

# Malheur Enterprise

County Official Paper

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## LET CONSTRUCTION BEGIN SOON

The cloud that has prevented the sale of irrigation securities seems to have cleared away with a better understanding of the subject and money has been accumulating in the centres of large business until lenders have become willing to loan on any irrigation project which offers proper security.

The failure of the government to build the Malheur system came about through the inability of the farmers to comply with the hard terms of the government and those terms were made because of the inability of the government to understand the position of the farmers.

The depressed time has not hurt the people of Malheur county as much as some other localities but their hard times are yet to come. Upon the revival of business, money and population will go to those who offer the greatest advantages, who present their wants and possibilities in the best manner and the most aggressively from a business standpoint. Unless Malheur county does something to attract money, money will not come to us.

The time is now ripe for the inauguration of the Malheur enterprise of irrigation. The cost will be far less than at any previous time on account of the building of the Oregon Eastern to Riverside. Money will be cheaper and the terms better than ever before. The system has the full approval of every engineer who has examined it. The agitation of a law permitting the government and the state to guarantee the payment of interest for a term of years or to actually guarantee the payment of the bonds will increase the amount of money the system can get for its bonds.

The great Arrowrock dam heralded as the greatest and best storage reservoir in the country cost \$4,000,000, making the cost of stored water about \$12.00 per acre foot. The government engineers as well as several private engineers estimate the cost of storing the Malheur water at the Warm Springs at \$3.70 per acre foot.

The reservoir will be built only when the farmers under it are willing to get together and help the project along. They have the key to the situation through the unwillingness of capital to enter into any business where lawsuits stare them in the face at the beginning. It seems reasonable to say that the farmers will get together and help themselves and country to a share in the good times about to come to those who work for them.

The difficulty has always been to insure the just reimbursement of the farmers who have built their own ditches under hard circumstances and at the same time secure the water to the uncultivated land at a reasonable price.

The difference of opinion between the several ditch owners has been one impediment. The scarcity of capital has also been one good reason.

The district method of securing such work is much favored by bond buyers because they have then only one place to look for their interest and only one examination to make. Their interest is assured through the district plan for the reason that each piece of land is subject to only its own indebtedness as far as the bond buyers are concerned, the dealing between individuals being left to the district authorities. Objections to the district plan will not hold water when it is considered that the farmers can and always will control the district.

No corporation has more than one vote regardless of the land owned. The only way a corporation can enter into the game largely is to sell the land and that is what the farmers want for it creates more homes and makes more farmers.

Those who have owned the uncultivated land for many years; who have paid little if any towards the county expenses; who have sat quietly while the farmers were laboriously constructing their individual ditches, should pay their equal proportion of such work in irrigating their own land. In other words, they must pay for irrigating their land through and by the use of work already accomplished without encroaching on the rights and privileges of present owners.

## F. B. ZUTZ FOR ASSESSOR

At the last primary election for the nomination of an assessor for Malheur county, F. B. Zutz was a candidate, and he came within three votes of receiving the nomination. His announcement as a candidate for that office appears in this number of the Enterprise. Mr. Zutz was raised in Malheur county and is perhaps in as close touch with the conditions throughout the entire county as anyone. He is one of the proprietors of Kingman owbsite on the Nyssa-Homedale railroad and one of the owners of the Malheur Abstract company of this city. He is a capable and popular young man and if nominated and elected, is thoroughly competent to discharge the duties of the office with satisfaction to the people and with credit to himself and his constituents.

## FOR TREASURER, H. H. (DEACON) WILLIAMS

H. H. Williams makes his bow this week to the Republican voters of Malheur county, he having entered the race for the nomination for County Treasurer. Since coming to this county sixteen years ago, Mr. Williams has given himself an education through his own efforts, graduating from the Ontario high school. He has been in the sheep business, has handled cattle and horses, farmed, dealt in grain and seeds, and is at present manager of the Interior Warehouse and Grain Company in this city. He is a careful, conservative and successful business man, is thoroughly reliable and competent to handle the affairs of the Treasurer's office. "Deacon" Williams, as he is best known by his personal friends, will make a strong race.

The Ferris bill should be denominated—Conservation of the Public for Exploitation by the Hydro-Electric monopoly.

## NEW? YES, TO THEM!

It is interesting to read of success in farming and that those who have been reluctant to believe that the land of Malheur county is susceptible of cultivation are learning by actual experience that such may be the case. In this connection we note in a late issue of the Ontario Argus that the Eastern Oregon Land company has actually raised hay to the amount of some 8 tons per acre on 160 acres.

This is remarkable in the face of the fact that this company has owned some 250,000 acres of the best land in the Malheur and Willow river valleys for some thirty or more years and have successfully prevented irrigation for many years, presumably in order to prevent any one being cheated by attempting to irrigate and cultivate the soil.

When the Shoe-String ditch (so called) was started and the promoters had great difficulty in securing acreage sufficient to warrant the building of that ditch we call to mind that there were, and are today, several sections of this land still uncultivated and that this company manage to convince the board of equalization that the land is not worth paying taxes.

For six miles in width, through the heart of the county, taking in the best and most available lands the road companies have made, and are continuing to make, a checker board of the country. In the upper Willow river section these uncultivated lands are breeding places for rabbits and coyotes with so high a price set on the land that no one can buy and so cheap before the tax authorities that they are practically valueless as producers of county funds.

On the persistent farmer falls the burden of taxation and on the pioneer farmer lies the burden of creating wealth for a foreign corporation. The increased values are in no way due to one single move of these companies. Their contributions to school and road funds is under protest and an irrigation enterprise looking to the making of homes and cultivating land has the gauntlet of the law to run invoked by these comorants for fear some interest of theirs may be jeopardized.

It is time for the people of the valley to take such action as will bring these lands under cultivation and their owners under authority. The law permits such action to be taken and courage and industry to back it up is all that is needed to transform Malheur valley from Ontario to the canyon and from Vale to Brogan into one grand garden; to change the magnificent benches between Bully creek and Willow river into one vast fruit orchard.

These makers and sustainers of checkerboards have held our magnificent domain in thrall long enough. The people have the law why not use it?

## GUY JOHNSTON FOR ASSESSOR

Another old timer of Malheur county announces his candidacy this week for assessor. Guy Johnston, of Big Bend, and who has been a citizen of the county from his boyhood days, is a candidate for the nomination on the Democratic ticket. Mr. Johnston is a successful farmer and is well versed in values of all kinds of properties, and from a clerical standpoint he is eminently competent to take care of the duties of the office. Mr. Johnston promises, if he is nominated and elected, to base valuations upon the earning powers of property, so far as the laws will permit him to do so. The fairness of this proposition will appeal to every taxpayer of the county.

## AFTERWARDS

It is now a practical certainty that the petition for an irrigation district intending the construction of the Warm springs reservoir will be more than successful and that the organization will certainly be affected. In view of this it is well that the commercial bodies of the towns of Vale, Nyssa and Ontario take a hand in looking after the man who comes here to engage in farming.

Col. R. G. Wheeler aptly expresses the usual method of treating a wheel comer, as "separating him from his money." This is all right if done in an honest and legitimate manner and the settler gets a fair deal. He expects to pay for what he wants and should not on that account be unfairly dealt with. There will be a great number come to us when they learn that 25,000 acres of new land is to be watered.

It is not for our best interests that he be forgotten after located. It is not to our best interest that he be overcharged for such land as he may wish. It is our best interest to see that he is satisfied and able to make a living where he locates.

The day for taking the cash and neglecting the buyer has passed. Commercial bodies should so advertise themselves and take such measures as will prevent any unscrupulous dealings. There should be a strong committee of information to whom it will be given power to make careful investigation as to prices and character of lands in different localities in as minute manner as possible and that will be fearless in expressing their findings.

We want settlers and farmers on our lands but they are no good to us nor to themselves unless satisfied. The commercial bodies can go a long way toward accomplishing this and it is their duty to do it.

## B. W. MULKEY FOR ASSESSOR

B. W. Mulkey enters the race for the nomination for assessor on the Democratic ticket this week. Mr. Mulkey is well known throughout Malheur county, and his ability both from a clerical and practical standpoint is recognized, he having served the people as county clerk two terms some years ago. Mr. Mulkey pledges himself to use his very best efforts toward securing an equitable assessment, and his numerous friends throughout the county know that he will conscientiously adhere to this pledge if nominated and elected.

The senate has not yet passed the Ferris bill tying up the water power of the western states. It is to be hoped sanity will bring some valuable amendments. They will not, however, come from Oregon representatives.

Inquiries are coming from all parts of the country about the proposed improvements in Malheur county which are being advertised by the Enterprise.

## POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

All Candidates Appearing Under this Heading are Paid Advertisements.

### FOR STATE SENATOR

I hereby announce myself as a candidate for the office of State Senator from this district, composed of Malheur, Harney and Grant counties, subject to the will of the electors of the Republican Party at the primaries to be held in March, 1916.

JULIEN A. HURLEY.

### FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY

To the Citizens of Malheur County: I desire to announce that I will be candidate for the nomination for District Attorney at the coming Primary Election and solicit your support. This office spends thousands of dollars of your money and I pledge myself to every economy consistent with good government. If elected I will devote my entire time and energy to the affairs of the office. Impartial enforcement of all laws, economy and suppression of useless litigation, my platform.

ROBT. M. DUNCAN.

### FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY

To the Voters of Malheur County: I hereby announce my candidacy for the Republican nomination for District Attorney of this county. If nominated and elected I will endeavor to fulfill the duties of my office in a fair, fearless and efficient manner and to the best of my ability, keeping in mind at all times my duty to the tax payers.

P. J. GALLAGHER.

### FOR ASSESSOR

I hereby announce myself as a candidate for the nomination for Assessor of Malheur County, subject to the will of the Republican electors at the coming Primaries. If nominated and elected I promise to do my best.

A. A. ROBERTS.

### FOR ASSESSOR

To the Voters of Malheur County: I hereby announce my candidacy for reelection to the office of County Assessor subject to the will of the Republican voters at the primary election on the 19th day of May, 1916. And if nominated and elected I shall continue to assist all corporations on an equal and uniform basis with other property.

E. H. HILL, Present Incumbent.

### FOR ASSESSOR

I hereby announce myself as candidate for the nomination for the office of Assessor on the Democratic ticket at the primaries to be held May 15, 1916. Should the electors give me their votes I will conduct the affairs of the office honestly and in accordance with the law.

L. G. WILLIS.

### FOR ASSESSOR

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the nomination for Assessor of Malheur county, subject to the will of the Democratic electors at the coming primaries.

J. M. DUNCAN

### FOR ASSESSOR

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the nomination for Assessor of Malheur county, subject to the will of the Republican electors at the coming primaries.

F. B. ZUTZ.

### FOR ASSESSOR

I hereby announce that I will be a candidate for Assessor of Malheur County, subject to the will of the Democratic voters at the primary election. If nominated and elected I pledge my very best efforts towards securing an equitable assessment.

B. W. MULKEY.

### FOR COUNTY CLERK

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the nomination for County Clerk of Malheur County, Oregon, subject to the will of the Republican electors at the coming primaries.

V. B. STAPLES.

### FOR COUNTY CLERK

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the nomination for County Clerk of Malheur County, subject to the will of the Democratic voters at the primaries.

ARTHUR MOODY.

### FOR COUNTY SCHOOL SUPT.

I hereby announce myself as a candidate for the Democratic nomination for County School Superintendent of Malheur County in the coming Primary Election. If nominated and elected I will continue to work to the best of my ability to further the educational interests of the county.

FAY CLARK.

### FOR COUNTY TREASURER

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the nomination for the office of County Treasurer of Malheur County, Oregon, subject to the will of the Republican electors at the coming primaries.

C. C. MUELLER.

### FOR COUNTY TREASURER

I hereby announce myself as a candidate for the nomination for County Treasurer of Malheur County, subject to the will of the Democratic voters at the coming primaries.

ROSS A. SOWARD.

### FOR COUNTY TREASURER

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the nomination for County Treasurer of Malheur County, subject to the will of the Democratic electors at the coming primaries.

H. H. WILLIAMS.

### FOR JOINT REPRESENTATIVE

Subject to the choice of the Republican voters of Malheur and Harney Counties, Oregon, to be expressed at the coming primary election, I hereby announce myself a candidate for the Republican nomination as Joint Representative to the legislature from this representative district.

CHAS. M. CRANDALL.

### FOR JOINT REPRESENTATIVE

I hereby announce that I will be a candidate for the nomination of Joint Representative at the coming primary election, subject to the will of the Republican electors.

P. J. PHILLIPS.

"I am for preparedness," said Link Preston this morning, "on condition that the soldiers fight our bad roads."