

MAY ADOPT NEW PLAN

DISTRICT PLAN OF IRRIGATION MAY BE TAKEN UP BY LOCAL COMPANY

LAND OWNERS IN DISTRICT WILL VOTE TO FLOAT THE BONDS

PRESIDENT PIERCE, INSTIGATOR OF IRRIGATION HERE, CONSIDERING PROPOSITION TO CONSUMMATE IRRIGATION PROJECT THROUGH PLAN THAT HAS BEEN GIVEN A TRIAL.

Radical deviation from original irrigation plans that will, when consummated, water a vast area of Union county, is being worked out by the new president of the Grande Ronde Irrigation company, Hon. Walter M. Pierce, who was elected to succeed Fred Holmes last Saturday, and who, by the way, is one of the three fathers of the original plan and who gave inception to the plan several years ago. From a near-cooperative plan, the project is to be carried out on a vastly different idea. If the plan now being worked out by Mr. Pierce is finally adopted, it will be done on the district scheme, a plan that is meeting with universal satisfaction everywhere, costs no more and generally less than the original scheme, and in addition, will be paid for by every land owner in the district whether or not he uses the water.

The company was incorporated to water land where water rights were paid for. Twenty dollars was set as the price to pay. When every land owner cared to get water, he signed a contract—really a mortgage—to pay on easy installments for a perpetual water right.

The New Plans Different
Under the district plan which is being considered by Mr. Pierce and

the directors as very feasible, the lands in a certain district are grouped as in school districts. Twenty-five thousand acres are to be embraced in the first district. Every land owner is assessed to pay the cost of the water, at a rate that is less than the cost would be under the old plan. The district votes on the bonding question as would a school district and if a majority agree, the district is bonded. Annual assessments are paid in to the county treasurer the same as any county tax. At the end of 10 years the owner commences to pay into a sinking fund and at the end of 20 years has a perpetual water right. During it all the man has not had a mortgage attached to his particular piece of land.

Use of Water Optional.
Under this system every foot of land in the district can be watered if the owner says the word. If he refuses to take it, he pays his pro rata assessment anyway. The man who does use it pays no more than the man who does not, pro rata, of course.
Mr. Pierce is not in the city and cannot be seen to outline all the details of the scheme, but while at Hot Lake early in the week, did state in brief the plans outlined as above stated.

It is evident that the farmers do not want water at a price far below the average on the old system. One year of strenuous work proved that. This plan, while new here and will need explanation to the farmers, is another route to the same goal and Mr. Pierce believes it will be adopted by the farmers with general satisfaction. From time to time districts will be added to it until the capacity of the plant has been used.

COMET SEEN BY NAKED EYE

MAKES APPEARANCE THIS MORNING IN THE EAST.

Telescope Location Two Days Ago Followed by Eye Range

For the first time in Union county, at least, Halley's comet has been seen with the naked eye today. It

was plainly discernable this morning between 3 and 4 o'clock but faded away at the latter hour and was not even visible to the Bardou telescope after that hour. This is the first time that it has been seen, though many have imagined they had located it several days ago. Undoubtedly Venus, the morning star, was the object seen and credited with being the comet. Two days ago it was not visible to the naked eye, in fact, Monday morning was the first time it could be located with a telescope. It is coming toward the earth with terrific speed—about one million miles a day. Within a few days the tail should be seen.

This morning the disc like tail was visible for a few minutes, the nucleus of the comet appearing as a tiny star in the far distance, being nowhere near the size of Venus, the brilliant morning sentinel.

This morning the wanderer appeared on the horizon as a point slightly north of Venus and in more readily understood terms, in a direct line with Spring, Penn. M. N. or O. Aves.

Through the telescope it has the appearance of a large piece of white cloth struck in the middle with a heavy weight, and carried on with rapidly. Within a week, it will be quite plain in the morning hours.

Take a Chance

Next Saturday, all day, 312 packages worth from 50c to \$10.00 each will be sold for 25c each. Nothing will be returned or nothing returned. We guarantee that you will get your money's worth and more. One article is a pair of men's \$5.00 shoes. Come early to the Golden Rule, Saturday.

CARRY PROBE FURTHER

CHICAGO AIRED BY CHARGES BEING BROUGHT.

Municipal Affairs to be Gone Into Still Further by Probers.

Chicago, April 27.—The commission investigating the charges of the graft in municipal affairs is today preparing to prosecute further. Evidence has already been uncovered indicating that the city has lost more than \$55,000 within 20 months by the crooked transactions in coal contracts. Forgeries of contracts, mutilation of coal records, payments for thousands of coal never delivered, are some of the counts listed by the commission.

FINISH CANAL IN 1914

AUTHORITATIVE INFORMATION GIVEN OUT TODAY.

Believed Big Ditch Will be Given the Formal Opening Early.

Washington, April 27.—The Panama Canal will be opened early in 1915 according to the highest official authority here today. The same authority, however, refused to change the official announcement that the canal would be opened in 1915, because of the possibility of unforeseen delay causing postponement.

TABERNACLE AND GROUNDS NOW CONTROLLED BY FAIR

NEXT COUNTY FAIR WILL BE HELD ON CORNER OF FIFTH AND SPRING WITH TABERNACLE AS CENTER FOR BUILDING ESPECIALLY SUITED FOR THAT PURPOSE

Consummation of a deal of vital importance to the county fair this fall was perfected late this afternoon when a committee of the fair association secured a lease from C. H. Upton on the grounds on which stand the newly completed tabernacle, on the corner of Spring and Fifth, this being the last link in the chain of transactions consummated during the past few days. The tabernacle, as it stands, has been purchased by the fair people and the lease is now secure meaning that the fair will be held on the corner of Fifth and Spring next fall much the same as it was last year on Washington, Fir and

Greenwood, the skating rink being the central building around which the other buildings centered. The purchase of the tabernacle has been the dream of the fair people ever since it was built. Convenient, good sidewalks leading to it, splendid rostrum for choruses and speaking, large seating facilities, plenty of display room—these and a dozen other features are connected with the building.

Had the fair people themselves built a structure for this use, they could have improved it but little. The stock and exhibit sheds used last year are still intact and can be set up at a moment's notice.

INDIANA DEMOCRATS HOLD A REDHOT CONVENTION

Indianapolis, April 27.—With most of the delegates on the ground today, the skirmish before the state democratic convention, which opens tonight, is becoming hotter. That the convention will develop into a test of strength between Thomas Taggart and Governor Marshall, backed by John E. Lamb, vice president of the national democratic committee seems certain.

Compromise Not Likely
Senator Shively, who is to be a prominent chairman of the conven-

tion, is here trying to bring about a compromise but it is not believed the effort will result in a settlement and the question of endorsing the candidate for the senate will doubtless be fought out on the floor of the convention.

Lamb and Taggart are both candidates for the senate. Lamb is backing the Marshall proposition and the convention choose the candidate and Taggart is fighting it but has announced that he will go before the ed in this city for routine creamery plan is adopted.

IDAHO LAND SCANDAL GROWS

Boise, April 27.—Charges and counter charges are passing between the members of the State Land Board and other state officials, as the result of disclosures following the resignation of M. I. Church, register of the State Land Board.

Church is now on the way from Couer d'Alene to Boise where he has been since the resignation was tendered, and declares that he proposes to show he is being made a scapegoat, while the "higher-ups" are the real guilty ones. He has asked the governor to hold up his resignation and a warm time is expected when Church arrives to confront his accusers.

The discovery was made today that

affidavits of appraisal of lands purchased by the Payette Lumber company from the State are missing from the files. Norman Belch, a former state land selector, charges that he was instructed by Attorney-general McDougall in the presence of secretary of state Lansdon, both members of the land board to appraise 9000 acres of land by the Payette company at \$10 an acre, and did so without seeing the land. Both McDougall and Lansdon deny this.

Assistant Attorney General Peterson admitted today he was financially interested in the Medbury Carey Act project and had made filings on 1000 feet of water in Elmore County.

ARE YOU COUNTED

MEEKER STAYS OVER A DAY

WILL BE GUEST OF HOT LAKE SANATORIUM TOMORROW.

Non-arrival of Freight Shipment Delays His Start Eastward.

Ezra Meeker did not break camp today as he planned but will be forced to wait until tomorrow for setting his face to the rising sun on account of the non-arrival of some freight for which he is waiting.

While delayed he will use his time chronicling local data for his book which will be published when the trip is finished.

Tomorrow, in response to an urgent invitation from the management of the Hot Lake Sanatorium, Mr. Meeker and his escort will be the guest of honor at Hot Lake. He will uncork his storehouse of pioneer incidents when he gets there and the management plans to treat him royally.

Jeffries Again at Strenuous Work
Rowdena, April 27.—The cool weather today again enabled Jeffries to take up the somewhat strenuous program of training. He hiked over the mountain roads for 10 miles and this afternoon planned to box Berger, Armstrong and Pappas.

Who to phone to—Willie Peare, W. A. Worstell, A. B. Rogers or Frank Millering. Call for particulars at Williamson's land office or Peare's jewelry store.

The count ends on the 29th of this month—only two days more and the city is out completed. Get busy.

A blank is published in the Observer today. Fill it out and send it to one of the enumerators. Do it now! Land lords of hotels and proprietors are held responsible for their boarders and if boarders will not answer the questions in person or by blank, the proprietor can be fined \$500 by the government. Landlords, avoid the fine by insisting that your boarders fill out blanks. Uncle Sam means business. Attend to it today.

How many people has La Grande? Some say 6000, others say 8000; still others say less and a few say more.

But it is just as well for La Grande to understand that the forthcoming census is not going to show 6000 or 8000 unless more interest is displayed in the census.

So you might just as well get ready for the shock.

Unless something is done. Unless a great deal is done. Now, what is to be done?

Make yourself—this means YOU—a committee of one to find out if your neighbor and all of his household has been enumerated.

Or see to it that every person who belongs to La Grande is counted.

Let La Grande wake up. It is up to every man, woman and child in the city to take an interest in this business. It won't do La Grande any good merely to put up a howl after it is all over that the census is not complete.

BURY CODY ON MOUNTAIN

CEDAR MOUNTAIN TO BE FINAL RESTING PLACE.

Marble Buffalo With Electric Lights to Mark the Grave.

Chicago, April 27.—When "Buffalo Bill" Cody dies his body will be buried on the summit of Cedar Mountain in the Big Horn country, Wyoming, and over it will stand a marble buffalo, 40 feet high, with electric lights in its eye sockets so brilliant that they can be seen for miles. At least, that is what Cody himself plans. The plans were revealed by Chas. Heath, in a lecture to the Geographical Society in Chicago. He says that Cody confided the plans to him a year ago.

Young Boy Electrocuted.

Butte, April 27.—While swinging at the end of a barbed wire thrown over the power lines to the Rarus mine last night, Frank Barry, aged 13, was electrocuted. His companion Peary Honeychurch, aged 15, attempted to rescue him and he too was electrocuted. Miners recovered the bodies of the boys, both of which were horribly burned.