

DEVICE IS ORDERED TO MEASURE WATER

CENTRAL OREGON IRRIGATION COMPANY AFFECTED

ORDER MADE BY COMMISSION

Settlers' Fight For Ruling Resulted in the Investigation Which Was Made Recently

Under an order issued by the public service commission the Central Oregon Irrigation company is directed to install at the point of delivery of water to each settler on the project a device for measuring the water and is also required to file with the commission a plan providing for the systematic distribution of the water.

The commission further found that the company had not maintained its canals and ditches in such a manner as to allow a free flow, and it is required to do so in the future and also to set aside a depreciation reserve fund. The complaint against the company was filed by the Central Oregon Irrigation Water Users' association, and since the company challenged the commission's jurisdiction over the project on the ground that it was a private concern, it is thought that it may appeal from the order of the commission to the courts.

"The Central Oregon Irrigation company in the past has collected the annual maintenance charge provided in the contract between the successor in interest and the state land board in so far as it could but in return has not continuously maintained the canals and ditches in such manner as to allow the free flow of water therein, and partially because of this condition has deprived many of the settlers of the use of enough water to properly make up the deficiency in natural moisture upon their land; and has not distributed the water flowing into the ditches according to the respective rights of the settlers, the record clearly showing that there has been actual and unjust discrimination between various settlers in the several portions of the irrigated districts, which discrimination has resulted in the receiving by some settlers of more and by others less than their proper and necessary share of the available water," reads the order in part.

"After due allowance for both uncollectible maintenance fees and the annual depreciation allowance heretofore found to be reasonable, the net income from the maintenance department during any average year, assuming a continuation of present expenses and revenue, may be expected to reach from \$4000 to \$5000. This sum may be considered reasonably representative of results to be encountered in the near future under conditions which may be considered normal, and is sufficient margin to cover any additional maintenance expense or emergency repairs which may be found necessary."

County Court is in session this week.

Mrs. R. P. Miller is in the city today from Post.

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MILL AND CREOSOTE PLANT IN OPERATION

PLANT 30x50 BEING USED FOR HEADGATES AND DROPS

ALL MATERIAL TO BE CREOSOTED

Actual Placing of Head Gates Was Started Tuesday Morning— Will Be Rapid

A mill and creosoting plant 30x50 feet in size has been completed on the northwest border of the city, for the cutting and dipping of all material that is to be used for the erection of headgates and drops or spillways in the Ochoco Irrigation System.

The plant is equipped with a 20 inch cut-off saw, and a 16 inch rip saw, each being operated by its own gas engine. Every piece of material that is to be used in the headgates and spillways is cut with these saws, and all are standardized. After being cut, the pieces are dipped in a creosote tank, which is twenty feet in length, from where it is placed outside to dry.

FIFE ITEMS

(By our Regular Correspondent)

Hugh Swigart, who is feeding cattle near Burns for the winter, is at home for the holidays.

Johnnie McEachern, who has been in Bend for some time past, returned home for Christmas.

Mrs. Lew Bennett and children, of Dry Lake, are spending the week at the home of Mrs. Johnnie Mosier of this place.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Street motored to Fife on Tuesday.

A very bounteous dinner and delightful day was enjoyed at the home of Paul Werners on Christmas day. The guests present were Mr. and Mrs. Carl Pausch, Mr. and Mrs. Charley Sherman, Miss Inez Short, Roy Douglas, Ed Penrose and Mr. Major. The evening was spent in games and music.

Mrs. Stanley Balfour accompanied her husband, who is driving the Prineville-Fife stage, on a business trip to town last Saturday.

Mrs. John Wilson returned from an extended visit with her daughter, Mrs. Lew Nelson, who resides in the Valley.

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Balfour and John Handy drove out from Prineville last Monday by way of the desert road. They report those roads in splendid condition.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Seeds were on Buck Creek last week soliciting for the Red Cross.

War Savings Certificates and Thrift Stamps are now to be had at the postoffice at Fife.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Chapman and Ed Street made a trip to Prineville recently.

W. W. Brown spent Christmas with his sister, Mrs. Sarah Rodkey.

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OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Information of Our Readers.

The salmon run in the Umpqua river is heavier than for many years. The annual Columbia county Sunday school convention was held in Scappoose.

The annual Linn-Benton teachers' institute will be held in Albany November 26 to 28.

It is reported that forest fires in the Tiago district of Coos county have done much damage.

The reconstructed Grace Presbyterian church in Albany will be dedicated Sunday, November 18.

The state highway commission, since December 1, 1916, has expended approximately \$542,848.

The Oregon wool growers will hold their 20th annual convention at The Dalles December 6 and 7.

It is reported from Diamond that ducks are dying on Baca lake, near there, by hundreds each week.

The Oregon State Horticultural society will hold its annual meeting at Salem December 5-8, inclusive.

The Pacific Northwest Ice Cream Manufacturers' convention will be held in Portland November 20-22.

Governor Withycombe appointed N. G. Wallace, of Prineville, to succeed County Judge Springer, of Crook county, who resigned.

W. S. Hale, superintendent of the state industrial school for boys, has signified his intention to Governor Withycombe of resigning.

Apple growers of the state are encountering great difficulty in shipping apples east without danger of freezing because of the scarcity of cars.

There is no present intention of establishing a cantonment in Oregon, says Adjutant General McCain, in a letter to Senator Chamberlain's office.

The Clackamas County Guernsey Cattle club, organized in Clackamas county in August, has purchased 35 head of thoroughbred Guernseys in Wisconsin.

Many walnut growers from Oregon and adjoining states attended the third annual session of the Western Walnut association which was held at McMinnville.

Engineers representing the state highway commission are now viewing and making a preliminary survey of the Pacific highway between Albany and Jefferson.

Paving work on the Sheridan road, which was being done by the state highway department, has been closed down because of inability to get cars for supplying gravel.

Eastern Oregon's first annual marksmen's tournament will be held at Enterprise November 28 and 29, under the auspices of the Wallowa County Rod and Gun club.

Dispatches from Ottawa include in the list of casualties the name of Captain G. I. Mitchell, an American, of Portland, who died of wounds received on the front in France.

L. M. Gilbert, for the past nine months a teacher at the state training school for boys, is considered the likely successor to Will S. Hale as superintendent of that institution.

Definite announcement has been made by Southern Pacific officials that a contract has been signed for the construction of a new depot at Salem. The structure will cost \$30,000.

Max Lucke, who was editor of the Deutsche Zeitung, of Portland, which recently suspended publication, was arrested on a presidential warrant and ordered interned for the duration of the war.

Charles Galloway, state tax commissioner, has left for Atlanta, Ga., where he will attend sessions of the National Tax association and also a meeting of the congress of states on taxation.

A civil service examination to fill a vacancy in the Sumpter postoffice was held November 12 at Baker and was the first in Oregon under the order placing presidential offices under civil service.

The total assessed valuation of the counties of Oregon, as compiled by the county assessors, is \$807,917,191. This is an increase of \$46,882,064 over last year, when a similar assessed valuation was \$761,035,127.

Thirty-one ships have been launched at nine Oregon shipyards during the present boom in shipbuilding, according to records. Twenty-seven have been launched during this year. Four were launched in 1916.

United States Senator McNary telegraphed to Food Administrator Hoover declaring that the farmers of Oregon are suffering a material loss from the present situation concerning wheat and asking for relief.

After the installation of hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of modern apparatus, an additional boat and numerous other improvements, Portland's bureau of fire, according to a report just issued by the national board of fire underwriters, is less efficient than it was in 1910.

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THE LITTLE VANITY SHOP—Mrs. Omar C. Claypool, Face and Scalp Specialist. Hair Dressing, Shampooing, Manicuring and Child's Hair Bobbing. Sole agent for Maurine Toilet Requisites. Diamond quality hair switches. All kinds of hair goods made to special order. Combing used. 81c

FOR SALE—Marquis seed wheat. \$2.00 per bushel. J. M. King, Culver, Oregon. 82p

EXPERIENCED NURSE—Confinement cases a specialty. References given. Mrs. McNely, North Main St., opposite Laundry. 813p

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712c Ochoco Irrigation District.

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