

# Crook County Journal

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FOR ALL CENTRAL OREGON

CITY OFFICIAL PAPER FOR CITY OF PRINEVILLE

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## BEND ATTITUDE AGAINST IRRIGATION OCHOCO CANAL WORK IS PROGRESSING SATISFACTORILY

The activities of the Bend Commercial club to have all progress on the Benham falls or Deschutes irrigation plan suspended, even after \$400,000.00 has been appropriated for developing the scheme, work to start soon, by the reclamation service, which it is expressed, it but a start on the large sums that the government would spend on the work in the next few years, may result in the entire loss to the Central Oregon country, and to Oregon of the entire scheme, even after victory seemed already achieved.

There appears to be some ulterior motive, some hidden selfish plan behind the Bend move, which is resented by all interests concerned in the general development of the state and northwest.

We suggest that a mass meeting be held at some central point, at which plans for the appropriation of funds and a general offensive be organized in an effort to save for the community the relief that has been promised, and that means so much for the towns mentioned, and the entire agricultural future of this country.

An expression of the attitude of the government is heard in the statement issued by Representative Sinnott Saturday:

Fear is expressed by members of the Oregon delegation that the state may suffer a severe setback and even lose the money for a new reclamation project provided by the bill now pending in the senate as a consequence of local differences growing out of the Bend Commercial Club opposition to Benham Falls reservoir.

Representative Sinnott told of the unusual effort which finally resulted in securing the adoption of a new project.

Oregon being the only state in which this was granted, he said he hoped the local controversy can be settled without reflex action which would injure Oregon's interests.

"A new Oregon project was secured this year by Senators Chamberlain and McNary and myself, assisted by Representatives McArthur and Hawley," continued Representative Sinnott. "Selection of the project was made by Director Davis of the reclamation service. It was secured only after a stiff fight, after regular appropriation estimates were made up. This is rather an unprecedented thing."

"The reclamation service was reluctant to send in new estimates saying it would be embarrassing before the committee as all available funds had been estimated for."

"I appealed to Chairman Good of the appropriations committee after having seen Secretary Payne and the acting director of the reclamation service. Mr. Good told me to tell Director Davis to send in alternative estimates, which was done. Mr. Davis selecting Deschutes as the project where the money should be expended."

"I hope all controversy or complications will be settled, for I am very apprehensive that the reclamation service will permit the appropriation to lapse back to the reclamation fund rather than entangle itself in any local controversy."

Sinnott said he expects to consult Director Davis and ascertain his views tomorrow, Davis being out of the city today.

State Senator Jay H. Upton wrote the Bend club on Monday concerning this matter as follows:

January 21st, 1921

Bend Commercial Club

Bend, Oregon.

Gentlemen:

I have given careful study to the two pamphlets issued by your club and entitled respectively "Shall one of Central Oregon's Greatest Assets be mismanaged" and "A Plea for an Economic use of the Waters of Cen-

tral Oregon" and I regret that I am unable to bring my mind to a conclusion in harmony with the plan proposed by you.

In view of the startling recommendations made, which are so out of harmony with the ideas and plans which the Bend Commercial Club has heretofore stood for, I am constrained to believe that the proposal offered, does not represent the sound wish to destroy all that has been achieved by the citizens and the business men of Bend. I feel certain that it does not represent the sentiment of Central Oregon. I do believe that all appropriators of water should be required to build irrigation systems of the highest efficiency and capable of carrying water at a minimum of waste, and if you direct your energies in that direction, you may accomplish a lasting benefit to your country.

Let me recall to your mind a little very recent history. For the last years a united, determined and effective fight has been carried on by the commercial bodies of Bend, Madras, Prineville and Redmond, assisted by nearly all the active and far-seeing men of Central Oregon, to obtain from the United Reclamation Service, funds to develop the entire Central Oregon country. I recall that I was president of the Oregon Irrigation Congress for two years, and during that time, committees from your club, were active in efforts made to secure Federal Aid for the Deschutes project. Through the efforts of your club and the clubs of the other cities in Central Oregon, the Oregon Irrigation Congress endorsed the immediate construction of the Deschutes project, as recommended by the cooperative survey, authorized in 1913, and that two years ago, the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, largely through your efforts, further recommended and urged the United States Reclamation Service to build the reservoir at Benham Falls, and to develop the Deschutes project. As a result of all these efforts, Senator McNary and Representative Sinnott, have been able to commit the Federal Government to the development of Central Oregon, and Congress has authorized an initial expenditure of \$400,000 to begin construction of the Benham Falls project. Thus the Reclamation Service has been definitely committed and we have realized at last the almost vanished hope that Oregon will receive its share of reclamation development.

This result has been obtained only through persistent united, united, and again united effort. Do your business judgment of the majority of the country? I can not think so. I must believe that you have been poorly advised. I must believe that you have been carried away by the sophistry of short-sighted boomers or else by the designing plans of selfish and invisible interests.

Whose, is the invisible hand? It is not your sawmill interests, because they have worked earnestly and sincerely for the irrigation development of Central Oregon. They have given their money and devoted their energy to developing the irrigation possibilities of Central Oregon. It is not they. It is not your banks, because they have been active and untiring in building up the agricultural interests of your surrounding country. It is not they. It cannot be your merchants, because they have always been quick to see the possibilities of an enlarged and profitable business when the farming communities tributary to Bend, are filled with happy, prosperous and producing homes. It is not they.

Whose, then is the invisible hand who is directing a plan that can only break up the united front we have maintained so far, that will throw all our plans into chaos and lose forever, if even temporarily stopped,

the aid of the Federal Government—the aid which we have been trying to get for years and years?

I hope you will reconsider your attitude. I am sorry I cannot support your plan because I believe it inimical not only to all of Central Oregon, but especially to your own city of Bend.

The construction of the Benham Falls dam, as contemplated by the Federal Government, will mean more in money, business and population to Bend, than any other enterprise you now have, or which may be contemplated.

Very truly yours,  
JAY H. UPTON.

The Madras Pioneer of last week said in part:

Belshazzar had nothing on County Judge Robert W. Sawyer of Deschutes county and his loyal crowd of Blustering Bend Boosters. Even as the ancient ruler of Biblical fame saw his doom in language plain upon the wall of his temple, so do the local clique of Bend see their finish in 76 point gothic with successful completion of the North Unit Irrigation District.

Bend has for a few short years, been the leading city of Central Oregon. Endowed with location for the giant mills which manufacture lumber from the forests in the edge of which the little city is located, it has certainly enjoyed a splendid prestige. The railroad runs to Bend—no further—an advantage which is not little. It has kept up with the times and the very limited agricultural country which surrounds it has been extensively developed, to a large extent through the assistance advanced from the interests of the city of Bend.

But now, after 15 years of heart-breaking fighting and effort, the North Unit Irrigation District has reached the position where it is a certainty, if political manipulation cannot be brought to bear to retard it. Bend, from her proud vantage as premier city of Central Oregon, has the vision correct. She sees the fertile fields of more than one hundred thousand acres, brought about by the North Unit project. She sees a vision of three or four towns in Jefferson county, and Redmond and Prineville, any one or all of which will probably eclipse her. She sees a vast territory made productive by water, shipping annually produce which will make the output of her lumber mills small in comparison. Does Bend sit down and cry its eyes out with this vision before her? Not by a darned sight! She gathers together her powerful political machine which has done her valiant service before now. She oils up the old working parts and adds new ones where old ones look weak or worn. With Judge Sawyer furnishing the team, this grand little machine is moved down to Salem and is placed in demonstration before the Oregon State Legislature. It is one of these kind of machines that goes like seven hundred dollars, but is not too heavy, by any means, to be moved about. When the legislature adjourns it can easily be moved to any of the prominent Portland hotels.

The Redmond Spokesman of last Thursday carried an editorial under the caption of "Mill Ponds or Farms", which is self-explanatory. It says:

The government has recently signified its intention of going forward with the proposed Benham Falls reservoir, looking toward the development of thousands of acres of arid lands. It was not long ago that \$400,000 was appropriated for preliminary surveys and plans, but already the Bend commercial club is in the field with a booklet demanding that mill ponds, power sites and sink values be first considered, and action

retarded in their behalf in so far as necessary.

Power rights on the Deschutes river are granted in much the manner as are water rights of irrigation companies or districts. They have legal force and so are protected from ruin by reclamation development.

Just what motive prompted the booklet is not easily understood. Surely the people of Bend are not asking that development of Central Oregon's arid lands be retarded that some special privileges and benefits that are not rights be retained for the mills and power companies? Such a claim of prior rights at this late date would be selfish when the thousand of acres of lands involved in the reclamation scheme are considered.

What seems to me the real behind Bend's booklet is a wish to hold back the North Unit development in favor of lands in the neighborhood of Bend.

The reclamation service is entering Central Oregon to best develop its arid lands regardless of special community interests, keeping only in mind the demands of the nation for the products these lands when watered are capable of producing. The reclamation service will consider the favorable climate, large percentage of irrigable acres and the soil superiority possessed by North Unit lands. From this it will deduct for the distance these lands are from water and see if the lands about Bend, with poorer soil, more rock, more frost, and a comparatively small acreage of irrigable lands measures up.

From the perspective that is The Spokesman's by virtue of the fact that it is published between the two land bodies, the advantage seems to be with the North Unit.

The booklet's suggestions in regard to the possibility of reservoir sites on the Crooked river for the North Unit have merit, and will no doubt be carefully investigated by the reclamation service before Benham Falls water is granted to the North Unit. It is practicable, it presents the best solution of a problem in which some lands are apparently destined to go without water—of course, in view of Bend's recent recent request. Prineville's domestic, industrial and scenic demands on the Crooked River winter flow would doubtless have to be considered!

### ELKINS MOTOR SALES SUCCEEDS CENTRAL MOTOR SALES CO.

The Elkins Motor Sales has taken over the business of Central Motor Sales Company at the corner of Main and Third Streets. Mr. E. H. Brent, who managed the old company, is leaving Prineville to engage in business in Portland.

The Elkins Motor Sales has for a long time made its headquarters at the Palace Garage, but a growing Studebaker business, the exclusive agency for this popular car being held by Mr. Elkins, made it imperative that a new location be selected. Besides being on the corner of two of the busiest streets in town, the new location affords an excellent show room, with space for the storage of a number of cars. A battery service station is being installed, and the fact that this is now the home of the Studebaker is advertised by neat gold signs on the windows.

Millard Elkins, the proprietor, though the youngest garageman in Prineville, has been remarkably successful in this line of business, and a number of Prineville residents to whom he has sold cars, are enthusiastic owners and boosters of the Studebaker.

The Junior Shumias will entertain the senior club next Tuesday afternoon, the first of February.

### NEAR EAST RELIEF BENEFIT

Next Thursday is Near East Relief Day in Prineville. On that day it is expected to have the quota for the county raised, by the means of a benefit show given by the Lyric Theater management.

Before the date of the show, a canvass of the homes of Prineville is to be made and everyone is expected to buy a ticket, even though they do not expect to attend the show.

In order that all who desire may attend, arrangements have been made for a matinee in the afternoon, and all who can are urged to go at that time, in order that there may be no rush in the evening. An excellent show has been procured for the occasion.

### IN INTERESTS OF NEW WORLD

Dr. S. J. Reid and Rev. J. C. Austin of Portland were in Prineville last Thursday in the interests of the New World Movement of the Baptist church.

During the afternoon services were held at the church, and the members of the church were made more fully acquainted with the purposes of the movement, and what would be expected of the local field.

A very tasty chicken dinner was served in the basement of the church to members and their friends, and immediately following this pictures of the work being done in foreign missionary fields of the church were shown, which while being interesting served to emphasize the need of the movement going through without any delay.

### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Meetings are continuing each night during the week. Your favorite hymn will be sung Sunday evening, and a good program is assured.

### A Great Business at Home

The building of character is of most important interest. There are enterprises which plan to amuse and amusement is essential to human nature but these institutions have not a single motive. They are commercialized. The Church is the one enterprise which exists alone for the good of man. The Church attempts to interest a child from birth to death and holds out the highest inducements. The highest ideals are taught for the moral, the mental, the physical and the social progress. In this time which is trying men's souls no one can afford to not add to the success in these lines.

The revival meetings now in progress at the Methodist church have for their objective the enlisting of all who will in the work of cooperating with God in the redemption of the world. An appeal signed by 40 leading business men is issued for all men who believe in Jehovah of whatever creed to engage in prayer for guidance during these days when the world is so torn by strife and war. They know that the only way out is the way up. Can any person fall to see the need of divine aid in these perilous times? Men need God—God will use men.

M. R. GALLAHER, Pastor

Eddie Myers was down from Post a couple of days the last of the week, and attended the dance given by the American Legion on Friday night.

### Prospects Bright For Large Supply of Water this Irrigating Season

The work of puddling the McKay Point section of the Main Canal of the Ochoco Irrigation District was completed on Wednesday night. This work has been done entirely by the water users under the direction of John Rollinger. Too much credit cannot be given to the water users that have been working on this section of the canal, they have worked steadily, regardless of weather and other adverse conditions and have completed a first class job in record time. The original plan for the repair of this section called for the use of approximately 1200 cubic yards of concrete. Owing to the financial condition locally and also outside, the District officials were unable to finance the special assessment authorized last fall, this condition made any improvement impossible without the aid of the water users, and the purchase of any material out of the question. For these reasons it was decided to puddle that part of the ditch where it was planned to use concrete, and the prospects are very good for the puddle method of repair to be permanent.

A good sized crew has been at work on the Rye Grass Canal, cleaning it out and making the ditch wider. Owing to the freezing weather it has been necessary to stop this work for the time being, but it is hoped to have this ditch in shape early so that the water user will get the benefit of the early water from McKay Creek.

Plans are under way, and the users on the lower end of the project have signified their willingness to get out and build the waste ditch from the end of the main canal, and other repair work at that end of the district. This work will begin not later than February first, and should be completed within 30 days.

The most important work now ahead of the water users in the repair of the concrete-lined section of the main canal, it is hoped to have this work under way by the first of the month. Men are needed for this work and any of the water users that will be able to work on this section are urged to get in touch with the district office at once.

The prospects for an ample supply of water for the coming year are very good. At present there are better than 9000 acre feet of water in the reservoir, this is more than a double the amount stored the same date last year. Reports from the water shed regarding snow are very encouraging and we are justified in predicting that there will be all the water that can be used next season.

### GRATER—TURNER

Bert Grater and Miss Alma Turner secured a marriage license Friday morning of last week and were quietly married the same evening by Rev. W. B. Lamb at the M. E. Parsonage in Madras. Mr. Grater, who resides at Prineville, it at the present time employed in the survey of the North Unit with Engineer Rea. The bride has been employed at the Fisher Hotel. As soon as the present survey is completed, the young couple will make their home in Prineville, where Mr. Grater is employed by the Ochoco Irrigation District.—Madras Pioneer.

### BROWN'S SEXTET PLEASING

Every available bit of seating room was filled at the lyceum last Thursday night, and Brown's Minstrel Sextet, which was the attraction of the evening proved to be very entertaining. Their rendition of old negro gospel songs especially met with approval, and a clog dance given by the men brought down the house.