THE WATER TEST

Rain Saturday Diminished the Attendance of the Public at Water Works Display—Result Good

The investigation committee made an extended report of the water works examination made by the village and made seven readings from 3:30 p. m. to 5 p. m., and give the different degrees of steam pressure, water pressure and vacumn. With different lengths of hose various sized nozzles, many different conditions of running the pumps and engines, a satisfactory state of conditions of all questions was found.

Engineer Carter, who is a practical man in his profession, holds both marine and stationary engineer's licenses, is a satisfactory employee.

The old high pressure pumps were condemned even if properly installed, which they are not.

The test, which lasted one hour, proved conclusively that there is an ample supply of water from the wells, for present needs.

A report from the State Board of Health on sample of water from River Rouge, taken from the back of the pump house May 2, indicates that this water is dangerously contaminated, and not safe for drinking. (This water is not used in the mains.)

Judging from the Biological Survey Department of the State of Michigan it is known conclusively that water used here through our mains and from our flowing wells has its origin and rise north of Elkton in rock formation, there being three distinct veins of water at depths of 67, 225 and 400 feet respectively. This latter depth gives flowing wells at Ortonville, showing in the gravel vein, passing down west of Cass City, through the valley of Silverwood, through Lapeer county to Dryden, and then Ortonville, but north of Ortonville there being no water except through the rock vein. These veins continue on through Oxford, Rochester and Orion. At Rochester the wells are flowing. From Roehester the veins are spread out and spend s itself north of Lakeside. The supply is inexhaustible.

The committee recommended that the connection with River Rouge be pugged. A new spring for the governor so that water can be raised to 80 pound pressure. New nozzles for fire department with 2¼-inch tips. That the water end of the pump be enlarged to eight inch. Other recommendations for the good of the water works were made.

WHAT THE TOWN KNOCKER OUGHT TO DO

My friend, you are continually harping on the idea that this town isn't a fit place to live in. You are everlastingly knocking on the people, their customs and habits. You say they have never been anywhere and will never learn anything. The idea you try to throw out is that you are strictly up-to-date, and are entirely too wise to waste your precious time among this class of barbarians. It is all right for you to think that way, but it is all wrong for you to shoot off your mouth about it. If you don't like it here, hike out to the greener pastures. The people got along all right before you came. And they will manage to wiggle along after you are gone. We will take it for granted that you are world-traveled but most of us think you were never out of the county. We will also let it pass that you have been a power elsewhere, but most of us would bet that you have never held better than a forty-dollar-a-month job in your whole life. We will get along all right, just move along if things don't satisfy you here.

THE SPOILED BOYS

Spoiled boys are improperly brought up by widowed mothers who allow them to curse and disobey them when young, making them still more bullying and ugly and nonself-supporting when older. Mothers who have not taught the boys to obey and honor them when young, will find them much worse when grown up as men and also will find those boys when men are really in the way of their support and well-doing.

W. H. H. C.

NOTICE

The Board of Review of the Village of Birmingham, Oakland County, Michigan, will meet at the Council Room in said village, on Friday, the 21st, and on Saturday, the 22nd days of May, A. D. 1915, at nine o'clock a. m. to four o'clock p. m. of each day, for the purpose of reviewing and correcting such assessments, and all other such purpose and powers required by the said Board of Review.

Dated this 5th day of May, A. D. 1915. Signed

FRANK SCHLAACK,
Village Assessor.

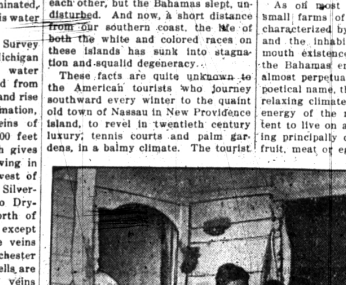
Whole Family Dependent.

E. Williams, Hamilton, Ohio, writes: "Our whole family depends on Pine Tar-Honey." Maybe someone in your family has a severe cold—perhaps it is the baby. The original Dr. Bell's Pine-Tar-Honey is an ever-ready household remedy—it gives immediate relief. Pine-Tar-Honey penetrates the linings of the throat and lungs, destroys the germs, and allows Nature to act. At your druggist's, 25c.—Adv.

Always.

Civilization has always had more or less trouble with the man whose patriotism is slightly subordinate to his pocketbook.

Where Columbus Landed



NATIVE HOME ON WATLING'S ISLAND PHOTO BY I. N. PECKARD

THE ubiquitous American tourist has discovered the Bahama islands. Columbus discovered them more than four hundred years ago, but during the intervening centuries they have lain forgotten, and at the present day the very spot on which European civilization first touched America has become the most primitive and uncivilized in all the western hemisphere, says the New York Press.

After cruising about the Bahamas the first discoverers, ignorant of the existence of the vast American continent, turned southward, cruised among the islands of the West Indies and then sailed back to Spain. Adventurers from all parts of Europe eventually followed them, eager for the promised wealth of the western hemisphere, but they passed over the Bahamas, Nations and empires grew on the American continent, and fought and succeeded each other, but the Bahamas slept, undisturbed. And now, a short distance from our southern coast, the life of both the white and colored races on these islands has sunk into stagnation and awakened degeneracy.

These facts are quite unknown to the American tourists who journey southward every winter to the quaint old town of Nassau in New Providence island, to revel in twentieth century luxury; tennis courts and palm gardens, in a balmy climate. The tourist enjoys all these, and usually returns northward believing that he has seen the Bahamas. Nothing could be more striking than the contrast between the gay life of Nassau and the condition of the Bahamas as a whole.

Although the Bahamas are our next-door neighbors, it is not generally known that they consist of no less than 3,000 islands, islets and keys, extending 600 miles from the southeastern coast of Florida to Haiti. The waters surrounding all of them are full of reefs and sand banks, which make navigation impossible excepting for vessels of light draft, and on this account communication is chiefly carried on by small sailing boats. The only exception is in the case of Nassau, which is reached by steamer from New York in three days, or from Miami, Fla., in 15 hours.

Negro and Colored Mixed.

The most eastwardly of the Bahamas is Watling's island, supposed to be identical with the island which Columbus named San Salvador and, therefore, the place on which Europeans set foot for the first time in the New World. While only thirty-one of the islands are classed as "inhabited," yet on many of the smaller islets and keys there are a few settlers, usually negroes, who are gradually reverting to a condition of savagery.

On some of the islands almost every mixture of white and colored blood can be noted. On others there are white people only, the negroes having been excluded. There are also islands inhabited by negroes, who have almost entirely excluded the whites. Isolation, in some cases, has led to terrible results.

On some of the islands, where black blood has been excluded and frequent intermarriage has taken place between whites, much degeneracy exists, and is manifested by various ab normalities of mind and body. Leprosy is also becoming prevalent among the islanders, and in recent years has increased so much that a lazaretto has been established near Nassau. A few years ago the Geographical society of Baltimore sent an expedition to the Bahamas, when an investigation of these conditions was made by medical experts.

On Watling's Island.

Egg-shaped, twelve miles long and seven broad, Watling's island is situated about 200 miles from Nassau. Today it gives a scanty support to a population of 700 whites and negroes. Cockburn, the only settlement, consists of a few score houses and huts, an English church and a Baptist chapel.

As of most of the Bahamas, the small farms of Watling's island are characterized by the greatest poverty, and the inhabitants lead a hand-to-mouth existence. Owing to latitude, the Bahamas enjoy a climate that is almost perpetual summer, hence their poetical name, the "Isles of June." The relaxing climate seems to destroy the energy of the natives, who are content to live on a meager diet, consisting principally of corn grits, fish and fruit, meat or eggs being rarely seen.

Most of them are ignorant of agriculture, and know little of the outside world. The hopelessness of their condition seems all the more pathetic when it is recalled that their island—the first spot in this hemisphere on which Europeans set foot—is practically down and out so far as progress is concerned.

At the north end of the island is the conjectural landing place of Columbus—a sandy beach and lagoon, surrounded by a chain of coral reefs, inside of which all is calm and still. Bordering this is a patch of low growth dwarf palmettos and sweet shrubs, just as one sees on the southeastern coast of Florida. At this place was erected a Columbus Point—a Chicago newspaper in 1892 erected a simple monument.

When Columbus landed, 422 years ago, the scrubby vegetation was overtopped by gigantic palms, which sheltered the huts of a peaceful, happy people—the Lucayans—who were exterminated throughout the Bahamas in a few years by the ruthless Spaniards. The palms disappeared ages ago, and the only evidences of them remaining are a few stumps occasionally unearthed.

With the exception of the annual tourist invasion, which brings a large amount of money into Nassau, the Bahamas, for many years, have been in industrial and commercial straits. The soil of most of the islands is rocky and unthriving, although, as a rule, it is suitable for the growing of pineapples, oranges, cocoanuts and other tropical fruits. But the population, white and black, is decadent and shiftless, and little has been done in the way of agriculture.

Eliminating Hawks.

In some sections the hawk problem is one of the hardest. A poultry yard with the top covered with wire netting is a sure protection. I have used such a yard, and it kept out cats as well as hawks. But it was expensive to make, and is not practical for large operations. Shotguns and scarecrows are practical. One of the best scarecrows is a dead hawk on a pole near the chicken run. If you can't kill a hawk, make an artificial one out of cloth. Bright tin cans hung where they will flash in the sun and also strike each other when the wind blows are effective. A lifelike dummy holding a gun is good, too, especially if you shoot at the hawks occasionally yourself. Steel traps set on high piles of the chickens will not get caught are also good.—Farm and Fireside.

Big Boiled Dinner.

The chefs in our big hotels may think they prepare meals on a big scale, but it is doubtful whether any of them have ever equaled the feat of wholesale cookery achieved at the little town of Liss, in England. At a barbecue held there not long ago an ox was boiled—not roasted—whole. This is how the thing was done: A large hole was dug in the ground and lined with brick, inside of which was built a tank large enough to hold the ox. The animal, then lowered into the tank, having first been placed in a case formed by heavy crossbars, to which chains were attached. Pulleys from a scaffolding above were used to raise and lower the ox. Many vegetables, such as carrots, onions, cabbages and potatoes, were boiled with the meat. The boiling required several hours.

His Record Too Bad.

It was Washington's birthday, and the teacher had been telling of what a great and good man Washington was. She concluded by asking all the boys that would like to be a second George Washington to hold up their hands. They all held up their hands but one. "Wouldn't you like to be a second George Washington, Tommy?" she asked. "Too late now," said Tommy, "I have told too many lies."

SUPERIOR

Little Nelly told little Anita what she termed a "little fib."

Anita—"A fib is the same as a story, and a story is the same as a lie."

Nelly—"No, it's not."

Anita—"Yes, it is, because my father said so, and my father is a professor at the University."

Nelly—"I don't care if he is. My father is a real estate man and he knows more about lying than your father does."

NOTICE OF LETTING OF DRAIN CONTRACT.

Notice is hereby given, that I, James R. Butler, County Drain Commissioner of the County of Oakland, State of Michigan, will, on the 27th day of May, A. D. 1915, at the residence of Wm. D. Lakie in the township of Troy in said County of Oakland at one o'clock in the afternoon of that day, proceed to receive bids for cleaning out of a certain drain known and designated as "Sturgis Drain," located and established in the township of Troy, Oakland county, and described as follows, to-wit:

Said Sturgis Drain to be cleaned out from Big Beaver Village to the upper terminus of said drain. Said job will be let by sections. The section at the outlet of said drain will be let first, and the remaining sections in their order up stream, in accordance with the diagram now on file with the other papers pertaining to said drain, in the office of the County Drain Commissioner of said County of Oakland, to which reference may be had by all parties interested, and bids will be made and received accordingly. Contracts will be made with the lowest responsible bidder giving adequate security for the performance of the work, in a sum then and there to be fixed by me, reserving to myself the right to reject any and all bids. The date for the completion of such contract, and the terms of payment therefor, shall be announced at the time and place of letting.

Notice is further hereby given, that at the time and place of said letting, or at such other time and place thereafter to which I, the County Drain Commissioner aforesaid, may adjourn the same, the assessments for benefits to the lands comprised within the "Sturgis Drain Special Assessment District," and apportioned thereto, will be announced by me and will be subject to review for one day, from nine o'clock in the forenoon until five o'clock in the afternoon.

The following is a description of the several tracts or parcels of land constituting the Special Assessment District of said Drain, viz:

W. ½ of lot bounded N by Schneider, E by Highway, S by Peet, W by Wattles in NE ¼ of Section 22. West 10 acres of a Parcel of land, bounded N by Anderson, E by Highway, S by Kleinow, W by Wegner, Section 22. West 10 acres of a parcel of land bounded N by Peet, E by Highway, S by Brisbois, W by Wegner, Section 22. West 20 acres of N part of SE ¼, Section 22. S 59 acres of N 99 acres of SE ¼ Section 22. West 20 acres of N 97 acres of NE ¼ Section 29. North 43 acres of E ½ of NW ¼ Section 22. East ½ of E ½ of SW ¼ Section 22. West ½ of E ½ of SW ¼ Section 22. South 41 acres of W ½ of SW ¼ Section 22. North 32 acres of W ½ of NW ¼ Section 27. SW ¼ of SW ¼ Section 22. N 22 acres of SE ¼ of NW ¼ Section 22. NW ¼ of NW ¼ except N 5 acres Section 23. E 57 acres of N ½ of NE ¼ Section 27. West 8 acres of S ½ of SE ¼ Section 21. North 40 acres of south 4 acres of N ½ of SE ¼ Section 21. East 11 acres of S ½ of SE ¼ Section 21. East 11