

CENTRAL IDAHO Its Growth Dependent Upon Irrigation Development.

CONCERNING GOVERNMENT AID

The Mormon Settlement of South-eastern Idaho—Their Character and Achievements—Their Social Practice, Etc.

By a Staff Writer.

BOISE, Idaho, Jan. 16.—My last letter, as I recall it, closed with a discussion of transportation in relation to immigration, with special reference to the conditions and interests of Central Idaho. The matter is one of importance, but there is, connected with the progressive movement of the country, an interest of greater importance, namely, that of irrigation. Much of the cultivable part of Central Idaho—by far the larger part of 10-15 miles high and dry, and therefore under natural conditions worth little excepting for a few months of grazing each year. That it is larger and more profitable is plain; but before that can be enjoyed, the irrigationist must get in his work. There is not rain enough or it does not come at the right times to make the country available for the general and more profitable use of agriculture; and if the best is to be got out of it, nature must be supplemented by art. It is not a matter of experiment, for the irrigationist has long been busy in the country in a small way, and the marks of his achievement may be traced on many acres in highly developed gardens, wide pastures of alfalfa, and in counties productive orchards. The soil, like that of Eastern Oregon, is one of marvellous productive power. It is a highly vitallized volcanic ash, bearing precisely the elements demanded by advanced agriculture. Bring to it the fruiting waters, tickle it with husbandry and it laughs with abundance. No better country lies anywhere under the sun.

And in its situation and general conditions it is a country made to the order of the irrigationist. Either lightly or heavily rolling everywhere, backed always by mountain watersheds holding the winter snows until well into the summer, abundant in reservoir sites and so lying as to give the principle of gravity a working chance, it asks for nothing but a combination of some capital and much energy. And it is not asking in vain, for every season witnesses a noticeable addition to the irrigated area and a corresponding increase of working population and of commercial production. The growth of Central Idaho during the past few years in population and wealth is almost a precise register of the progress of practical irrigation. Naturally, enterprises in this line are yet limited to the vicinity of the Oregon Short Line road, for neither capital nor immigration will in these days go far from transportation. The growth of Idaho is not general; it clings to the skirts of the railroad; in everything excepting mining and stockraising it is within the narrow zone which may be traced by following on the map the dotted lines which mark the track of the Iron Horse.

In Central Idaho, as in Eastern Oregon, there is just now a vast deal of speculation respecting the new irrigation policy of the National Government. There is a "scheme" for every district and what appears to me a very dangerous disposition to wait upon the movements of the Interior Department. The Government, no doubt, will do something for Idaho as it will for Eastern Oregon and the other semi-arid districts; but its operations will be slow and its work will be limited to those points which are in the nature of things limited to one or two localities in each state. It is impossible that it can undertake a universal system of works in any state or relieve private enterprise and private interest of their responsibilities. For any particular district to wait upon the movements of the Government will amount practically to a postponement of the day of its deliverance.

Within the past few months I have looked over the irrigation situation in the three states of Oregon, Washington and Idaho pretty thoroughly, and as the result of this study I am fearful that the country in its immediate irrigation interests is more likely to lose than gain from the irrigation policy of the Government. I find that communities and even individuals in many districts who, before the National irrigation policy was announced, were planning to work out their own salvation, are now resting upon their oars in the hope—certain in nine hundred and ninety-nine cases out of a thousand to be disappointed—that the official agents will light upon their particular section of country. I find, too, that much money which would normally be expended in practical irrigation work, is being put out in one form or another, in what may be called "lobby" effort. In other words, there is a disposition to relax the nerve of individual or community self-dependence and to lean upon the Government. It is, truly, a dangerous mood, and if it shall become universal or anything like it, it is bound to postpone the era of irrigation for regions like this of Central Idaho whose fortunes, both immediate and ultimate, are totally dependent upon it.

About the best thing to be expected from the Government in its irrigation operations is the practical exploitation of methods. Ancient as irrigation practice is—and it is older than the pyramids—it is still new as a practical science. There are almost as many tentative plans of irrigation practice as there are engineers in the country, but there is not one man in the whole engineering profession who can claim to have reduced irrigation to its final and scientific basis. No private company, much less any individual, can afford to exploit the many proposals looking to the simplification and cheapening of irrigation practice, but the Government has a longer purse, and it can well afford to cover forward experiments and demonstration which the whole world of semi-arid America is eagerly waiting for. The Government ought, with the great sum at its disposal for irrigation work, to be able in this way to aid every owner of an acre of irrigable land; this is within reason; but that it will do much for the profit of individuals by the creation of special irrigation works is very much to be doubted. In irrigation as in other matters, it is the community and not the individual which depends upon itself and

which reaches out for itself that will make the surest and greatest gains; for, after all is said and done, irrigation must be for the most part a community or an individual concern. Whoever enters upon it will do something to fructify the semi-arid West—particularly in the great future when the need and the hunger for land shall be more serious than it is now; but for every acre redeemed and made fruitful by the wholesale process there will be a hundred acres to the credit of individual enterprise and diligence. The Man With the Hoe is and will ever be the great irrigationist.

I will not enter the field of prophecy respecting the future of Central Idaho in connection with irrigation—tempting field as it is, and affording as it does an easy means of distinction. In the nature of things it is bound to be very great. The soil everywhere is potential; even its uplands, where they have been brought under ditch, yield with a prodigal abundance. The supply of available water is almost unlimited, for in addition to the local watershed which is everywhere a calculable, and in most instances a sufficient quantity, the many considerable rivers—the largest being the Snake—may be brought to pour into the thirsty regions an unlimited and untiring flood. It will take time and capital and courage and industry and skill; but these things belong to the American condition and character and they will not be lacking. And when the land of Central Idaho has been brought to their own, there now there is a scattering population of some sixty-and-odd thousands, there will be the third part of a million; and the field is wide enough and fruitful enough to yield them bountifully of all material blessings.

The Mormon communities of South-eastern Idaho are giving the world an object lesson in the work of practical irrigation. I cannot speak of their achievements from the banks of personal and direct observation. I have seen only so much of their country as presents itself to one who sits at a car window, but even this limited and fleeting glance was intensely interesting and has prompted me to diligent inquiry during the few days of my stay here. The southeastern counties partake of the general character of all the rest of Idaho, lying in the same semi-arid belt, sharing in the same intermountain climate, holding in the soil the same organic elements. That in this district of comparatively limited space there has developed a large population and a large and profitable agricultural industry is due to a variety of causes, but its method is that of working the soil with the aid of irrigation water. Those who have seen the farm gardens of Utah cannot fail to hold in their minds a memory that will add them to understanding that South-eastern Idaho is like it. It is an ideal picture of domestic thrift, a picture lacking in no material element of community welfare. What the Mormons have done others can do, or else we must confess that somewhere in their system there is a power which makes them materially, at least, a superior people.

This Mormon population of Idaho is interesting from many points of view, and not least from its highly effective working organization. It was made up originally and has been constantly recruited by picked men and women. The church does not consent that its people shall wander unguided through the world. As in the days of old, its captains of thousands, and hundreds and of tens, keep account of the capabilities of those under them, and by one form or influence or another guard their conduct. If there is to be a movement upon a new section of country, it is not allowed to "work itself out" by chance and unorganized processes. The land is first apportioned, its character and needs are determined; those sent into it are chosen for their adaptability for the work to be done. It is no haphazard and straggling immigration, but the orderly movement of an organized industrial army. To each man is assigned his special place and duty, and to it each goes with the force of a disciplined mind and spirit. It is a community actuated by the spirit of socialism; but without its embarrassments and limitations. The people are not co-partners; they do not work in common nor share in common; literally they are brethren. The family spirit prevails in all their operations, yielding at every point cooperation instead of antagonism, making the strength which obtains when many combine in a common purpose. If anywhere there is physical or moral weakness, there is to meet and counteract or support it the authority and sympathy of the family spirit. I am glad to be able to add that the social practice of the Mormon population of Idaho does not differ from that of the American world in general. It is declared and believed to be true that there is not among the 40,000 or more of Idaho Mormons an instance of plural marriage; and it is also declared and is probably true that the standard of social and domestic purity among them is exceptionally high.

I have been interested to inquire into the political attitude of this Mormon element, for it makes a large figure in the numbers of the Idaho people and easily dominates one or two districts of the state; and, as usual under conditions where intense prejudice is involved, I have met with many sorts of responses. It is a case where the inquirer may easily get any kind of information he wants. One man will tell you that the Mormons are a league of blind devotees subject implicitly to the will of leaders who have the purposes of the devil plus the address and diplomacy of archangels; that in all matters, the action of the individual is subordinated to the will of those set over him by the church; that the every day Mormon population is a menial slave to the interests of Idaho; that it is destined to drive all non-Mormons from the state; that it grasps after political power and is bound to gain and to wield it to the ruin of every interest which declines to accept the domination of the Mormon hierarchy.

Others will give you another and very different report, bearing testimony to the Mormon spirit and social merit of the man among the highly effective and worthy elements of the state life. And of the two reports, I am convinced that the latter comes more nearly to the truth. That the Idaho Mormons have disordered polygamy is nowhere denied; that they are industrious and thrifty and that they are doing a great work in the development of the country is plain; that they are a law-abiding and orderly people is a matter of record; that they are subject to the will and purposes of their leaders is probably true; but that they are mere tools of the church and that their leaders are probably not true. The political record of the Mormon counties is a point of special interest. In the main, they are Republican, but everywhere they divide into parties and conduct the rivalries of both local and general politics

precisely as do other people. In the recent election it is worthy of note that the ticket espoused by the leader of the church in a county overwhelmingly Mormon was beaten. In a crisis—especially in a crisis related to Mormon interests—the church influence would, beyond a doubt, be a very potent factor; but there is no reason to believe that it would be more so than with any other body of people religiously affiliated. There is unquestionably a Mormon vote in Idaho—precisely as there is a Catholic vote, a Methodist vote and a no-church vote in every state in the Union. The wheat men of Idaho—men who have no special motives of sympathy with or for the Mormons—are in no terror of the church power.

OREGON STATE ASYLUM. Interesting Facts Shown by the Biennial Report.

SALEM, Jan. 18.—(Special.)—The biennial report of the board of trustees of the state insane asylum recommends that a portion of the expenses for the care of the insane and who are not, therefore, properly state charges. The report says: The number of patients treated exceeds that of any previous period. This, to some extent, is due to the fact that the county officers in committing to the asylum the aged and infirm, and the temporarily insane through intermarriage and the opium habit, have not been as conscientious as they should be. The aged and infirm, if discharged, have no place to go, and being no further employed by dependants are not recommitted. While the state is able to maintain them at a less per capita cost than the county, there is no good reason why the counties should not bear a portion of the expense of caring for this class of patients. We most respectfully suggest your consideration of this matter and the enactment of some measure providing that the counties should refund to the state the expense of the care of the patients who are committed to the asylum by reason of their infirm and aged condition, but who are not of the opium habit. The asylum medical corps should have the authority to determine those patients who are properly chargeable to the counties.

The recommendations of the superintendent of the asylum for appropriations are as follows: Maintenance—Based on the net increase of population during the last 22 months. It is fair to assume an increase during the next two years of 2,000 persons. The maintenance for that period, with insane and idiotic fund, would amount to \$24,000.

Lighting—The lighting of an institution of such size and character, holding in its walls the same organic elements. That in this district of comparatively limited space there has developed a large population and a large and profitable agricultural industry is due to a variety of causes, but its method is that of working the soil with the aid of irrigation water.

Returning patients—As a small balance of patients is returned to their homes, the fund appropriated for the expense of returning patients to their homes, less is asked for at this time, \$1,000.

Library and amusement—A similar reduction is made in the estimate for the library and amusement fund, as the library for the patients is now well supplied, \$1,000.

Miscellaneous—Exhibit "A" for \$10,000; exhibit "B" for \$4,500; exhibit "C" for \$43,000 are included in the report. The amount of items, which are mostly self-explanatory. Reference, however, will be further made to some presented in the last report.

Fire escape—The fire escape in the attic of the main building, no hindrance exists to the swift and direct passage of the flames through the entire structure, which would quickly become a hazardous condition to the inmates, especially at night. Fire walls between the several wings would measurably curb the present danger. It was suggested with the fire, as well as to notably increase the possibilities of saving lives, considerations which surely require no more elaboration. For this one \$500 is requested.

Locks—More than once attention has been called to the worn and dangerous condition of such of the original supply of locks for the doors of patients' cells as has been replaced. They are unreliable, and, in many instances, almost inoperative, and surely not only constitute a creditable annoyance, but also a constant menace to the safety of the patients, especially if a fire should occur during the night. For this much needed repair is asked \$1,000.

Closed wards—To receive and care for the ordinary net increase in population, more rooms will be needed. For reasons which readily suggest themselves, it is wisest and best to erect additional wards at the Cottage Farm, rather than the main building. To erect and furnish a closed cottage there is a necessity, and for that purpose is asked \$18,000.

Quarantine building—A large and urgently needed feature has been the removal of the construction of one-half of the quarantine building, thus providing for one sex in an emergency. The other portion constitutes just as essential a requirement for the construction and furnishing the sum of \$1500 is asked.

Dining-room, Cottage Farm—The congested dining-room system has been operated very satisfactorily at the Cottage Farm, although its complete success has been prevented by the fact that the population surpasses the accommodations. It is suggested that the dining-room be surely increased beyond any practical management, with the inevitable additional population occupying the needed cottage, and more dining-rooms to be erected. A building, in addition to the present dining-room, must be built, which can be conveniently done, and for this is asked the sum of \$4,000.

Barn—The horse and cow barn at the main building have long been inadequate, the former also being insecure, and the latter unhygienic. For the purpose of building a horse barn of sufficient capacity, and to remove the present structure, which has long been in danger of falling, the sum of \$5,000 is asked. For the cow barn, to replace the present out-of-date structure of crowded structure, the sum of \$6,500 is asked.

Laboratory—The condition of the laboratory in all the wards constituting the original building is deplorable. The apparatus, which is in part obsolete, is old, with unprotected edges, very brittle, and a constant source of danger to the patients. It is proposed to place tubs and lavatories outside the present walls, which can be accomplished by the construction of two new walls, and the entire furnishings should be renewed. For this important and much-needed improvement is asked the sum of \$10,000.

The gradual decrease in the cost per capita of maintenance of the Oregon state insane asylum is shown by the following figures, which cover the 20 years of its existence, from its institution. Fractions of a cent are omitted.

Table showing maintenance cost per capita from 1884 to 1902.

For two years ending November 30st.— Average No. Patients. Average No. Patients. Daily. Monthly.

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

BILL PROVIDING THEREFOR INTRODUCED IN SENATE.

Gives Power to Establish Quarantines and Collect Vital Statistics—County Boards.

SALEM, Jan. 18.—(Special.)—The bill for the creation of a State Board of Health, introduced by Dr. A. C. Sutton, senator from Multnomah County, provides for the appointment of a board composed of seven physicians, six of whom are to be appointed by the Governor, with the consent of the Senate, and the seventh, secretary, to be elected by the other six. The term of office of the six members is four years, three of the members going out each two years. Vacancies may be filled by the Governor.

The State Board of Health shall have general supervision of the interests of the health of the people of the State. It shall keep the vital statistics of this state, and make sanitary investigations and inquiries respecting the causes and prevention of diseases, especially of epidemic diseases, including those of domestic animals. It shall study the causes of mortality and the effects of localities, employment, conditions, food, beverages, habits and circumstances of the health of the people. It shall make, and is hereby empowered to enforce such quarantine regulations as seem best for the preservation of the public health, and it shall be the duty of the health officers, Sheriff, constables and all county officers and employees of the state to enforce such regulations, subject to the authority of the board.

The bill provides that the secretary shall hold his office as long as he shall faithfully discharge the duties thereof, but may be removed for cause upon a majority vote of the board. He shall receive a salary to be fixed by the board, and his traveling expenses and necessary expenses for office service. The members receive no compensation, but are reimbursed for expenses per year is provided for the expenses of the board.

Each county the County Judge and County Physician shall constitute a county board of health, and the County Physician shall be health officer. If in any county it is inexpedient to have a County Physician, the board may select a health officer. The county health officer shall keep records of births, deaths, contagious and infectious diseases, and report monthly to the State Board of Health.

It is the duty of physicians, midwives and heads of families to report all births and deaths to the county health officer and of all persons under whose roofs contagious or epidemic diseases occur, to report the same to the health officer. If a person dies in a household which has not had until a death certificate has been procured and the transportation of the remains of persons who died from an infectious disease is not reported, the board of health may direct, in prohibited violation of the provisions of the bill is punishable by fine of from \$10 to \$100.

Senator Masters' employers' liability bill, Senate Bill 25, is one of the shortest measures ever proposed on that subject. It is a bill to amend an act relating to the liability of railroad companies in this state shall be liable in damages for any injury sustained by any employee of such corporation, as follows:

"If such injury results from the wrongful, negligent or reckless act of an agent or officer of such corporation superior to the employee injured, or of a person employed by such corporation having the management, control or direction of the work, or the services of such employee, or if the injury is caused by a defect in the equipment of the corporation, or if the injury is caused by the negligence of a co-employee engaged in the same or similar service as that of the employee injured, or of a co-employee on another train or car, or of a co-employee in charge of any switch, signal, point or engine, or who is charged with dispatching trains, or with admitting telegraphic or telephonic orders. Knowledge by an employee injured of the defective condition of machinery, ways, appliances or structures of the corporation shall not of itself be a bar to recovery for any injury or death caused thereby."

"If the death results from an injury to any employee of such corporation, received as aforesaid, the personal representative of such employee shall have the right of action against such corporation, and may recover damages to the extent of any contract, express or implied, made by any such employee to waive the benefit of this section or any part thereof, and the contract, express or implied, shall not be construed to deprive such employee or his personal representative of any right or remedy to which he is now entitled under the laws of this state."

"The rules and principles of law as to contributory negligence which apply in other cases shall apply to cases arising under this act, except so far as the same are herein modified or changed."

Senate Bill No. 30, by Senator Mulkey, to provide a uniform and equal rate of assessment and taxation of express, telephone, telegraph and oil companies, based upon the Ohio statute, which has been declared constitutional. If this bill becomes a law, the Secretary of State, State Treasurer and Attorney General will constitute a State Board of Appraisers. In May of each year the board will ascertain the value of the property of express, telephone, telegraph and oil companies in this state, and in so doing they are to be guided by the total value of the capital stock of the company, and such other evidence and rules as will enable the board to arrive at the true value of the property within the state in the proportion which the same bears to the entire property of said companies, as determined by the value of the capital stock.

The total value of the property of such corporations in the state, less the real property assessed, is to be apportioned among the counties in the proportion of the length of line telephone and telegraph companies in each county, and of the gross receipts of express and oil companies in each county. When the value has been ascertained the County Assessor enters the same on their rolls, and the property thus valued is taxed the same as other property.

Senator Sweet's bill amending the law relating to actions for damages for injuries causing death, proposes to raise the limit of damages from \$500 to \$50,000. The law which Senator Sweet proposes to amend is section 331 of Bellinger & Cotton's Code. The bill is known as Senate Bill 29.

Representative Kay, of Marion, has presented a bill to authorize the Land Board to purchase school lands, and to invest the same in public securities in the State of Oregon. This is to be done by the Land Board.

Before any school or municipal bonds are sold in the state, notice of their pending sale is to be given to the Land Board. The board is empowered to purchase any or any part of such bonds, with money of the irreducible fund, university fund or Agricultural College fund. The notice of the pending sale is to be accompanied with legal opinion to the effect that the bonds from the City Attorney, local attorney for the Land Board, or District Attorney. The interest rate is not to exceed 5 per cent.

A bill is in the Judiciary committee of the House relating to execution and acknowledgment of deeds in any foreign country. It provides that a defective deed, powers of attorney, or other instruments for the conveyance of lands or any interest therein.

If a deed or instrument in any foreign country it may be executed according to the laws of such country, and this acknowledgment may be made before any Notary Public of that country or other specified officers.

NONUNION MEN INJURED

RESULT OF STREET FIGHTING AT ABERDEEN, WASH.

Sailors' Union Refused to Let Schooner Solano Leave Port—Police Arrested.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Jan. 18.—(Special.)—The trouble between union sailors and so-called scabs which began with the refusal of the Sailors' Union to allow the schooner Solano to sail, culminated about midnight in a collision between the forces. Five nonunion men were severely wounded, one of them being William Kehoe, who has the contract for loading the schooner Solano, owned by Turner, of San Francisco, who owns the Solano. Revolvers were drawn during the melee, but no shots were fired. Kehoe was followed across Heron-street bridge by a howling crowd, who pelted him with sticks. A policeman saved him from more serious injury.

There were five different scuffings between the union and nonunion men. The police seemed afraid of the crowd and made no arrests, but warrants will be issued for some of those who made the attack. The saloon district, where the fighting took place, was in a frenzy of excitement for several hours. The injured men are: W. Kehoe, Joseph Spelweck, William Cowdy, Chris Berg and a man unknown. No union man was injured.

A State Tax Commission is provided for in a bill introduced in the House yesterday by Mr. Nottingham, of Multnomah County. The Governor is authorized to appoint a commission of five citizens, who shall report upon matters of assessment and taxation and legislation therefor. The commission is to meet the first Monday of next July. The Governor is empowered to fill all vacancies in the board. Five thousand copies of the report are to be printed at the expense of the State. There is a strong sentiment in favor of such commission.

The bill for a fireboat at Portland has been referred to the Multnomah delegation. It was introduced yesterday by Representative Nottingham and Mr. Fisher. It authorizes the City Council of Portland to collect a special tax not exceeding 14 mills for acquiring a fireboat.

The bill of the East Side Improvement Association for rebuilding the Morrison-street bridge has been referred to the Multnomah delegation. This measure has drawn up by W. D. Benton and Mr. Fisher. It was introduced in the House by Mr. Cobb. It authorizes the issuance of \$400,000 in bonds.

A bill to carry out the provisions of the initiative and referendum amendment to the constitution is with the election committee of the House. Many persons think that amendment is operative already without statutory additions.

The measure prescribes two forms of petition for referendum. One of these is for referendum on legislative acts and the other is for referendum on constitutional amendments. Each petition is to be accompanied by an affidavit which shall attest the genuineness of every signature. It is also to be accompanied by a full text of the measure proposed by initiative petition. The Secretary of State is to decide whether the petitioners are entitled to the referendum, but appeal may be made to the Supreme Court from his decision. The decision of the Supreme Court is to be final. When referendum is required the Governor is to proclaim the fact. The bill then prescribes that copies of the proposed measure or amendment are to be printed on the ballots of election. Election is to be held in the regular manner.

A State High School at Burns is the object of a bill introduced in the House by Mr. Test, of Malheur. The measure appropriates \$100,000 from the general funds of the State for the school, the money to be paid in four annual installments. The board of directors is to consist of the County Judge and two County Commissioners, the County Treasurer and the County School Superintendent. The money is to be expended under the direction of this board. The bill cites the fact that citizens of Harney County are remote from the regular educational institutions of the State, and that many of them are therefore unable to attend them. This is the first measure of the kind that has yet appeared. Strong opposition is undoubtedly growing around the bill, as the sentiment against small state schools seems to be decided among many lawmakers. In view of Governor Chamberlain's utterances in favor of the measure, he cannot be expected to support the bill, although he and Mr. Test are Democrats.

A bill to regulate fees of county officers has been introduced by Representative Burleigh, of Wallowa. Some of the fees are noted as follows: Affidavit, 50 cents; official certificate, 50 cents; attending assignments of marriage, 25 cents; attending citizens' certificates, 50 cents; acknowledgment of deed, 25 cents; marriage license, 50 cents; official license, 50 cents.

Appropriations of \$1000 to each county for annual industrial fairs are provided for in a bill offered by Representative Burleigh, of Wallowa. The measure provides for the creation of boards in each county called "Agricultural Societies," which shall expend the money. These boards shall consist each of five members, appointed by the Governor. These commissioners are to hold office for four years.

A bill to raise the salary of the County School Superintendent of Multnomah from \$500 to \$500 per year is under consideration by the Senate. The measure is a long one, prescribing in detail the duties of the Superintendent. The Superintendent and the County Board are to be a board for the appointment of school district trustees. The bill defines the conditions under which certificates and permits to teach may be issued. It provides also for the appointment of school funds between the districts.

Representative Kay, of Marion, has a bill in the Judiciary committee of the House to make the salaries of public employees subject to garnishment.

BUSINESS ITEMS. If Baby is Cutting Teeth. Be sure and use that old and well-tried remedy, Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic and diarrhoea.

PROMINENT PIONEER DEAD.

Mrs. Elizabeth Henderson, Who Settled in Eugene in 1850.

EUGENE, Or., Jan. 18.—Mrs. Elizabeth Henderson, one of the most prominent and best-known of the pioneer women of this country, died at her home at an early hour this morning, aged 78 years.

Elizabeth Schray was born in McClelland, Pennsylvania, November 13, 1828, being of Pennsylvania Dutch parentage, and there spent the early years of her life. She received a liberal education. In 1850 she was married to E. P. Henderson, the young couple moving to Missouri, where they lived for one year. They then returned to Pennsylvania and settled in Wayne county, where they remained for five years.

In 1856 they came to Oregon across the plains, and upon arrival here settled in Eugene, where for three years Mr. Henderson held the position of president of Columbia College. They then removed to California, where they remained for three years, and returned to Oregon for their permanent home.

Mrs. Henderson was the mother of seven children, four of whom are living—Mrs. Marietta Thurston and E. K. Henderson, Rev. E. F. Honch, the pastor, had just announced his text and was opening his sermon, when a burst of smoke and flame shot up into the auditorium from a register in the main aisle. Instantly there was great excitement. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for the heating apparatus was a mass of flames and the fire had eaten up around the register. It took an hour to get the fire under control. The church was packed and for a moment there was imminent danger of a panic, but Rev. Mr. Honch, raising his voice above the screams of women and shouts of men, promptly it turned out that the small basement used for