President's Note: I hope you will all be able to attend the meeting in December (the 13th). This will be a special Christmas program - everyone is requested to bring a decoration with them, and be able to tell us all about it (who made it, where it was made, when it was made, etc). This will be the last meeting I will need to conduct as the new officers will take over in January. They are: Shirley Venhaus, President; Barbara Knutson, Vice President; Shirley Kuykendall, Recording Secretary; Lila Jackson, Financial Secretary; John White, Treasurer; Harvey Stoller, James Vincent, Ed Roghair, and Robert Kuykendall, Board members. The position of Historian (due to the death of Ruth Stoller) is still vacant.

Don't forget -- the museum will be closed the weekends of December 25 and 26, as well as December 31st and January 1st, due to being holidays. Also, don't forget that we have several books for sale at the museum. These make really great gifts.

A great big THANKS to all of you for being so helpful and considerate. Am sure you will all be as helpful to Shirley during the next two years as you were to me during my term as President. Best wishes to you all for a wonderful holiday season.

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The Legend of the Dogwood

There is a legend that at the time of the Crucifixion the dogwood had been the size of the oak and other trees. So firm and strong was the tree that it was chosen as the timber for the cross. To be used thus for such a cruel purpose greatly distressed the tree, and Jesus, nailed upon it, sensed this, and in His gentle pity for all sorrow and suffering said to it: "Because of your regret and pity for My suffering, never again shall the dogwood tree grow large enough to be used as a cross. Henceforth it shall be slender and bent and twisted and its blossoms shall be in the form of a cross...two long and two short petals. And in the center of the outer edge of each petal there will be nail prints, brown with rust and stained with red, and in the center of the flower will be a crown of thorns and all who see it will remember."
LIGHT AND WATER FOR DAYTON
A business proposition to build Electric Light and Water Systems for Our City

At the regular meeting of the town council last Monday evening a proposition from the Dayton Light and Water Systems for the town of Dayton was submitted as follows:

Dayton Or. Nov. 1 '94

To the Trustees of the Town of Dayton, Gentlemen:—The undersigned, a company organized specially for the purpose of supplying your town with light and water, respectfully ask that you grant us the right to erect poles, and lay water mains for these purposes. We ask for this privilege alone, and even then under such reasonable regulations and conditions as your honorable body may see fit to make. We do not ask for any bonus or guarantee of any kind. We simply desire to obtain such rights as will warrant us in expending the necessary capital to build electric light and water systems for your town, expecting the investment to pay in the future growth of the town. While making this application we desire to call your attention to some of the benefits of having electric light and water systems. We propose to furnish the very best of spring water, and at such prices that the expense will be much less than what you now pay for the repairs of old pumps and wells, the high rate of insurance, which the lack of fire protection makes necessary, and the doctor and medicine bills caused from drinking such water as you now use. As the benefit of having fire protection, the healthfulness of clear spring water over surface water, the convenience of having water in your houses and barns, the desirability of sprinkling streets, the advantage of having water at all times for your yards and gardens, the commercial value of having power for manufacturing and other purposes you are well aware. Electric lights will be furnished at a price but very little more, if any, than what coal oil and broken lamp chimneys cost you. As to the desirability of electric light over coal oil lamps, its safety, cleanliness and other advantages it is not necessary to speak. Neither is it necessary to speak of the increased value of town property and growth of the city, which the construction of these two enterprises will make. In the addition to the foregoing, we desire to say that the employment of all labor in construction of these two plants will be from residents of Dayton and vicinity, thus bringing quite a sum of money to your town.

Now this is a straightforward proposal for your benefit and we would ask you to favor us with early action in the matter. We enclose herewith a draft of an ordinance, covering the points of the application.

Yours respectfully,
DAYTON LIGHT AND WATER CO.

The ordinance mentioned above is published in another column. In addition plans and specifications showing how the plants were to be built, a profile of the ground between the springs and the highest ground in Dayton, and many other interesting facts were presented. From this we learn that the springs are 164 feet higher than Dayton, that the distance to them is 2½ miles, that the height of the water in the bottom of the reservoir will be 64 feet above the highest ground in Dayton, giving sufficient force to throw water over a four story building, that four inch water main will supply over 100,000 gallons of water daily, which is sufficient for a city of 2,500 inhabitants, that the dynamo furnishing the electricity will be run by water, that the company will have 75 horse power to sell for manufacturing purposes, and that water and light will be furnished very cheap.

Quite a number of our leading citizens attended the meeting and the proposition was discussed in all its bearings. The ordinance was passed over its first and second readings, and the council adjourned to meet in a special meeting the next night.

At the meeting of the council on Tuesday night, many more pros and cons on the subject were heard, after which the ordinance was put on its final passage, which was done unanimously. Citizens are greatly pleased at the prospect of getting light and water system in a short time, knowing that the building of these plants will be a long step toward the rapid growth and prosperity of Dayton. We are informed by members of the company that as soon as preliminaries are arranged, actual work will be commenced on the system, and in a very short time this town will have a supply of water sufficient for household use, offices, stores, and other places of business, fire, etc. The editor of the HERALD, along with many other citizens, hails with pleasure this forward step of improvement in Dayton.

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(JW)