HOLLAND'S DIKES MAY BE INCREASED BECAUSE OF LATE HEAVY STORMS

THE HAGUE, March 1. (By Mail)—Holland's recent disastrous floods on the Zuider Zee coast promise to hasten the Netherlands government's plans for reclaiming most of the Zuider Zee and turning the rest of it into a fresh water lake. The floods were the result of a northwest storm which swept the European west coast recently. The waves, driven by this gale through the narrow neck of Zuider Zee, could not get out in the wind's face, and the water kept piling up, higher and higher, until at last the tremendous pressure burst the dikes in many places and vast tracts of country were inundated. The scheme for eliminating flood possibilities is a good many years old. It seems likely now to be put into effect soon. The proposition of the Dutch engineers, world's foremost experts at reclamation work, is to build an embankment across the mouth of the Zuider Zee, from Ewyk sluis, North Holland, to the south west corner of the island of Wieris gen, and from the northwest corner of Wieringen to Piaam, Friesland, and to pump out all the salt water inside this empankment. At the center of the enclosed area, as far as the embankment, the purpose is to leave a basin into which the river Ijsel and lesser streams will empty, gradually filling it with fresh water. The rest, except for a channel extending southwest to the vicinity of Amsterdam, will be reclaimed. Reclamation is to be accomplished by the construction of dikes on the fresh water lakeshore before it has time to fill up from the streams emptying into it. The new areas are described by the engineers as the northwest, northeast, southwest and southeast "polders," or reclaimed lands. The "polders," shore lines will extend, respectively, from the northeast end of Wieringen to the town of Medemblik, from the town of Oude Mirden to the mouth of the Ijsel, from the town of Enkhuizen to Marken, and from the mouth of the Ijsel to Muider. These lines will not be drawn as the crow flies but will bulge to the seaward, considerably increasing the land and reducing the lake area. Execution of the plan will mean the addition of 815 square miles to Holland's land territory and of a lake 557 square miles in extent. Experts are of the opinion that the reclaimed land will be fit for cultivation within 16 years of the start on diking operations and that it will support a population of 250,000 souls. The lake also will have a value, fresh water being much needed in Holland. Incidentally the embankment from Ewyksluis to Piaam will carry a double line of railroad and a highway for ordinary traffic, reducing the land trip from the North Holland to the Friesland coasts from about 300 to 25 miles. The embankment will be provided with locks and sluices for the regulation of the lake level and the passage of ships. It is estimated that the work will take, altogether, 32 years, and that its cost will be about $100,000,000.

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PUTER STILL ACTIVE

People Are Being Located on Railroad Lands

PUTER IS IN WASHINGTON

Mr. Puter Contends That His Clients Are Entitled to Possession of Land for Which They Made a Formal Tender

WASHINGTON, March 16.—Hundreds, even thousands, of applicants for Oregon and California land grant lands are still putting up good money for a propaganda that is hopeless.

That money is flowing in is sufficiently shown by the fact that expensive lawyers are hired to come to Washington to present the claims of these applicants before Congress. Among these are George A. Knight, of San Francisco, and Charles Simon, of Minneapolis.

That their cause is hopeless has been clearly indicated by the course of the hearing in committee on public lands in the House. That committee appears to be unanimous in a desire to protect every settler who was actually on the land at some date to be fixed. That date probably will be the time of Judge Wolverton's decision forfeiting the grant.

There is no support, however, for the Puter idea of giving preference rights to the 15,000 or more applicants who never went on the land, and did nothing more than pay location fees to Puter or other locators.

Puter in his testimony has stated that he is now about $6000 in debt as a result of his campaign, but says he has $4000 or $5000 standing on his books unpaid. He has not stinted himself, however, in the work, as appears from other parts of his testimony.

He has sent out thousands of letters, circulars and otherwise; he has had printed a book that tells of the lands and gives the names of 15,606 applicants; he has traveled extensively in this country and in Canada to meet various groups of applicants; he has mapped the lands in detail; he has obtained abstracts on all of it; he has established offices in Washington and New York, and he has hired lawyers.

Puter frankly admits that he is playing for a big stake, and gave the committee a glimpse of it. According to his statement, he holds about 100 contracts containing clauses that will entitle him, if the applicants secure title, to buy, in some cases one-half and in some cases one-fourth of the land at $1.25 per acre.

Averaging the Puter contracts on the basis of 60 acres times 100, he would get 6000 acres, and assuming that with his intimate knowledge of the lands he would be able to pick some of the best, worth say $100 an acre, the Puter applications would be worth $600,000. All the Puter family also have individual applications for 160 acres each.

Congressman Lenroot, who had been figuring while Puter talked, asked him, since he was denouncing others for trying to steal the land, what difference there would be in Puter's own case if a bill were passed that would enable him to gather in such a large share of valuable timber land.

Puter's reply was that he considered that he had earned the money by his locating work. If Congress thinks he is not entitled to it, he said, he would give way, but he believed he ought to have it for his services.

Puter interpreted the Supreme Court decision for the committee. The Chamberlain bill would be unconstitutional, he announced.

The committee became interested in Puter's statement that out of 1,300 persons located by him, 900 are French Canadians, not citizens of the United States. He insisted that they ought to be given a chance to settle on the land. He thought many of them would go if they had a chance.

Puter's conception of the meaning of actual settlement was revealed a little later. He said he was surprised in visiting recently with a group of applicants in Chicago to find that they wanted to "go on the land, build a house, and make it a summer resort."

This summer resort idea of the actual settlers caused the committee to suspend business for a time until the merriment subsided.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

H. C. Stearns, et ux, to A. F. Stearns, $1500; E½ lots 6 and 7, Block 3, Yoncalla.

James P. Cain Est. to Kate Babcock, $640; 280 acres, Secs. 24 and 25, Tp. 24 S., R. 5 W.

Wm. H. Young, et ux, to Orville K. Aldrich, $2000; 180 acres, Sec. 12, Tp. 30 S., R. 8 W.

Henry H. Stowe to Sheldon C. Stowe, $300; NW¼ Sec. 6, Tp 30 S., R. 6 W.

Frank Brown to Jas. M. Traylor, et ux, $250; lot 11, block 2, Brown's Fair Acres.

W. P. Reed, et ux, to Chas. T. Walker, $100; lot 2, block 12, Winchester Bay Townsite.

E. Denton, et ux, to T. W. Herrer, lots 1 to 8, block 1, Myrtle Heights Add. to Myrtle Creek.

PREPAREDNESS PICTURES AT ANTLER'S THEATER

Preparedness.

That is the burning question of the day. Everybody's talking preparedness, many are thinking about it, and it's a fact that there are some who are really preparing.

Preparedness for defence not preparedness for war, is the suggestion that has been given over 10,000,000 persons in the motion picture theaters where Paramount pictures are shown, for it has been through this corporation that the public has been shown that there is a way to visualize thought: picturing in a most vivid manner the thoughts of the country's greatest men.

These pictures under the name of Paramount Pictographs have taken up the subject of Preparedness and have contributed to it such well known personages as Theodore Roosevelt, Frederick Palmer, Henry Huterdahl, Major General Wood, and others of National repute.

The second installment of Preparedness pictures, in which ex-President Theodore Roosevelt, makes his "bow" in movies to the American public, will be shown tonight and tomorrow night at the Antler's Theater.

On the same program will be the great five-reel Mary Pickford feature, "The Girl of Yesterday."

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