FOR A HUGE JOB.

Scheme to Sell City Waterworks to Private Parties

BEING WORKED ON THE QUIET.

A Suggestion As to What it Costs to "Fix" the Present City Council.

The nefarious scheme to sell the city waterworks to a private corporation is at the front again. Several times it has been brought up, but on such occasion has failed in being worked to a successful issue. But the manipulators regard this as an opportune time, and are again at work. They see in the scheme a good thing for themselves if they can get the property, and no one blames them particularly for looking out for number one in making investments. But with a City Council that will play into their hands the case would be different.

What is the situation of the present City Council? Their administration is "strapped" for money, and may be some of them are individually in the same fix. That is the special feature that is being counted on by the would-be waterworks projectors, and the fact that the municipality will be hard pushed for funds throughout the period of the next administration, because of past official extravagance, is also taken cognizance of. Hence the hope that the waterworks will be disposed of to create needed cash.

The idea of having a private corporation take the city's water system is an old one. Some four years since, while the matter was being agitated, Mr. Underwood, of Omaha, came here and made an attempt to carry it into effect. He was president of the American Waterworks company, with plenty of influence and capital. He organized a corporation in which there were counted with him Dennis Sullivan, of Omaha, and W. H. McCormick, A. Hanauer, H. C. Chatterton, N. T. Lewis, D. Meikleham and others of this city. Though the company was formed, it never did anything because it was ascertained that at that time the city would not sell. Winder Jones and others made a similar proposition, but they found also in the waterworks. Seven or eight thousand citizens protested against it by petition.

Now, in the financial distress of the city the Underwood scheme has been revived. Several of his old associates in the company deny any connection with him on the present occasion, but he has plenty who are willing to work with him for the "big plum."

Two weeks ago he came to this city, and registered at the Knutsford. He remained a week, and when asked the purpose of his visit, said it was "for pleasure." But it was noticed that among his frequent callers were some who were formerly associated with him in the waterworks proposition as well as others. So when it was asserted that he was again on the alert for securing the waterworks, with what he thought good prospect of success, it was not a matter of surprise, though it is an item of vast importance to the citizens.

Just now the scheme is to be carried through in a matter of uncertainty. But it is a fact that it will be worked for all it is worth, unless the exposure of the jobbe and a decided public sentiment defeat the huge job.

With how much concern the weight of public sentiment with the present council is regarded in certain quarters is indicated in the remark of one of the workers in the scheme today, when he said, "Twenty-five thousand dollars will do anything with the present City Council." Some people may think the estimate either too high or too low.

One thing may be considered certain, and that is that whatever view the members of the council possess on the subject of selling the waterworks, the people are vigorously antagonistic to the scheme. Their opinion has not varied in any extent since the Winder Jones proposition of three years ago. At that time Councilman James Anderson was chairman of the committee on waterworks, and he learned what the people thought and felt. Expressing himself on the subject today he said:

"The taxpayers will hang the city council that dares to sell or attempt to sell the waterworks, and in my opinion they would be justified in so doing. Such a sale would be one of the greatest outrages that could be perpetrated upon any community."

The general sentiment of the community is in harmony with the exceedingly low view of the outrageous nature of the act, so there need be no celerity on the part of the City Council, if the matter comes before them officially, as to where the people stand. Time is may be learned whether $25,000 will do anything with the present council of their successors.

Land Office.

In the land office this afternoon, Rachel Ann Lee, of Heber, Wasatch county, filed an application for a desert entry to 120 acres in sections 19 and 30, township 2 south, range 5 east.

ALARMING ACCIDENT.

Clerk J. P. Backe, of the Supreme Court, Seriously Hurt While Riding on a Street Car.

An accident, attended with serious injury, happened to Mr. Joseph P. Backe, clerk of the Territorial Supreme court, at a quarter past 2 o'clock this afternoon, about two blocks west of the post office, on Second South street. He and his wife were riding to an open street car of the City Railroad company on their way to the Rio Grande Western depot, intending to take the train for Saltair beach. From what can be learned Mr. Backe was in the act of changing seats, when his head came in violent contact with one of the large posts supporting the overhead wires. He fell to the ground and the car was quickly stopped. Were picked up Mr. Backe was unconscious. There was a large wound in his forehead from which blood was flowing profusely. He was placed in a cab at his wife's request, and driven to the residence of Dr. Bascom, since two blocks distant, where every possible attention was given him by Drs. Bascom and Wilson. At 3:15 Mr. Backe had not regained consciousness and was still lying on a couch at Dr. Bascom's house. He was then in a condition in which he could scarcely recognize anyone, and was in a state of delirium. There is a deep wound over his left eye, and the skull is fractured. The injuries are easily tendered, and are feared by physicians. Considering all the facts, the worst only is most to be feared. What will be the result of the injuries the medical men are not yet able to tell, but a telephone message received at this office from a relative of Mr. Backe just before the News went to press, emerged the information that he is expected to recover.

FIVE O'CLOCK.

That Is On Time of Arrival of the Tabernacle Choir Tomorrow Morning.

It was learned from the R. G. W. passenger office at 4 o'clock this afternoon that it would be time enough for the choir to leave here tomorrow morning, and yet be well within the time limit.

From the Carolinas.

Elder D. B. Wallace, of the Seventeenth ward, of this city, made a pleasant call at the News office last evening on his return from a mission in the Southern States. He left home on May 5th, 1891. He labored throughout North and South Carolina, principally in the lower state. He engaged very little in tracting, mostly attending appointments, holding meetings and performing other missionary work. The last two months he was home visiting relatives and friends in the New England and other Eastern States. He spent some time at the World's Fair and heard the male chorus concert, and unreservedly gives about the one from Salt Lake ahead of all American competitors.

WITHIN OUR GATES.

C. M. Thackeray, a prominent man of Eureka, in the mining district of Illinois, is a resident of Salt Lake for the time being, having arrived last evening.

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H. S. Scaggs, the well known stockman of Oplin, was among the visitors from that long in the metropolis during the closing hours of the past evening and morning.

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Henry Shields and A. H. Emery came down from their lofty perch at Park City and took appearances here about for the time being. Misses L. and Minerva Graham also came from the Park and put up at the Outlets.

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Joseph C. Rich, who is known to the literary world throughout as "Shady," is here from his four lake resort, taking an hour or two of a stroll in visiting his mother's funeral and otherwise paying her respects to Paris, Idaho. He is looking as well as in the halcyon days of yore.

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Colonel J. C. Lotin, whose name is inseparable from the early history of Utah and her people, and whose life contains enough incidents for an interesting volume, is down from his rural home at Littleton, Morgan county, and was seen on our street today.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

Mercantile Hotel—Jesse J. E. Cummings, of Provo; Joe A. Smith, Provo City; R. A. Cardwell, Ogden; Jos. Hyrum Smith, Nauvoo, Ill.; E. Dalton, Ogden; Mrs. Dalton, Ogden; Mrs. Ed. Dalton, Ogden; Mrs. Ed. Dalton, Ogden; Mrs. Ed