placing of Mrs. Humphrey as chairman; Mrs. R. A. Larson, secretary; Mrs. W. E. Lindsey, treasurer; Mrs. C. O. Leach, press reporter; Mrs. G. W. Carr, chairman of cemetery committee; Mrs. Carr, chairman of committee on water rights for the cemetery. Mrs. W. S. Merrill chairman park committee.

The committee has given their time to the cemetery work during the year. Other lines will have attention for the coming year one of which will be child's rescue.

Marvin Littlejohn and wife returned the last of last week from Tulia, Texas, where they have been on a short vacation trip. Marvin says his grocery business looks good to him, after seeing how dull everything is elsewhere, and that he thought that he wanted to sell it when he left, but that he is satisfied to keep it now.

#### The Tepary Bean—A New South- western Legume.

This new bean is being demonstrated by the experiment stations of Arizona, and being proven a success for this country.

It originated from native seed which is to be found today in the country and mountains along the Pecos River. The Indians, who are now extinct, and have only their old villages to show that they ever lived at all, were evidently the first people to discover that the plant was a good food. Their ancestors all raised this bean, and even where these half savages farm this plant it yields enormously.

When the experiment stations first began their researches they found these Indians and Mexicans using this bean as food and after making some experiments with it to ascertain if it would do as well as other beans, and whether it could be used in the same way, they have come to the conclusion that there is no harder plant in existence and that it is a valuable food. It will grow on dry land as well as on irrigated land, and though the yield on dry land will possibly not be more than one half as large as on irrigated land, at the same time it will produce enough to make a good return from the land; in fact a better return than the average maize and kaffir crops bring.

There are two varieties of this bean that are good, but the white is possibly the best. The white tepary somewhat resembles the old navy bean and will take its place in every way so far as cooking is concerned. The bean is very nearly the same as the ordinary navy bean except that when first coming up it is small instead of throwing out two large leaves. After it gets to some size the plant begins to look more like a bean and as it gets grown the only difference is that the leaves are not so large and are not exactly the same shape. A test which will tell you whether or not it is a tepary bean or not is to put it in water and if the seed wrinkles within ten minutes it is a tepary, as the ordinary bean takes nearly an hour before it begins to wrinkle.

In cooking the tepary swells to nearly twice its original size, and thus is different from the ordinary bean. The tepary, when cooked, has the bean aroma. Some of the Mexicans prefer the pink beans to these but the same people prefer the western raised pink bean to the eastern raised, and can distinguish a difference between them. Cooked with bacon or other meats the tepary and the navy bean are practically the same.

The tepary will easily yield twice as much as the common bean on either dry or irrigated land. On dry land the seed can be planted five inches deep in order to get it down to the moisture. On the irrigated land there is no necessity of planting so deep as it will only take them longer to come up. The best time to plant this bean on dry land is from the 10th to the 20th of July, and on irrigated land from the 20th of March to the 1st of April. The summer plant-

ing on the irrigated land is the same as the dry land planting. The mid-summer planting would be best here on account of the high winds which they do not have to contend with in the mountains.

In planting the beans the rows should be about three feet apart and the seed should be dropped by an ordinary corn planter, and about two seeds should be dropped every foot in the row. By planting them this way it should take about twelve pounds of seed to the acre.

It seems to us that this bean should be tried here this year and if it makes good and we can find a market for it there should be an immense acreage of it on the dry farms next year. If everyone tried a little it would neither make nor break them, and there should be some planted on every farm to see how they do here.

#### High School Entertainment.

Friday afternoon the pupils of the high school entertained the pupils of the eighth and ninth grades and the mothers of the town, in a formal reception and program given by them at the high school building.

A lengthy program, consisting of some fifteen numbers, was given, and everything went off smoothly, and without a hitch. The program consisted of quartettes, readings, piano solos, papers, and prophecies.

The entertainment was given under the charge of one of the literary societies of the school with George Ball in the chair and Beatrice McKnight as secretary.

The room was beautifully decorated in the colors of the school which are black and red, tastefully arranged pot flowers and cut flowers added to the attractiveness of the decorations.

Refreshments were served on hand painted plates.

The Portales Cantaloupe and Produce association received over eighty thousand sweet potato plants on Monday from Ross Brothers of Wichita, Kansas. The shipment made a whole dray load and the farmers were able to get their plants set out within twenty-four hours after they arrived. Another order is in for twenty-five thousand more which will reach here Thursday. This is but a small part of the plants set out here this spring.

Ira Carlisle, who has just finished one well for Dr. R. H. Bailey and who is at work on another for him, states that the first well developed about one thousand gallons and that there would be an eighteen-horse Stover engine put on the place with possibly a six-inch pump. The same kind of outfit will be put on the other place as soon as the well is completed.

Wire Chief Clark of the Rocky Mountain States Telephone company, returned to Roswell Monday and manager Berry states that he was very liberal in his views here, and that he will in a few days know as to the exact amount that will be expended in the valley for rural lines.

Walk into A. B. Austin's and quench your thirst at his fountain

### RITTENHOUSE INSPECTS HIS BIG IRRIGATED FARM

Says the Imperial Valley of Portales is the One Place on This Terrestrial  
Where the Great Maker Left Nothing to be Desired.

Karl W. Green, of Santa Fe, Visits Portales and, after Viewing Our  
Big Wells, Orchards and Alfalfa Fields, Becomes a Booster.

C. H. Rittenhouse, the "daddy" of Portales irrigation, was in Portales Thursday of this week looking over his big irrigated farm two miles north of town. He says that it sure looks good to him and that before the idea of next November he will have something here that is calculated to make the eyes of the pestiferous knocker bug out and bring tears to his eyes. If Mr. Rittenhouse says that he will do this you can gamble your last peso that he will do it. He told our people that they had something better than a gold mine in this shallow water and he has proven it. He is also proving his faith by his investments and he is making his investments safe by putting out alfalfa and apples and doing this in the most scientific manner. He already has one of the show places of the Valley and it is not for sale, but is held as a sort of western paradise in which he expects to spend his declining years in comfort and luxury.

Karl W. Green, assistant secretary of the state Democratic central committee, was a visitor in Portales Wednesday and Thursday of this week the guest of the Times man. Mr. Green came here for the sole purpose of seeing our big irrigation project and the Portales Valley. After looking at some of our wells he immediately became a Portales booster and says that this is the greatest country he has ever seen, and he has traveled some, too. He says that he saw more water coming out of the ground here than he has ever seen in the Pecos River and that, as a beverage, it is the best ever. He believes that this valley presents the most promising field in the world today for any man with a little means and considerable energy to soon become independent. He owns a quarter section of land under one of the big government projects in the western part of the state and says that he would like to trade the whole quarter for half as much of our land under this system. Mr. Green left Portales an enthusiastic booster for Portales and the Imperial Valley surrounding it. What is true of Mr. Green is true of every man who comes to this section of the country. They all like it and they all want some of it.

C. E. Milliren, one of the members of the hardware firm at Clovis, composed of Milliren & Buchanan, has been in Portales for the past few days and is enjoying the climate and country fine. Mr. Milliren stated that where so many overworked business men went to the mountains, seashore and other places

to recuperate, that they could save both time and money by coming to Portales and enjoying a week or two rest at a nominal expense.

The new board of aldermen met last night and appointed Bentley Clayton as the town marshal; E. S. Boucher as the pound-keeper, and put the position of town treasurer off for further consideration. The matter of the Public Service company was brought up and the town attorney gave it as his opinion that the contract under which they had been running the light and water of the city was absolutely null and void. The matter was taken under advisement by the mayor and it is probable that the city will take the plant in the near future.

A. T. Monroe, secretary of the Commercial club, who has been away in the interest of Portales and the surrounding country for the last few weeks, returned Monday. He says that Portales looks good to him, and that he expects several prospectors in soon as the result of his boosting for Portales. Mr. Monroe went all through southern Texas and came back by way of El Paso and Albuquerque.

One of the latest and largest land deals turned here was the sale of the tract of land east of town known as the Hawkins section, consisting of six hundred and forty acres of land. Hawkins and Garrett made the deal to John Galvin of Oregon, the consideration being something over \$25,000. Mr. Galvin is going to take this place and develop it and put it into small tracts on such terms that the small man can handle it.

The Times is informed by Roy Connally that he will be able to furnish distillate for gasoline engines in a very short time. He has received a communication from the president of the Continental Oil company to the effect that arrangements will soon be completed whereby the owners of gasoline engines can secure this fuel at a price much below that paid for fuel heretofore.

J. B. Priddy, one of our merchant farmers and manager of the Warren Foshee Dry Goods company, is putting in an acreage in cotton on his place close to town. Mr. Priddy is putting in about twelve acres and he states that last year the crop did well for him and that he expects to realize a good profit from his hundred and fifty dollar land this year which will be planted in this staple. Mr. Priddy is a firm believer in cotton for the future crop of some of our land here and is boosting it every chance he gets.





