

resolutions adopted by them at a mass meeting held on the evening of the 17th inst., in the Seventeenth Ward schoolhouse.

We are also commissioned to further represent to you the situation and feelings of the primary water owners of our district.

It will be remembered that we were among the first who, forty years ago, appropriated the waters of City Creek and used the same for domestic and irrigation purposes and that we have continued the use thereof ever since. That we constructed at great cost an extensive and effective system of ditches to convey this water from its original channel and distribute it around and upon the lots of land we had selected on which to establish our permanent homes. That by means of this water and much patient labor we at last succeeded in procuring the growth of trees, shrubs and beautiful gardens which, as time went on, became, and now are the pride and feature of our fair city.

Following our acts of appropriation and use of this water there was a gradual increase in the rainfall of this region, causing a corresponding increase in volume of the stream, which, in the course of years, attained, at its spring height, the proportions of a flood, and at its lowest stage a great increase over its original size. To protect other districts all this surplus was turned our way, in its course to the Jordan, and was the cause of much damage and distress. In several cases houses and entire gardens were washed away and life and property in many parts of the district were exposed to the greatest danger. When appealed to, at such times, for aid, your predecessors in office failed to afford relief, on the ground that the water belonged to us and it was our business to take care of it. This we did to the extent of our ability and at great trouble and expense.

Afterwards, this surplus water was conducted upon contiguous lands, that were subdivided as additions to the original city plot, and there used to start new homes and gardens which now form a part of our present enlarged city.

The period of maximum rainfall was finally reached and the water after remaining at a uniform stage for a time began to recede at about the same rate at which it had formerly increased and the city continuing to grow at an increasing rate. A pressing need for water was soon felt by residents of the newer districts, whose rights were secondary to those of the older settled localities. This soon became so urgent that your council sought to relieve the situation by constructing a system of water mains for distributing the waters of City Creek for domestic uses and a canal from the Jordan River to supply water for irrigating in place of the City Creek water. In the cost of constructing both of these, the residents of our district—in common with other primary owners of City Creek water—furnished the principal means through the general tax, the assessor placing a high value on our property compared with that

in the newer districts, because of our valuable water rights. Through the continual growth of the city and the constant decrease of rainfall, but little relief was felt from the new source of supply, and you sought further relief by exchanging canal for Parley's Canyon water, and the construction of a new canal and reservoir through which to convey and distribute it. You also constructed a new and independent system of water mains to serve the newer districts, and for these the primary water owners again paid the principal costs in the manner previously stated. Besides this, many of us have, by a direct tax upon ourselves, expended in the aggregate many thousands of dollars in procuring and attempting to procure water by means of flowing wells, notwithstanding we had ample rights to the City Creek water by virtue of our original appropriations. Thus have the original water owners not only helped themselves but have assisted in every possible way to procure water for others, and in response to every call have contributed the larger share of the means expended in the direction of a permanent water supply for the newer districts.

A time, however, has now come when the water of City Creek has receded to its minimum, or original volume, as it was at the time of our appropriation. All other sources of supply have failed and we are brought back to the primary conditions so far as our supply of water is concerned but not as to its distribution.

To secure an allotment that shall be in conformity with the other primary conditions is the duty of this committee and it is with a hope of accomplishing this that we appeal to you.

It is no exaggeration to say that as primary owners, after forty years of effort and the expenditure of large sums of money, we are worse off than in the beginning, and are today suffering equally, if not more, than residents of the newer districts. Not because of the failure of our original water supply, but because of the failure of their surplus and the unjust allotment of our primary water to supply their deficiency. The result to us is that many are without water to drink, except what they carry long distances from the premises of more fortunate neighbors who are served through your system of pipes. In consequence of this, the health of our families is endangered and our minds distressed. Besides, our trees and gardens are being destroyed for want of the water by which their life and growth has been made possible and which is now distributed beyond the district of primary ownership and often served, without stint, to those who are not entitled to its use except by virtue of their ability to pay the city—not the owners—for its service, while those to whom it rightfully belongs are denied enough to drink.

Whatever the suffering may have been that induced the turning of our primary water away from us and into the newer districts, we

confidently assert that a parallel can today be found among the original owners. The system of distribution now enforced affords no relief whatever, as it simply takes from one and gives to another, and the primary owners of the water are made the victims.

We intend no disrespect, gentlemen, when we say that in the opinion of the people of our district this condition of things could not have been made possible except through your instrumentality, and they now ask at your hands a speedy correction of the wrongs they are made to suffer.

In view that the primary supply of water is all that now remains to be distributed, we respectfully request that its allotment be confined within the limits of its original apportionment. And as the order which effected its present unfair distribution originated in your council, we respectfully ask that its restoration to and apportionment among the primary owners—as contemplated in the accompanying resolutions—be brought about through an order from the same source, and so save to its injured owners any further suffering, delay or expense.

Respectfully,

A. F. DOREMUS,
O. H. HARDY,
ELI A. FOLLAND,
H. PEMBROKE,

Committee representing primary water owners of municipal ward No. 3.

THE RESOLUTIONS.

We, the original appropriators and users of the waters of City Creek, resident in municipal ward No. 3, having previously resolved upon some course of action leading to the restoration of our original proportion of said water, and as preliminary thereto appointed a committee to ascertain, if possible, the intention of the City Council of this city regarding the ownership and distribution of said water, and

Whereas, Said committee have been unable to elicit any definite reply from the city authorities regarding their intentions in this matter, and

Whereas, We regard the early solution of the question of ownership and distribution of said water as essential to the future welfare of every citizen, whether residing within or beyond the limit of its final allotment; and as further delay will only serve to augment the complications which already surround the question, therefore be it

Further resolved, That as primary owners it is our right and duty, co-ordinately with all other primary owners, to maintain our title to the waters of City Creek, as originally appropriated and used, and to contend against the allotment of any portion thereof for any purpose whatever, outside of the area over which it was originally provided by means of the primitive ditches, until such time, at least, as all the primary owners shall have been properly served, through the pipe system of this city or otherwise, with a sufficient supply for domestic purposes,