

THE GOYT VALLEY.

The Proposed Reservoirs.

To the Editor of the Manchester Guardian.

Sir,—As stated in the letters appearing in your columns from Miss Ingleby and Mr. T. H. Sowler, it is clear that the ratepayers of Stockport would gain by the adoption of Sir William Kay's suggestion that Stockport should obtain its further water supply from Manchester when the latter's Haweswater scheme is completed. Why then, in defiance of the interests of the pockets of the people of Stockport, does the Stockport Corporation persist in its proposal to build reservoirs in the Goyt Valley?

Mr. Sowler suggests that certain people in Stockport have a vague fear of being beholden to Manchester. In the first place, I suggest that Stockport, by taking water from Haweswater, would be in no way beholden to Manchester beyond an acknowledgment of Manchester's enterprise in bringing water from Haweswater. Surely it is a question of common sense that towns adjoining each other, like Manchester, Salford, and Stockport, should join in a regional water scheme. Stockport would pay for the water she used, and lay her own pipes to the Manchester reservoirs at Audenshaw. Therefore the idea that Stockport would be in any way unduly beholden to Manchester is preposterous.

If that proposition be granted, surely Stockport will best serve her own ends and preserve her dignity by abandoning the idea of constructing reservoirs in the Goyt Valley; for the preservation of the exquisitely beautiful scenery of the upper Goyt Valley is a very real interest to thousands of the citizens of Stockport.—Yours, &c.,

Buxton, October 15.

GOYT BRIDGE.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Manchester Guardian (1901-1959); Oct 18, 1929;

THE GOYT VALLEY.

The Proposed Reservoir.

To the Editor of the Manchester Guardian.

Sir,—I have read the letters of Mr. T. H. Sowler and your other correspondents on this question and unhesitatingly support their views.

Though I have lived in the immediate neighbourhood for many years and fully realise the loss of such a delightful valley to Buxton, there are others by whom this loss will be felt much more keenly. There are thousands of walkers from the suburban and industrial districts of Stockport and Manchester who treasure the Goyt Valley as one of the most perfect types of moorland, woodland, and river scenery in the district, and who visit it more than any other class.

I realise that no countryside, however perfect, should have the right to stand in the way of water requirements of industrial towns, but a town should make every effort to avoid any undue interference with country of this nature, and it is undue interference when so far from this scheme being a dire necessity water can be procured from the Manchester waterworks already in construction, and more economically. Surely the saving to Stockport of a portion of her future rate and the preservation of the head of one of her rivers are not antagonistic.

—Yours, &c.,

MOORLAND.

Buxton, October 17.