

Additional Info

July 2, 1889 – Hub

Several businessmen had visited Kearney thinking to start businesses but could not find rooms. One prospective business was a fruit store.

August 2, 1889 - Hub

A Gigantic Scheme

Col. Bob Greer is the head of this project which in future years will rank up there with the cotton mill and the Kearney Canal. Mr. Greer is treasurer of the Victoria Mineral Springs Company which owns mineral springs in Victoria in Custer County [Victoria Springs State Park] 80 miles away.

The springs are valuable because the water can be converted into medicated ginger ale, lemon seltzer, soda pop and such drinks which are not only good for their medicinal properties but are also good to drink. [There were earlier notices that people could drop by their office for a sample drink.]

Greer has been wracking his brain and losing sleep over the problem of how to get the water over 80 miles of hilly country from the springs to Kearney. Then at the great big camp meeting last week he noticed that water was brought to the campground in iron pipes. These were temporary so they were laid on the ground instead of being buried.

This gave him an idea. He thought about it for several days and developed plans. Then one night a reporter caught his up by Kearney Lake and the Wood River with maps, plans, and field notes. So he revealed his plan.

He wants to lay an 80-mile long pipe line to bring the water to the city. Then get rights-of-way in all the streets and alleys of Kearney to lay a network of pipes to all the homes and businesses just like the city water system. Then all people have to do is turn on a faucet in their homes to get this mineral water. All the pipes would be quadruplex, like a 4-barreled revolver so people have a choice of getting ginger ale, lemon seltzer, soda pop, or plain mineral water.

Work was to start immediately so it would be done in time for the G. A. R. reunion. He will not ask a subsidy from the city as so many other businesses planning to be established in Kearney have.

Greer is president of the State Agricultural Society and he was sure when he presented his plans to them they would agree to move the State Fair to Kearney since no other city could provide it with mineral water.

Civil engineers were already out going over the route.

Aug. 3, 1889

Big Real Estate Deal

The West Kearney Improvement Company sold 1200 lots to wealthy men in the East represented a principal New England banking firm in Springfield, Mass. The sale was estimated

to be over \$200,000 with \$67,000 to be paid in cash. \$10,000 was paid in earnest money until the representative of the purchasing syndicate could get back east to complete the deal.

It's probably the largest land deal ever in Kearney and one of the largest in the state and is a good deal because:

1. The buyers are some of the richest men in the East
2. The property will be sold in small lots to other rich people who will improve it.
3. Many people will come to Kearney to look at the land and possibly make other investments.
4. These people will then become talkers, workers and boomers for Kearney.
5. Leading representatives of eastern capital will be connected to Kearney thus opening avenues to money sources.

July 27, 1889 - Hub

Taylor & Bing of Lincoln opened a rubber stamp business over Harrington's dry goods store.

1899 account book for unidentified business

Bal. Jan. 1, 1899 – Nebraska Fence Co. - \$29.20