

SIEMENS SAYS MARSH LANDS ARE VALUABLE

OUTLINES SITUATION REGARDING RECLAMATION OF LANDS

Says at Cost of \$4.62 an Acre Land Could Be Reclaimed That Would Support 4000 People, Grow Feed for 30,000 Dairy Cows to Maintain 24 Creameries and Raise Best Celery on Earth.

By J. W. SIEMENS

A matter which I do not believe has been sufficiently impressed upon the local public, nor its importance to the advancement of the country, agriculturally realized, is the reclaiming of the Lower Klamath Marsh lands east of the railroad embankment. I cannot but believe that when the truth of this situation is grasped and it comes to be known that such a tremendous addition to our resources is already made possible and its materialization contingent upon legal technicalities which our legislators can obviate this winter, that the people of the community will get behind the movement and assist getting the matter into proper shape.

The Lower Klamath marshes lie close to the state line, 27,500 acres in Oregon and 27,000 in California. Twenty-four thousand and six hundred of these acres are in national bird reserve, and while no doubt valuable for this purpose, are much more valuable for agricultural purposes. The bird reserve should be transferred to some point where less valuable areas are involved. In addition to the 54,000 acres mentioned, there is an open water area of 28,000, of which approximately

10,000 will be reclaimed, making a total of 64,000 acres.

The government figure for past work done with the view of reclaiming this tract is \$4.62 per acre in payments covering a period of twenty years. This will repay \$253,000 which has been expended on account of it. The price will be accepted by the marsh landowners when the state law will permit levying assessments in the manner prescribed.

The importance of the addition of 64,000 acres of rich irrigated soil to our tributary territory becomes apparent when it is remembered that there is considerably less than this amount under the United States reclamation project as it now stands, and that such an area of profitably cultivated would more than double our present agricultural resources.

If this area were devoted to dairying, it would support more than 30,000 cows, or about fifteen times what are being milked in Klamath county now. Cream from this number of cows would maintain twenty creameries the size of the one now operated at Klamath Falls. The soil of the Klamath marshes is known to be unusually adapted to vegetable production. Klamath's celery won the grand award at the San Francisco world's fair. Thirteen medals were won out of fourteen entries. The Klamath marsh lands would supply vegetables for the City of San Francisco and several other large coast cities. The best quality of sugar beets can be grown in this marsh soil. Enough land is available in the marsh lands, when reclaimed, to supply eight sugar beet factories of the capacity of the plant now installed at Grants Pass. Engineers estimate that one person for every sixteen acres of this irrigated land can exist in the country and one in a town supported by it. With these figures as a basis, the Klamath Marsh lands would require a population of 4000 to properly handle them and the district would support with the products raised a city almost as large as Klamath Falls.

These comparisons give an idea of the enormous possibilities here at our very door. Now when it is considered that the reclamation of this tract is already practically completed as far as construction is concerned, that the only thing necessary to do is to close certain gates, already built, at the rail-

road crossing over the Klamath strait, and that this action may be taken following some unimportant legal procedure in our congress and legislature, it would seem that enough pressure would be brought to bear to have these formalities gone through with without further delay.

Anybody having any suggestion to make in regard to this, would be well to see our senator-elect, George T. Baldwin, before January 1, 1917.

SHIPPINGTON MIDLIGHTS

The McCornack dredger "Klamath Queen" is dredging a canal around the Klamath Manufacturing Company's holdings at Shippington for fire protection, and also to keep the water from overflowing the Pelican Bay lumber yards.

The steamer Klamath is on the ways at Pelican City for repairs.

The Pelican Bay mill closed down last Thursday after a most successful summer's run.

The Klamath Manufacturing Company's box factory will probably close down a week for Christmas.

Messrs. Dingman, Wakefield, Riggs, Glendenning, DeChaine and others are putting up ice, and yet there's lots of ice left.

Quite a few of the Shippington folk are away for Christmas. Mrs. Setzer, two children and brother left for Sission, Cal., yesterday. Geo. Thornton also left for California yesterday. Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Yancey will leave Thursday for several weeks' stay at Willamette valley points. Mrs. A. Brearcliff and Dan Nadine leave Saturday for Redding.

The Bee met at Mrs. Brearcliff's last Thursday.

John Linman's new store is rapidly gaining shape and bids fair to eclipse all of his former records in shipbuilding.

C. W. Mulleneux has traded his home here for a place in town and will soon move.

The fishermen seem at last to have found their pace, as every evening they come in with strings of big beauties that would make most any one's mouth water.

SPORTSMEN AND FARMERS AGREE TO CO-OPERATE

ALL TROUBLE IS QUICKLY CLEARED AWAY

Sportsmen Say They Were Partly Mistaken and Farmers Promise to Use Care in Putting Out Poison and Join Sportsmen's Association as Evidence of Good Faith—Ask Rabbit Bounty From Court.

It looked like howitzers, machine guns and tomahawks would find use when the meeting of the Klamath Sportsmen's Association opened last night. When the meeting adjourned only peace pipes would have found welcome.

The sportsmen present cooled off considerably and the enraged farmers present joined the sportsmen's association.

The meeting and attendant feeling grew out of a protest by W. P. Johnson, president of the association, against putting out poison to kill jack rabbits. He feared many quail would get the poisoned grain. The farmers had no intention of killing quail; yet they were determined to kill the rabbits. Compromises were speedily effected and misunderstandings cleared away.

After the farmers, all of whom were from the Orindale district, where the poison is to be put out, had joined the association, the following resolutions were adopted:

"Whereas, Owing to the serious menace which the jack rabbits have become to the farmers of Klamath county, the great amount of crop damage wrought by them, and the fact that their increase has been so rapid since

the previous county bounty has been removed; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That in view of the fact that present high prices of ammunition prevent farmers from shooting these pests to any material extent, we, the Klamath Sportsmen's Association of Klamath Falls, hereby respectfully petition your honorable body to replace an immediate bounty of not less than ten cents on this animal."

"Whereas, Members of the Klamath Sportsmen's Association realize how very materially the farmers of Klamath county assist in the feeding and protection of game birds of this district, how impossible their propagation would become without such assistance, and the great mutual benefit resultant from mutual co-operation between Klamath county farmers and the sportsmen's association; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That all farmers and stockmen of this district are especially invited to identify themselves at once with this body and co-operate in moves for the betterment of game and fish conditions in Klamath county."

"Whereas, It has become the intention of farmers in Klamath county to place poison during the coming winter for the extermination of jack rabbits, and, whereas, such action would probably, unless precautions were taken, be the means of killing numbers of the quail that frequent feed corrals during this season; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That the Klamath Sportsmen's Association urges upon farmers in charge of placing such poison the necessity of special care that it is placed in a way that quail and other birds will not reach it, and request that especial pains be taken in this matter."

Can Borrow More

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 19.—So people who have taken loans out of the state school fund at 6 per cent interest will not repay them with 5 per cent money under the rural credit act, the state land board has raised the amount of money that can be loaned to one person from \$2500 to \$5000.

This action was taken because there is a tendency on the part of those who have money loaned out of the school fund to repay so that they can take advantage of the reduction of one per cent in interest which the rural credits act will afford when it goes into effect.

FRENCH MAINTAIN THEIR POSITION IN VERDUN FIGHTING

BERLIN, Dec. 19.—It is admitted by the war office that the French have maintained positions in the Chantreaux-Verdun sector, but elsewhere they have been repulsed.

The French attempt to advance north of Rheims has been repulsed. The Bulgarians and Turks were successful in today's fighting on the struma front.

The Russians are making fierce attacks in the Carpathians with some success.

SHIP SUNK BECAUSE SHE VIOLATED NEUTRALITY

BERLIN, Dec. 19.—The American steamer Columbian was torpedoed because, once released after being stopped by a U. S. boat, it wireless a warning of the presence of the submarine, in violation of neutrality. This is the German reply to the American inquiry regarding the sinking of the Columbian. The note of reply was handed to Charge d' Affairs Grew today.

Dry Nation Sure

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 19.—That the entire nation will go dry ultimately and that this session of congress must immediately consider replacing the \$327,000,000 liquor tax is the declaration of Chairman Fitzgerald of the house appropriations committee.

Germany Will Answer

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 19.—Lloyd's George's request for Germany's official peace terms will be answered by Bethmann-Hollweg, provided the terms are kept secret by the British government. This is the expressed opinion of several men in well informed German circles in Washington.

EL PASO, Dec. 19.—General Bell has ordered all of the 580 sizers of the "Round Robin" to remain in camp.

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