OREGON DEMANDS RIGHTFUL SHARE

Live Wires Protest Against Inequity of Distribution of Reclamation Fund.

SENATORS URGED TO ACT

Failure to Secure Recognition of West Side Umatilla Project Is Regarded as Especially to Be Deplored.

LIVE WIRES URGE CHAMBERLAIN AND BOURNE TO ACT FOR OREGON.

PORTLAND, Or., Dec. 28.—To Senators Chamberlain and Bourne, Washington, D. C.: The Portland Live Wires, composed of 100 business men, sincerely trust that you will be successful in securing for Oregon her rightful share of expenditures. While the letter of the law justifies the appropriation of Oregon's money in other states, equity and right demand for Oregon a greater recognition.

PORTLAND LIVE WIRES.

For the purpose of stimulating Oregon's United States Senators to greater activity, there was held in the convention hall of the Commercial Club yesterday noon a meeting of the Portland Live Wires. They were indignant over the relatively small appropriation, $925,000, allowed for the state in the division of the $20,000,000 reclamation fund made by President Taft.

Blame for the failure of Oregon to secure its just share was placed on the shoulders of Chamberlain and Bourne. It was felt that the state had suffered an irreparable loss. What could not be understood was that, although the Federal law previous to the amendment last Spring, provided that 51 per cent of the money paid in by a single state to the reclamation fund must be expended within the borders of that state, even with this protective provision the state suffered from lack of results.

"Oregon was entitled to $16,000,000," said C. C. Craig, a leading member of the Live Wires. "What have we got? Almost nothing. Where were our officials when this 'melon cutting' feast was on? We have been 'goldbricked,' 'bunceed,' deprived of our rights. Through what? Negligence, golf, ambition, social distinction, or pure laziness? I wish some one would answer. The fact remains that we are tied up until 1916. A man is known for the results he has accomplished. Somebody evidently has not 'made good.' It is about time that we got a better pilot."

It was said at the meeting that the refusal to secure an appropriation for the West Side Umatilla project was the most unfortunate loss of all. This project, providing for an expenditure of $2,000,000, would bring into cultivation 60,000 acres of land capable of harvesting its crop three weeks ahead of the Yakima country. Not only in early crops would the project be of inestimable worth, but it would result in holding back sufficient water from the Columbia in the Spring to lessen materially the danger from floods in the Willamette valley and along the Columbia. It was declared that the benefits from this feature alone were incalculable.

The Live Wires decided to send a telegram to the Senators, expressing in a dignified manner their desires. It was the general understanding that the telegram would voice the extreme disappointment of Oregon over its failure to secure sufficient money to aid in completing reclamation projects fathered by the Government within the borders of the state.

COMMERCIAL BODIES AROUSED

Effort to Be Made to Secure Better Share for Oregon.

Commercial organizations throughout Oregon are to be aroused within the next few days for the purposes of organizing sufficient strength in Washington to secure a readjustment of the division of the $20,000,000 reclamation bond money made by President Taft Monday.

E. L. Thompson, of Hartman & Thompson, is now compiling figures to show that the West Side Umatilla project is at least being treated unfairly. He has solicited the consideration of the officers of the Portland Commercial Club and of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, and it is hoped in the next few days to bring pressure to bear upon the Oregon Senators, and particularly on friends outside of the state to help Oregon. It is Mr. Thompson's contention that this project is not a new one, but a "continuation of the old one." The understanding which has come from the National capital is that the division was made upon the basis of existing unfinished products, as the only ones entitled to any of the money, and as the demands of these projects were sufficient to take all of the funds in sight, there was no hope for new ones proposed. It is upon this line of reasoning that Mr. Thompson and his co-workers hope to gain their point.

The Umatilla project, for which it is desired to secure an appropriation, lies west of the Umatilla River and has for its object the reclamation by a gravity system of from 40,000 to 60,000 acres of land lying west of the Umatilla and south of the Columbia River. Its development requires the creation of a storage reservoir by building a dam on the Umatilla River, near the mouth of Bitter Creek, which will raise the water level 60 to 70 feet. It is said to be feasible to extend the irrigable area about 30,000 acres by electric pumping whenever the development of the project warrants such an extension. To that end control has been kept by the United States of what appears to be a good dam site on the Deschutes River. Water can be pumped from the Columbia River to the lower levels, which will lighten the draft on the supply of the Umatilla River and permit the surplus water to be lifted above the highest gravity distributary.

The land to be irrigated extends in a strip from one to six miles in width on the south side of the Columbia, and for a distance from east to west of 30 miles, most of which is at an elevation of 500 to 700 feet above the sea level—a very desirable elevation. The soil is a sandy loam, which tends to become more sandy as it approaches the Columbia. Of the 59,846 acres in the proposed district, 6235 are owned by the Northern Pacific, 5120 are claimed by the Northern Pacific, but of doubtful title. Lands sold or lost by the Northern Pacific include 15,680 acres; patented lands are 8232 acres; homestead and desert land entries, 10,415 acres, and vacant public lands, 17,165 acres.

The estimate for the cost of the project is $3,820,030. This is divided: Embankment, $460,180; core wall, $51,600; spillway, $251,000; outlet conduit and tower, $22,000; for river control and outlet (Maxwell Canal), $30,000; for turnout to lateral of Western Land & Irrigation Company, $5000; preparatory work, $25,000; allowance for cut-off below core wall, $100,000; diversion of stage gulch, $50,000; dike to protect Stanfield, $25,000; reservoir site, $545,250; main canal, $250,000; distribution system, $1,500,000; wind-breaks, $100,000; drainage, $250,000; surveys, $75,000; priming canals, $50,000.

It is contended that the President in omitting this project from his list made a mistake or was under misapprehension of the facts. It is asserted that there are several projects to which were given heavy appropriations which are not as worthy or are in a less completed state, and never can hope to bring forth the results that this one will. For this reason it is believed that if the proper pressure is brought to bear upon the officials in Washington something may be accomplished for the benefit of Oregon.

LONGHAND IS UNDER BAN

County Court Orders Important Documents Must Be Typewritten.

With the beginning of the new year all probate documents submitted for action by the County Court must be typewritten. Judge Cleeton announced yesterday morning that great inconvenience was caused by papers submitted by attorneys in their own chirography and that with the expiration of 1910 the practice of receiving handwritten documents would be discontinued.

This order means that no heed will be paid to documents written in longhand submitted to the County Court by attorneys except wills, many of which are made in the handwriting of the testators. Exception will also be made to petitions submitted to the County Court by persons who are not represented by attorneys or who communicate with the County Court on subjects which do not require the care in filing demanded by probate cases.

FUNERAL OF PIONEER DEMOCRATIC LEADER TO BE HELD TODAY.

Albert H. Brown.

The funeral of the late Albert H. Brown, well known as a pioneer leader of the Democratic party in Oregon, who died at his home, 344 East Sixteenth street North, on Tuesday, will be held this morning at 10 o'clock from the family residence. The body will be taken at 10:30 to Trinity Episcopal Church, where the funeral services will be conducted by will be J. N. Teal, C. B. Moores, Will Merriman, W. J. Van Schuyver, Robert J. Slater, of Pendleton, Howard Fairfowl and Judge W. R. King, of Salem.

Medford Hotel Under Way Soon.

MEDFORD, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—The Hotel Medford Company has announced that work on the new hotel in Medford will be recommenced immediately after New Year's. During the Fall the foundation was laid, but the rainy season set in and work on the building was stopped. The contracts have been let, calling for a building six stories in height, furnished with every modern improvement and convenience, and to cost $100,000. A syndicate of Medford business men are financing the building. Dr. E. B. Pickel is president of the company; A. Coleman, vice-president; Emil Mohr, secretary, and the Farmers and Fruitgrowers' Bank, treasurer.

DEATH IS SURPRISE

News of Passing of Author Comes to Actress.

PLAYLET HIS FAVORITE

Telegram Received by Miss Ryan at Close of Performance Conveys News—Mr. Smalley Well Known in Northwest.

There was more than stage pathos in the announcement from New Orleans that Victor H. Smalley, a well-known newspaper writer, novelist, playwright and composer, was dead. The news reached Miss Mona Ryan at the conclusion of the performance of "Handcuffed" at the Orpheum Monday afternoon, when she smilingly received a blue clad messenger boy, believing that he was bringing her Christmas greetings from her friend, the author of the playlet.

"Handcuffed" is the favorite sketch of the author, and was written on a hot August afternoon last Summer in New York. Mr. Smalley had promised to produce a play for Miss Ryan and upon his return from a vacation trip met the charming Irish girl at his office. Resenting the reproaches of Miss Ryan for failure to redeem his promise, Mr. Smalley asked her to be seated. Calling his secretary the author dictated the dialogue and stage business as it is being used today.

"The news of the death of Mr. Smalley has immeasurably saddened my Christmas," said Miss Ryan last night. "He was a charming friend, and in the last years of his life had begun to meet the expectations of those who were acquainted with his brilliant mind.

"He had promised to write a play for me and I have already asked for the rights to produce the work on which he was engaged in the South prior to his death. I had a letter last week from Mr. Smalley, in which he expressed himself as so hopeful for the future that I can hardly realize he is gone."

Victor H. Smalley was well known to many Portland newspaper men. He was born in St. Paul, where his body was buried yesterday. After being graduated from the St. Paul High School, he became a reporter on the Dispatch, of that city, and later was its city editor. At that time he began producing vaudeville sketches. Mr. Smalley went to New York in 1909. While spending the Winter in New Orleans, he was stricken with appendicitis, his death being due to pneumonia which followed. He was 32 years of age.

Mr. Smalley's mother still lives in St. Paul, the funeral services being held at the family residence. Former newspaper and business associates of the dead man acted as pall bearers, and a guard from the Masons, of whom Mr. Smalley was a member, accompanied the body. Six Masons acted as honorary bearers.

FINE POINTS ARE ARGUED

Insurance Company's Surgeon Shoots Horse; Pay Refused.

Insured for $200 by the National Livestock Company, a horse owned by Joplin & Meek sickened, and was shot by the veterinary of the insurance concern. Payment of the policy was then refused by the insurance company, and owners of the steed have appealed to the State Circuit Court to be awarded judgment for the amount of the insurance.

The case was argued before Judge Gatens yesterday afternoon, and will be decided next Tuesday. It is admitted by the insurance company that the horse was insured by it and that it was killed by its veterinary to block spread of the disease to other horses for which policies had also been issued.

Attorneys for Joplin & Meek contend the insurance company is liable for the policy, even though the horse did not die from disease against which it was insured. The insurance men hold that the shooting of the animal was a protective measure, and that death by gunshot wound was not embodied in their agreement with Joplin & Meek.

The case was heard in Judge Gatens' chambers, and as the argument of the attorneys could be heard through the temporary walls many listened to the arguments from the corridor.

LAST SCENE IN FAVORITE PLAYLET BY VICTOR SMALLEY, WHO IS DEAD AT ST. PAUL.

MISS MONA RYAN AND HER COMPANY, IN "HANDCUFFED," AT THE ORPHEUM.

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DELAYS TO BE AVOIDED

WEST WING OF COURTHOUSE TO TAKE LESSON FROM EAST.

Commissioners Will Require That Material Be Assembled Before Work Is Begun.

Their aim being to prevent delay in the construction of the west wing of the new Courthouse such as has been encountered in building the east wing, the County Commissioners will advertise for bids six months in advance to give the contractors ample time to assemble all their material before work is begun.

That the east wing will be ready for occupancy some time in July is the latest announcement. Completion of most of the contracts being tardy more than a year, the County Commissioners deduct penalties whenever payments are made, and as a result Multnomah County is sustaining no loss by the delay, although the inconvenience is great. With the east wing the first delay was caused by the steel contractors. Their material being late in arriving, other contracts necessarily were retarded until the long accumulated delay resulted.

It is to avoid a repetition of this delay that the County Commissioners have decided to compel the contractor to whom the bid for the west wing is awarded to assemble all steel and stone before actual construction is begun. It is probable that advertisement for bids will be made early next month. Whidden & Lewis, the architects, saying the specifications will be in readiness soon.

When the east wing is completed next July it will provide sufficient space for all the county offices with the exception of the Assessor's office, and immediate transfer from the old structure to the new will be made. The County Jail will be on the top floor of the new building, and it is believed progress of the work will permit the transfer of prisoners when the general removal from the old Courthouse is made.

At present the county is required to pay rent for offices for the treasurer, Justices of the Peace and School Superintendent, but penalties collected from the tardy contractors more than make up this expense.

NURSE'S CLAIM IS FIRST

Services, Though Volunteered, Deserve Reward, Says Court.

That nurses attending helpless invalids are entitled to first consideration as claimants against the estates of persons who die after prolonged illness was an assertion made by County Judge Cleeton from the bench yesterday morning. In accordance with this decision $300 was awarded to Mrs. Hattie McDonald, a nurse, who for nearly three years attended Mrs. Leontine Sargousse, who died last January from the effects of a paralytic stroke.

The claim of the nurse against the estate was fought vigorously by the attorney for the administrator, who contended that Mrs. McDonald's services were volunteered and that an attempt was being made to "fleece" the estate. Judge Cleeton held that, even if the services of the nurse were voluntary and given without hope of compensation they were in a measure heroic and that claim for recompense should be heeded.

Mrs. Sargousse was the wife of a cook whose work did not permit him to attend to his wife in her illness and the constant care of Mrs. McDonald, a neighbor, was required.

NEW TIMBER INTRODUCED

Black Walnut and Red Oak to Be Seeded in Burnt Areas.

Eight thousand five hundred pounds of Arkansas black walnuts and 8124 pounds of red oak acorns have been shipped by the Federal Government from Harrisburg, Ark., to District Forester Chapman, of Portland, to be distributed through the burnt districts of the Pacific Northwest.

The black walnuts of Arkansas are among the most valued trees of that region and furnish lumber of the highest value in the market. Their introduction into the forests of the Pacific Northwest will be of great value to the generations to come, if they succeed. While it is regarded as an experiment, the district forester believes that they will succeed and that in 25 years the walnut will be regarded as one of the important products of Oregon's lumber mills and furniture factories.

Oregon will receive a good share of the seed and the distribution will take place within the next few months. The seeds will be sent to the forest rangers, who will take charge of planting them in the burnt-over areas.

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