



Malheur Enterprise



VOLUME VII, NUMBER 10.

VALE, OREGON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1916.

SUBSCRIPTION, \$2.00 PER YEAR

IRRIGATION DISTRICT LAW

Some of the Salient Features Which Should Be Kept in Mind.

The salient and important features of the Oregon Irrigation District Law: Those in which the people of the valley are at present greatly interested in are as follows:

Section 1 of 1915 laws provides for organization and that districts shall have municipal powers of self government.

Section 2 provides for circulation of petition which must be signed by fifty owners of land, or a majority, requesting the county court to call an election for the purpose of determining whether the people under the proposed system desire to organize.

The court has four weeks in which to hear objections or applications for admission. The court names the district. The court divides the district into sub-districts as prayed for in petition. Directors will be voted for at this election to serve one year, or until another election of officers. Provides for ballots and form. States who may vote. Bona fide owners of land, those who have an uncompleted government claim, and corporations shall have but one vote regardless of number of acres.

Section 3 provides for organization of board of directors and bond that shall be given by the officials elected.

Section 4 provides for by-laws and duties of the board of directors.

Section 5 provides the procedure of the board of directors and order of business. Records must be open to the public. By-laws must be distributed. Provides how board shall act in construction and provides for dealing with the United States.

Section 6 provides for legal course of the board in defense of any rights of the district.

Section 7 provides for procedure to obtain funds for construction. Board shall obtain plans and estimates. These plans and estimates shall be made public. Board shall call an election for the purpose of voting bonds. If bonds are not voted the board may make other plans and estimates and call another election.

If bonds are voted the board may proceed to sell them. The bonds may not bear interest greater than 6 per cent. They must be issued in series. The first retirement will be five per cent of the bonds in 21 years, six per cent in 22 years, seven per cent in 23 years, eight per cent in 24 years, nine per cent in 25 years, ten per cent in 26 years, eleven per cent in 27 years, thirteen per cent in 28 years, fifteen per cent in 29 years and sixteen per cent in 30 years.

Section 9 provides in part as follows: "That in no case shall any land be taxed which from any natural causes cannot be irrigated or which is incapable of cultivation; provided, further, that where ditches, canals, reservoirs, or other irrigation works or pumping plants are actually constructed and in operation at the time of the organization of the district, the lands actually irrigated therefrom at that time shall not be liable to be taxed, under the provisions of this Act."

OLD MAIL LINE DISCONTINUED

The people of Burns have succeeded in securing a daily mail service from Riverside, the old route from Baker via Canyon City having been discontinued.

The old Canyon City mail route had been in existence for 31 years, but in their years very little business was done over that line, and the change to a daily mail via Riverside will be a great relief to the Burns country.

Burns Engineer Took Tie Passage on Flooded Road

Says Dog Mountain Oil Well Has Secured New Casing from Riverside.

Engineer C. B. McConnel, who is interested in the Silves river irrigation enterprise, arrived from Burns Tuesday night and reports about the same amount of snow in Harney valley as at Vale, with sloppy weather. Mr. McConnel walked 11 miles on the Oregon Eastern track in to Riverside as the water was too high in the South Fork to ford. Mr. McConnel reports that Superintendent Turney, of the Dog Mountain oil well, has secured his casing which will be hauled in from Riverside as soon as the roads will permit and the water will immediately be cased off. The well has been put down 1800 feet below the first lot of casing and they claim to have oil which will be developed when water is cased off.

WM. HANLEY SELLS BIG HARNEY INTEREST

The Swift people, of Chicago, have closed a deal for the Wm. D. Hanley interests in Harney county, including some 140,000 acres of land, the value of which is placed at \$3,000,000. The new company will be known as the Eastern Oregon Cattle company.

BANKER MILLS FAVORS STATE AID IRRIGATION

Mr. A. L. Mills, President of the First National Bank of Portland, sounded the feelings of the business men of that city towards irrigation and rural credits in a speech before the Irrigation Congress last December. Mr. Mills said in part:

Now how can we make our land values such that an industrious settler can be reasonably sure of a better return on his investment than he received from his old farm in the East? Certainly we cannot regulate the price of privately-owned land, by law. How then can we increase the productivity of our great domain and render the results of man's labor of greater value?

First—By encouraging by every means within our power the great irrigation projects that are absolutely necessary if we are to make two blades of grass grow where none grew before.

To do this we must not only help ourselves, "fly with our own wings," but we must leave no stone unturned to get proper assistance from the State and national governments.

Irrigation bonds have a bad name in financial circles—hardly any form of investment a worse one—but such bonds are not inherently wrong; they have gone bad because the interest charges and maturities have come before the project has had time to become an established earning power.

If some such law is enacted as is proposed by the Jones Bill, it will do much to rehabilitate irrigation bonds in the eyes of the investing public.

Although the Jones Bill is a step in the right direction, I do not believe it will be enacted at this session of Congress, as it is not an administration measure, and all the strength of the Democratic party will be exerted first to carry through legislation looking toward preparedness, revenue bills, and a merchant marine. If these measures should become laws, then it is possible the Jones Bill will have consideration.

In the meantime we must ever keep before us the territorial motto and depend upon Oregon flying with its own wings.

In other words, I mean by this that we must put in motion the necessary machinery to have our State support our irrigation projects.

An initiative measure should be presented permitting Oregon to bond itself up to say 2 per cent of its assessed valuation, or, in other words, to about \$18,000,000.

(Continued on page 8.)

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ELECTS A NEW SET OF OFFICERS.

Enthusiastic Meeting Held, and Everyone Anxious to Take Part in Forwarding the Movement Looking to the Formation of An Irrigation District to Put Through the Great Warm Spring Project—Committee Selected

At a meeting of the Vale Chamber of Commerce Monday evening officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows: Leo Schmidt, President; Saxon Humphrey, Vice-president; L. L. Hope, Secretary; C. C. Mueller, Treasurer; W. M. Rose, T. T. Nelsen, I. W. Hope, directors.

A special committee was appointed to confer with the citizens of the valley in regard to the construction of the Warm Springs reservoir project. As the subject was one in which the farmers of the valley were mainly interested it was deemed proper to go out side of the Chamber of Commerce or city of Vale for representation on that committee.

The situation was explained by John Rigby as follows: "The construction of the Malheur project has been delayed for many years from many causes unnecessary for us to discuss. The facts are that the district law has been so modified and powers granted which they did not heretofore enjoy that it seems a proper time to bring the matter before the people of the valley.

"The citizens of Vale and of Ontario are greatly interested in this matter, because of the 25,000 additional

acres which will be put under cultivation. It means prosperous times for the two towns if the project is put in and dull times if it fails. While this is true it still remains that the project is under the complete control of the farming community.

"I do not think the provisions of the present law and the advantages of an organization as well as the present condition of the money market is thoroughly understood by the people of our section and it is my opinion that we should have a committee appointed to confer with the people of the district and see that all of the facts are placed before those most interested and that on this committee should be as strong representative of the farmers as this body can select.

"We are all bound together and the prosperity and good times cannot come to one without the other participating.

"The new law is in such form that the burden of construction will fall where it should, upon the shoulders of those who have attempted to profit from the labor of the pioneer farmer. The checkerboard appearance of the valley will be changed and those who

have dug no ditches and planted no crops will be compelled to do their share of development or let some one else share their land who is willing to do it.

"The condition of the affair is about as follows: There must first be an organization which is to be secured through the medium of a petition to the county court for an election. This election votes no bonds and adopts no plan, it simply arranges for both a plan and financial question to be formulated by five directors to be elected at this election and then submitted at a special election for that purpose. This petition has been drawn and boundaries defined which boundaries do not contemplate any high line or expensive construction, taking in only such land as may be watered by an enlargement and extension of present ditches. The question now is this—do the people desire a district and do they desire the Warm Springs reservoir to be built?"

Upon the conclusion of the remarks of Mr. Rigby the following committee was appointed with general and special powers, G. H. Ricker, I. W. Hope, John Rigby.

Superintendent at U. Voices His Opinion

Enterprise Receives Word From State University Secretary on Irrigation District.

University of Oregon, Eugene, Jan. 31, 1916.—Editor Enterprise, Vale, Oregon. Dear Sir: I am very glad to be able to acknowledge the receipt of your latest circular and of the first copy of the Malheur Enterprise. I wish to speak personally and add that I am very glad to learn of the endeavor to organize an irrigation district in your vicinity. May I receive information from time to time as to the progress in this matter?

Very truly yours,
N. C. GRIMES,
Secretary.

NYSSA WINS DEBATE FROM ONTARIO BOYS

Nyssa won the elimination contest over the Ontario team which defeated Vale's team in the debating league. Nyssa now becomes champion of the district composing Malheur, Harney and Baker counties, and will be pitted against other district champions for further elimination contests.

Blaine Gibson and Donald Davis represented Nyssa, and Ontario was represented by Ephraim Herriott and Robert Bender, who defeated the Vale team.

"WHY TAKE A CHANCE?"—S. P.

The Southern Pacific company through their publicity agent has furnished an article by T. W. Rickard, Safety First Commissioner, on "Why Take A Chance," which deals with the carelessness of touring motorists as well as local motor fiends in crossing railroad tracks. The article is timely and the cause just. Both the railroad and the drivers are vitally interested. Not only is the property of the railroad company at stake but hundreds of lives are in danger from a collision. STOP! LOOK! LISTEN! is a good signal and if obeyed lives will be saved, property conserved and cripples less frequently furnished. Following is a portion of the article: "The engineer pulling the train is the direct representative of the railroad in approaching highway crossings, and the chauffeur driving the automobile approaching the railroad crossing on highways is the direct representative of the public. Now will these two important gentlemen holding such responsible positions join hands for Safety First and promote it all they can? The railroad officials can plan and map out all the safety ideas in the world, but the issue is really up to the engineer and the driver of the automobile to eliminate accidents on highway crossings. About all an engineer can do approaching a

(Continued on page 8.)

SPORTSMEN SAVE THE BIRDS

George Carter, one of Vale's prominent sportsmen, took up a collection in Vale last week to buy grain to feed the game birds in the valley, which might be distressed for food during the heavy snow.

Some \$20 was raised and Mr. Carter bought grain and sent it out to the various neighborhoods where the birds were known to range.

Anyone knowing where these birds may be fed, will be furnished with the necessary grain by telephoning the Interior Warehouse and Grain company at Vale.

VALE MEAT CO. MAKES CHANGE

The Vale Meat company succeeds Chester's Cash Market in the butcher business, ice and cold storage in this city, the new company taking charge the first of the month.

The Vale Meat company will add a stock of groceries and the business will be conducted on the co-operative plan, each customer sharing in the profits of the business. A. H. Chester remains as manager of the new corporation, and the people of Vale and vicinity are invited to investigate the new system under which the business will be conducted in the future, through which every patron becomes a partner in the business.

GOVT. SEEDS ARE GOING FAST

Judging from the number of requests received by the Enterprise the past week, Malheur county farmers are more than willing to give the government free seeds sent by Congressman N. J. Sinnott a fair trial. The flower seeds were exhausted early in the week, but a request has been sent the Congressman, and in all probability a new supply of flower seeds will be sent soon.

The garden seeds are going fast, but enough are left to fill a number of orders. So to be sure, send your request now.

This is the season of the year when you see incubators in the store windows, and some fairly well developed chickens coming from the matines.

A boy who cleans his shoes in a manner satisfactory to his mother, is so apt to be a mollycoddle in other respects.

(Continued on page 8.)

Forest Rangers Feed Game Birds in The Hills

Urges Forestry Office To Give Food to Feathered Flocks in the Mountains.

The District Forester at Portland, Oregon, has issued a circular letter to all Forest officers, urging them to feed game and birds in their respective localities during storm periods.

The National Forest appropriation is limited to the care of fish and game supplied to stock the Forests or the waters therein, and cannot be used for the purchase of food for game and birds. However, the matter is a most worthy one, especially during this year of exceptional storms, and each forest officer is urged not only to use his best efforts to furnish game animals and game and song birds with something in the way of food, but is asked to appeal to ranchers and stockmen generally in his vicinity to do their part in aiding the work.

AMPUTATION OF FOOT IS AGAIN PERFORMED

A complication of blood poisoning necessitated the amputation of N. C. Long's foot above the ankle Monday, Dr. Bartlett performing the operation. The last report is that Mr. Long is doing splendidly.

MALHEUR CO. REGISTERS ITS HORSEPOWER

According to claims filed with State Engineer Lewis for the year 1916 rights have been initiated for the development of 456,410 horsepower.

In many instances these claims represent rights to develop power but which have not, as yet, been actually developed. 219 claims have been filed covering development or proposed development ranging in size from 1 horsepower to 136,363 horsepower, the latter being the claim of the Portland Railway, Light and Power Company, covering its rights on the Willamette River at Oregon City.

Clackamas county leads in the number of horsepower for which claims are filed, having 349,716 horsepower. Malheur county is registered for 494 horsepower. The only counties in the state in which no claims for power have been filed, are Clatsop, Gilliam and Wheeler. The number of horsepower claimed in each county is as follows:

Washington 513, Benton 186, Umatilla 8,862, Yamhill 503, Klamath 3,869, Grant 4,681, Marion 8,237, Lane 992, Wallowa 1,887, Sherman 25, Linn 3,127, Lincoln 20, Douglas 7,927, Crook 11,719, Harney 219, Curry 29, Baker 5,685, Multnomah 818, Clackamas 349,716, Lake 236, Hood River 25,737, Josephine 626, Wasco 4,413, Jefferson 5,000, Morrow 123, Tillamook 133, Union 1,529, Coos 16, Polk 176, Columbia 11, Jackson 14,498, Malheur 454, Total 462,540 horsepower.

GRAND OFFICERS VISIT

The grand officers of the K. P. lodge visited Ontario and Vale lodges this week, and appropriate ceremonies were provided in their honor.

No report having been given the Enterprise, a more extended mention could not be given.

NEW BABY BOY AT THE JESSUP HOME

The birth of a ten pound baby boy at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Jessup, of this city, last Saturday, is reported by Dr. Bartlett. Both mother and son are doing nicely.

FALLS FROM TRICYCLE AND GASHES FACE

Milton Copel, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Copel of this city, accidentally fell from his tricycle Friday morning, severely gashing his chin. The young child was taken to Dr. Bartlett, placed under influence of chloroform and several stitches were taken in the wound.

MADE REGULAR POINTS

Malheur County Depots Will be Operated as Regular Reporting Stations.

Pocastello, Feb. 4.—Agents, Riverside, Juntura, Vale, Ontario. Effective February 15, Harper, Oregon, on Oregon Eastern Branch, will be opened as a regular freight, passenger, express, telegraph and reporting station.

A. B. Stevenson.

If you slap back because there is a slap coming to you your slapper will get the habit, and try to ride without a pass.

About the time a man decides he has become conservative, he gets indignant at something or other and says more fool things than ever before.

ANOTHER IS IN FAVOR OF IT

Prominent Ontario Attorney Advises the District Organization

The Enterprise, in previous issues, has presented the views of several prominent citizens, who are largely interested in the prosperity of the county and large owners of property. Today we present expressions for other citizens who have knowledge and experience in business affairs and of the subject of irrigation, as well as owning property under the proposed plan of organization:

Mr. J. W. McCulloch, formerly prosecuting attorney for the county, now candidate for Commissioner of Public Utilities, Eastern Oregon District, and perhaps one of the best known attorneys of the Eastern portion of the state, expressed himself as follows: "For many years I have been more or less identified with endeavors to get the Malheur project going. We have failed from one cause or another, but never were times and conditions so favorable as now. The new district law has been evolved through many amendments out of the old one, and while perhaps not absolutely perfect, it has stood some heavy tests and is far in advance of any thing yet created in the way of an irrigation law.

"While they say money is now easily obtained, it means that it can be easily obtained upon satisfactory security. Investors look upon the irrigation district where the land is good and the water cheap as first class security. The law now gives irrigation districts municipal powers and they can therefore manage their own affairs. The petition which I am pleased to sign means the organization of a district after an election. The directors may then proceed to arrange a plan to be submitted for financing the construction and this plan has to be voted on at another election.

"I have 320 acres of land under the district and expect it to double in value as soon as work is started." Continued Mr. McCulloch, "I know from observation and experience that the farmers of the proposed district have, in the last ten years, lost through shortage of water more than enough to pay the expense of building the dam at the Warm Springs."

Tom Logan, pioneer rancher from Brogan, was in town Thursday and upon being interviewed by an Enterprise representative as to his opinion on the organization of an irrigation district expressed himself as follows:

"The district law has been so modified that it is now the only way to build a project. If we had organized a district on Willow river before getting into the complications we now have, everyone would have been better off. The law seems to provide for the people to transact their own business and when organized they are at all times ready to accept the best offer there is for money or the best plans offered for construction. Promoter's graft is cut out and the farmers can build or not build as they please. If the government gets ready to help, an organized district will be ready to receive that help."

MUCH BOOZE IS DESTROYED

Sheriff Brown destroyed a lot of contraband liquors Tuesday, taking it to the river and breaking the bottles on the rocks.

The confiscated liquors consisted of whiskey, wine, beer, etc., secured during the raid on bootleggers at Riverside some time ago. Those arrested having been convicted and the stuff having been proven contraband, the sheriff destroyed it in accordance with the law.

Would Not Tell on Them

A half breed Indian buckaroo got drunk and rode his horse on the sidewalk the first of the week, and upon being arrested, gave Sheriff Brown and Marshal Powell a rough and tumble scrap before being jailed.

The officers put him through a sweating process for five days in an

effort to learn where he got the booze, but he persistently refused to give any information. Failing to get the desired information, the prisoner was held before the court, where he was given thirty days for drunk and disorderly conduct.

All Teachers Must Comply

County Superintendent Miss Clark is in receipt of a communication from the state educational department, in which it is announced that teachers who are not graduates of standard normals, or who do not possess state grades sufficient to secure Oregon papers, will not be encouraged to come

to this state to teach. Much trouble has been occasioned throughout the state by reason of teachers securing schools on certificates from other states, and who were not able to pass the Oregon examination when the time came for securing a certificate here.