

ARID LANDS AND STATE CONTRACTS

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE PEOPLE OF OREGON ON IRRIGATION, FROM STATE ENGINEER SEARS

I ask the attention of my fellow-citizens to certain facts concerning the... I refer to his Jesuitical machinations to defraud the state by preventing the settlement of the arid regions...

In active work and distributed among the industrial classes of the state will reclaim and throw open to settlement 700,000 acres of excellent land, covered with homes and farms and their industrious population...

Against Leasing Public Domain

The Republicans of Oregon, in convention assembled last month, adopted a plank in their platform declaring against any system of leasing the public domain...

Some scheme must be devised along the lines suggested by President Roosevelt in his last message to Congress, whereby the Federal Government shall put the water of certain streams in reach of the adjacent lands...

It is the gentleman's Republicanism, it bears a remarkable character for promulgation as the active principle of a party with which I have remained a half century in the belief that I was in the ranks with men who believed in and taught the doctrine of "government of the people, for the people, by the people."

I now revert to the original statement with which I opened this letter, to the effect, namely, that the "people of this region are opposed to irrigation."

These purchasers on the public domain are wealthy men, living at and about Prineville, on the edge of the vast plains where their sheep and cattle range in free pasture, the property of the Nation.

The statement that the people of Crook County are opposed to irrigation is not true. It is the unblushing lie of men who are seeking the powerful influence of The Oregonian to prevent that settlement of the public lands which will curtail the sphere of their robberies and force them to pay the state and Nation a fair price for their cattle feed.

But, leaving for a moment the grotesque personality of this blooming patriot, let us turn to the "people" and by the Carey law at a business for the state, which has received an offer from the National Government of 1,000,000 acres of the public lands lying within our borders...

It need not be impressed on the mind of every intelligent citizen that the surrender of this work into the hands of the private citizen means the delay of many years in circumlocution, for the benefit of wealthy men, the stockraisers, who are now running the politics of Oregon...

Am I unjust to this man? Observe all his public acts, notably just now his bleeding the state treasury in the interest of the sheep-raising business by the coyote scalp tax. The men who claim this aim for the state are among the wealthiest and most prosperous citizens, and should be forced to protect their stock by the employment of proper assistance in its care.

Now, after the state has selected its 1,000,000 acres, there are, according to Mr. Newell, Chief of the Hydrographic Bureau, 2,000,000 acres left of arid, irrigable lands, on which the National Government may expend its money, leaving to the state just that additional amount of the lands given to the state, which, it is supposed, will be about \$15 an acre, to be charged in addition to the amount paid the contractors for its irrigation.

Now, to enter on this stupendous work, no one man has been found willing to risk the entire sum necessary to construct the system. It has been necessary to allow its division into several districts, according to the fancy or judgment of contractors; and even then the cost of each system is so great, that the prospect of profit so uncertain, that it has been found necessary to invite corporations of capital to undertake the work.

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And so, in reference to the arid lands, \$2,000,000 worth, ready for investment in contracts with the state for the construction of the state's irrigation works in the Deschutes Valley. This money invested

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engineering ability employed on that work is a magnificent work that has been done by practical irrigation engineers, and has not been left to the theories of a lot of inexperienced Government "engineers," scarcely one of whom has even seen an irrigation work except as he has visited them in the service of the Government to learn lessons.

Before I came to Portland, 23 years ago, I had designed irrigation works for 2,000,000 acres of desert land in the Zona Seca of Peru, some of which I built, while the grandest, that in the Valley of the River Piru, covering 700,000 acres, is now under construction by an English company, on plans of my advising.

Let the state irrigate and own the 1,000,000 acres offered it by the National Government, and let the National Government spend its \$1,000,000 where it can best be used on the remaining 2,000,000 acres of arid land.

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ALFRED F. SEARS, C. E., of Peru; M. Geog. Soc., of Lima, Peru; State Engineer for Irrigation in Oregon.

FROM SOUTHERN OREGON.

Approval There for an Appropriation of \$500,000.

The Medford Success is quite certain it but reflects the sentiment of the people of Jackson County when it states that Southern Oregon is heartily in favor of the Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition and that the progressive taxpayers, who are the heavy taxpayers, of this county are willing that the Legislature should appropriate \$500,000 to aid this exposition.

As to the objection that Portland will reap all the benefit of the Fair, that is absolutely without foundation. Of course the greater portion of the money spent by those attending the Fair will go to Portland pockets, but then it must be borne in mind that Portland has put up nearly 90 per cent of the almost half-million-dollar Centennial Exposition, and the \$500,000 state appropriation, which share as a taxpayer would be about 60 per cent of the amount.

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INGENIOUS FLIM-FLAM.

A Scheme That Has Puzzled Even the Up-to-Date Barkeeper.

New Orleans Times-Democrat. "The thing in the way of flim-flam now, and the real thing," said an old detective, "is away from any of the old tricks I know anything about. It has been worked out since in New Orleans, as far as I know, and if it has ever been worked in any other place I do not know anything about it.

but the two men who worked the trick here used the bills of the first denomination—a \$1 and a \$5 bill. It was worked in this way: One of the men will write in thin lettering on the back of the \$5 bill what is supposed to be a list of his laundry, dry, for instance, in this way: One shirt, two collars, two pairs of cuffs. He will go into a saloon when there is a rush on in order to further minimize the possibilities of the barkeeper's detecting the scribbling on the bill, and will call for a drink.

"The money is put in the drawer, the man gets his drink and his change, and walks out. Directly his partner walks in, calls for a glass of beer and tenders a \$1 bill in payment. The barkeeper throws a \$5 cent in change. You made a

Advertisement for Florodora Cigars. Features a large graphic of a cigar with the price \$142,500.00. Text includes 'WILL BE GIVEN AWAY IN JAN. 1903 TO SMOKERS OF THE BEST AND LARGEST SELLING BRANDS OF CIGARS IN THE WORLD!' and 'HOW MANY CIGARS will the United States collect Taxes on during the Month of December, 1902?'.

HOW MANY CIGARS will the United States collect Taxes on during the Month of December, 1902?

(Cigars bearing \$3.00 per thousand tax.)

\$142,500.00 will be given in January, 1903, to the persons whose estimates are nearest to the number of cigars on which \$3.00 tax per thousand is paid during the month of December, 1902, as shown by the total sales of stamps made by the United States Internal Revenue Department during December, 1902.

Distribution will be made as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Rank, Number of persons, and Amount. Lists estimates from 1st to 35,213th person, with amounts ranging from \$5,000.00 to \$142,500.00.

Every 100 bands from above named cigars will entitle you to four estimates.

(One "Florodora" band counting as two bands from the 5 cent cigars mentioned; and no less than 100 bands will be received at any one time for estimates.)

Information which may be of value in making estimates—the number of Cigars now bearing \$3.00 Tax per thousand, for which Stamps were purchased, appears below:

Table with 2 columns: Date and Number of Cigars. Shows data for December 1900, January 1901, January 1902, and February 1902.

In case of a tie in estimates, the amount offered will be divided equally among those entitled to it. Distribution of the awards will be made as soon after January 1st, 1903 as the figures are obtainable from the Internal Revenue Department of the United States for December.

Write your full name and Post Office Address plainly on packages containing bands. The Postage, or Express charges on your package must be fully prepaid, in order for your estimate to participate.

All estimates under this offer must be forwarded before December 1st, 1902, to the FLORODORA TAG COMPANY, Jersey City, N. J.

You do not lose the value of your bands. Receipts will be sent you for your bands, and these receipts will be just as good as the bands themselves in securing Presents. One band from "Florodora," or two bands from any of the other Cigars mentioned above, will count in securing Presents the same as one tag from "Star," "Horse Shoe," "Spear Head," "Standard Navy," "Old Peach and Honey," "J. T.," "Master Workman," "Piper Heidsieck," "Jolly Tar," "Boot Jack," "Old Honesty," "Razor," or "Planet" Tobacco; or one "Sweet Caporal" Cigarette Box Front.

Send each estimate on a separate piece of paper, with your name and address plainly written on each. Blank forms for estimates will be mailed upon application. Illustrated Catalogue of Presents for 1903 and 1904 will be ready for distribution about December 1st, 1902, and will be mailed on receipt of ten-cents, or ten tobacco tags, or twenty cigar bands.

HORSES DIE IN EPIDEMIC. Thirty-five Belonging to Railroad Contractors Killed at Troutdale. A great loss was sustained yesterday by Watkins, Parsons & Co. when an epidemic that was started among their horses killed 35 of them and left several more dangerously sick.

RECREATION. If you wish to enjoy a day of rest and pleasure, take the U. S. R. & N. train from Union depot at 9 A. M. for a short trip up the Columbia, returning, if desired, by boat from Cascade Locks. Tickets are particulars at O. R. & N. ticket office, Third and Washington.

Illnesses, dizziness, nausea, headache, are relieved by small doses of Carter's Little Liver Pills.