

GRANT LAWS IN WAY OF PROJECT

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"I had a long talk with C. E. S. Wood, in Portland, a year ago last January," said Mr. Mallett, "and he asked what my opinion was as to the value of the lands. I replied that without irrigation it was my judgment the lands would remain practically worthless, but that with irrigation they might be made productive and valuable.

"Mr. Wood declared that he proposed to work to bring about completion of the project as quickly as possible and I believe he has worked consistently toward that end. A proposition was made that

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NEWELL ACCUSED OF FALSEHOOD

(Continued from First Page.)

Government of the United States to exercise the rights of eminent domain when necessary to carry out the purposes of the National Irrigation Law.

AT THE MORNING SESSION

Various Resolutions Cause Debate Before Committee.

There was practically full attendance of the members of the resolutions committee at the first session yesterday forenoon, in which were considered some of the important subjects to be presented and some that delegates, strongly desiring introduction by the body, but designed to die ignominiously in the privacy of the committee, as the committee on immigration, intended to make possible an arrangement and entirely satisfactory understanding with the officials of the Reclamation Service by which the work might be prosecuted.

Turns Down Smythe Idea.

J. E. Baker, of California, delivered a caustic address opposing the resolution introduced yesterday by William E. Smythe, of that state, bearing upon the question of immigration as a factor with irrigation and the committee of not less than 15 be appointed by the chairman of the congress, to be known as the committee on immigration and settlement of arid lands.

Navigation and Irrigation.

Judge Raker, of California, offered the resolution, championed by the California delegation, declaring "Water more important for irrigation than for navigation." This resolution was practically identical with that passed by the Trans-Mississippi Congress. The resolution is: "Resolved, That the use of the river waters of the Trans-Mississippi States for navigation and other purposes, when applied to irrigation than to navigation, and hence, when the demand of irrigation requires such a volume of the waters of any navigable stream as to render it less navigable, such conditions should not be permitted to interfere in any manner with the prosecution and operation of irrigation works."

Ambiguous Emotion Tabled.

Delegate F. R. Garnett introduced the following: "Resolved, that in consideration that the law enacted by Congress giving aid to irrigation districts and the construction of irrigation works, is inadequate and of no practical use in many localities; therefore, it is the sense of this Irrigation Congress that state and federal Government to render aid to those localities where the law is now inoperative."

Special Excursion Rates.

Very Low Twenty-Day Tickets East Offered by O. R. & N. August 24, September 17, 17, the O. R. & N. sells 30-day special excursion tickets to Eastern points; stopovers granted at intermediate points. Particulars of O. R. & N. tickets agent O. R. & N. Co., Third and Washington Streets, Portland, Oregon.

Business Items.

If Baby is Cutting Teeth. Be sure to use that old 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.

Commission to Handle Fund.

The magnitude of expenditures for Federal reclamation, amounting to several millions of dollars annually, and the business details being sufficiently important and complex to require undivided attention and well-trained business intelligence, and investing engineers with duties extraneous to their education and training, bearing some hazard as to economical promotion of Federal irrigation work, as well as distracting to engineers, and, perhaps, injuring their efficiency in that capacity, and believing that relieving them from all duties except engineering problems, and investing a created bureau with all business details will prove an economical, efficient and satisfactory expedient, the National Irrigation Congress recommends the appointment of a "business commission" for the Reclamation Service on whom engineers may make regulation deemed essential for making projects feasible, and contracts for delivery of water together with data, computations, drawings, illustrations and such other information as shall be necessary to elucidate such necessity.

OWNERS HOLD THE KEY

THEY BLOCK MANY PROJECTS, SAYS NEWELL.

Unless Large Holdings Are Subdivided, Government Will Be Seriously Embarrassed.

In the section of engineering and mechanics of the National Irrigation Congress there was a vast amount of instruction for delegates who devoted their time to listening to the papers submitted by the directors of the various reclamation projects of the country. Demonstrations from actual experience in the field acquainted the delegates with a more intimate knowledge of the difficulties encountered, especially in Oregon and Washington, where some of the most obstinate difficulties have been encountered.

F. H. Newell, chief engineer, declared that owners of property, especially in Oregon, are responsible for delay on the part of the Government in beginning activities. He emphasized the fact that the law requires that the land be held in large bodies of land subject to the reclamation act to subdivide their holdings, so as to subject them to acquisition by actual settlers, and that the Government which is expending vast sums of money in carrying out its plans along these lines without expectation of receiving profit or interest, would be seriously handicapped in its initial operations unless some concessions of the character indicated were made by the large property-owners, together with those holding the key to the situation in the shape of control of the sources of water supply.

He argued that they would be the ones chiefly benefited, and from this standpoint reasoned that until there was complete harmony between the interests affected, it would result in placing the Government in an embarrassing position.

President Roosevelt, he said, dealt with this feature of the situation in his last message, and called particular attention to the fact that the object of reclamation was based upon providing homes for the masses. Mr. Newell said that Oregon and other Western States were particularly susceptible to this phase of the matter for the reason that in the arid districts stockmen and other early settlers, as well as private enterprises had absorbed the springs and other sources of water supply, besides available reservoir sites, and that there could be no practical extension of irrigation under any of the Federal laws, either the Carey act or reclamation act, without the co-operation of large owners, as there was no extensive holdings by the Government in any of the reclamation districts.

Contest for Next Meeting.

Selection of the place of meeting for the session of 1906 is assuming the aspects of the leading political consideration of the Irrigation Congress. Boise and Reno are making vigorous campaigns for states that have never had a session of the body, and Denver is no less aggressive than usual in going after great National conventions. Other cities are less active, but it is possible that Oklahoma City or some other of the various candidates may wax strong as a compromise. It is in the capacity of being chosen as a compromise that Reno seems most hopeful.

Banquet to Newspaper Men.

The Utah State Commission added another notch on its already long list of delightful social affairs last night at 8 o'clock, when it gave a banquet at the American Inn to the newspaper fraternity of the Lewis and Clark Exposition. There were about 30 guests present at the banquet. Among the speakers were Rudolph Kuehler, treasurer of the Utah Commission, and M. J. Bennett, secretary of the Utah Commission.

First Since Sheldon.

Commissioner of Education of the Empire State Does Not Adopt the Attitude of Other Clergymen.

Religious exercises, the first since the Sunday opening of the Trail, will be held in the Exposition Auditorium next Sunday afternoon at 6 o'clock. The speaker of the day will be Rev. A. S. Draper, D. D., Commissioner of Education for the State of New York. The attitude of the Commissioner of Education of the State of New York, however, shows that the attitude of the pulp is not unanimously opposed to the state of affairs at the Exposition on Sunday. Dr. Draper's views on the subject are in line with those of the speakers in Sunday Trail opening, or believes religious exercises adjacent to amusement features are not detrimental to society or otherwise. He is, however, in no way responsible for the Sunday opening of the Trail.

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