RAILROAD BUILDER ASKS MEN OF OREGON TO FORM CONSTRUCTIVE IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE POLICY SO STATE CAN DEVELOP

Robert E. Strahorn at Salem Conference Says Capital Is Being Discouraged by Failure of Unoccupied Land Tapped by Rail Lines to Settle Up.

dress at the irrigation, drainage and the conference, and shows clearly how taxpaying ability of the land. reclamation of wet lands and arid lands would greatly stimulate the state's prosperity. Mr. Strahorn said:

"I have no thought or authority to speak for any railway interest except Oregon. However, bearing in mind that thousands of miles of railways are largely dependent for their revenue upon privately irrigated lands, that the crops grown in 1914 on government reclamation projects alone totalled 130,000 carloads, and that the prosperity, improvement and extension of our transportation systems are so dependent upon the working out of these development problems, I will necessarily indulge in observations involving them generally. The great and highly profitable agriculture of Colorado, Utah, New Mexico and Arizona, which is enprosperous railways.

Relief Is Sought.

"With the Southern Pacific's loss of over \$1,000,000 from operation of its Oregon lines last year, with smaller though important losses by the Hill systems in Oregon, and largely diminished earnings on the Oregon lines of other roads, in spite of their important outlays for betterments of a class from which no additional earnings can be expected, and in view of their now almost unbearable load of taxation they are no doubt all casting around anxiously for some means of relief.

measure of this in the matter we are here to seriously consider, and I trust, to Wisely promote? I cannot imagine the creation from any single source of such a tide of prosperity and such a volume of increased traffic as would spring from the doubling of the productivity of western Oregon's 3,000,000 acres of wet lands. The accruing benefits would seem to be out of all pro-

portion to the cost.
"Engineers roughly figure the cost of drainage of these lands at \$5 to \$10 per acre, and of tiling where the lat-\$20 per acre, say \$25 per acre for complete reclamation. Properly issued, state guaranteed long-time drainage would be sound as gold dollars and sell at such low interest rate and that the benefits could readily be util- furnish.

Benefits of Drainage Explained.

Treating Eyestrain

Near-sighted, far-sighted, astigmatic or whatever the visual

trouble may be, this wonderful instrument reflects that knowl-

THE FAR-SIGHTED EYE

THE NEAR-SIGHTED EYE

This illustrates the far-sighted eye with defect corrected.

edge with unerrirng positiveness to the operator.

Note how the rays focus beyond the retina, causing imperfect vision.

"Railways and Reclamation" was the pay the entire expense in three or four McKenzie valley and much of the topic of Mr. Robert E. Strahorn's ad- years. Drainage is the best perma-Rogue river and Umpqua valleys sufnent improvement, ordinarily less exconference. Mr. Stra- pensive for maintenance than irrigahorn's address was one of the few real- tion works and means the maximum inly constructive addresses delivered at stead of the minimum yielding nad

"Providing it can be financed, this looks good for the farmer. But what about its effects on the railroads and deevlopment generally? Take the Willamette valley alone, which is as well the one so near my heart in central served by railroads as average similar areas, in Illinois and Iowa,

"Under present conditions this wonderful vale of the Willamette, the pride of the Pacific, deducting its handful of hill lands in fruit, and its not blessed with the large areas of mere speck of bottom lands in hops, land which are naturally productive. produces less tonnage acre for acre for its railroads than the Palouse country or the Walla Walla uplands. Large Dry land farming alone and the areas of the wet sour lands are in

lose proximity to the railroads.

"With an increased production of warrant any considerable additional close proximity to the railroads. only 50 per cent on the 1,000,000 acres settlement, because it will not warof Willamette valley wet lands alone, rant the additional transportation faincreased tonnage of that amount from tirely by irrigation, furnished a large that source and increased prosperity, share of the traffic of their scores of activities and traffic of all kinds, it is not-hard to figure where industrial and general prosperity would be vastly Oregon and to our country may be apenhanced and an important part of that railroad deficit would be wiped out. What could do more to fill up our over-built cities and create the tonnage that would bring ships to our docks?

Railway Still Languishes. "When we built the Portland, Eugene

Eastern it was confidently expected that ways would be devised to drain as cultivated is natural hay land, leavthe great areas of wet lands between Corvallis and Eugene especially. That would have insured a profitable traffic large proportion of these hay lands and greatly encouraged the completion "May they not find an important and electrification of the entire sys-

"But efforts for drainage failed, and the railway project still languishes part. Miles upon miles of that beautiful level territory is far less productive today than when first settled 50 or 60 years ago, and will continue depreciating under present con-

"The Oregon Electric and Southern Pacific are furnishing the best railway facilities in the country to many thousands of acres of such lands almost in sight of the great market of Portter may be necessary, at from \$15 to land. There are numerous other similar examples in western Oregon.

"Those whose capital is invested in such roads will shy from all railroad extension in Oregon until such lands. contribute at least a reasonable proon such liberal terms of repayment portion of the traffic they ought to

Owners Not Criticised.

ped area would give us increased production, population and general activ "This is no criticism of the owners ity equal to Yakima valley with its "Our expert farmers estimate in- of these lands. They have frequently 100,000 people, its numerous railroads reased yields after drainage from 50 made attempts to organize the work, and many towns of from 1000 to 20, to 100 per cent, or easily sufficient to but have been appalled by the unfa-

miliar problems involved. I believe can be created where the settlers are they have always been, and are now, already upon the ground by this pro-posed reclamation program. enthusiastically in favor of a proper "Oregon has no larger question beplant for reclamation, and are willing fore her today than the recovery by to pay the price. It is a matter of organization of business with which adequate railway construction of what they are not familiar, and they have a is being lost in her eastern half, and the greatest step, the one vitally nec right to expect that the business interests of the state will be public spir- essary step in fact, is the further development of traffic producing re- * ited enough, wise enough and honest sources along lines we are here conenough to devise the machinery by which such undertakings can be prop-erly and economically put through.

age areas the lands are all settled,

worth from \$30 to \$50 or more per

acre, would be ideal security for the

Reclamation Important There,

The reclamation problem in Central

Oregon and most of eastern Oregon is

elatively more important than west

We must sink or swim by reclama-

measure of reclamation by irrigation

cilities necessary to make the coun-

try economically or comfortably habit-

What this means to the state o

with which I am now chiefly con-

as Massachusetts and New Jersey

combined, of which only a little over

most of them need drainage, with

crops, they would yield from three

to ten times their present food prod-

Water for 1,000,000 Acres.

"Including existing irrigated lands,

1,000,000 acres of arid or irrigable

400,000 acres of marsh lands which

can be drained and afterwards irrigat-

are some areas whose cost of reclama-

tion would, under present conditions,

be excessive. But easily one-fourth of the 1,000,000 acres are included in

reclamation very desirable and finan-

"Such a comparatively small devel-

cially safe under present conditions.

surface moisture which in such situ-

Money Cannot Be Borrowed.

arid and marsh lands might as well be

further development is concerned.

in the midst of Sahara so far as their

their large possibilities of intensive

cultivation, heavy yield and much

can be little hope of railway extension.

vast potential asset on account of the

millions of bushels of grain they will ultimately produce, will not with their

much lighter yield alone coax capital

during these trying times into such an

unattractive investment as railway

"No man, no matter how deserving

or what his possessions or product may be, can borrow any money at any

rate of interest even in the best com-

munities of that dry belt. I recall one

valley in a favored part of which there

are 27 schools and where some farms produced as high as 12,000 bushels of wheat last year. More of them want

to do the same and they need a mod-est amount of financing to do it.

Spokane earnestly endeavoring to get

money for some of the best of those people on what I call the best security in the world, a real working family, good farm and everything they have

with it, but could not, even at 10 per

Do Justice to Pioneers. "I appeal to you men from the wet belts or the irrigated belts who are more comfortably situated that there

is something wrong about this.
"Those pioneers over there have a right to live and enjoy the fruits of their work and to be considered as the

important factor in our state building

which they are. And we should devise

some way to put them on their feet with as many more like them as we

can coax over there and keep them there, whether it be by a little more judicious railway building, rural cred-

its or state guarantee of reclamation bonds or all together. "But two of the five railroads which

have painfully worked their way up

through the canyons to the outer

edges of the central Oregon plateau

pay operating expenses, to say nothing

of interest on cost of construction. It is a fact, ominous for Portland and our

Oregon railroads, that the two excep-

tions are thriving on trade abstracted

from southern and central Oregon by

Taking Business From Portland.

"A third road approaching from the

east is unintentionally performing the

same good offices on Harney and Malheur valley business for Boise and Salt Lake, No only is great loss al-ready being suffered, but trade move-ments and financial alliances are thus

being created which will not be easy

should we leave any stone unturned to

insure the prompt building of rail-

roads from the direction of Portland

rather than from these foreign trade

and cannot reasonably be expected to connect up these rich but distant

fields, partly because of some unfa-

vorable competitive conditions, but

ent cases are few, far between and limited in area. More and larger ones

mainly because of the broad zones of lean territory intervening. The pres-

"Our Portland roads have balked

With this rapid alienation of a large proportion of our own state, our own business and our own, people,

to reverse.

have spent days in Portland and

"The dry farming lands, although a

"Until the arid and marsh lands with

ations is usually present.

to proper

and cultivation

uct, according to the crop used.

ed, often at reasonable cost.

0 per cent is cultivated.

capital necessary to reclaim them,

of the Cascades.

well improved, and now being

"It is suggested that we should no embark on this undertaking because The people wish and expect that such projects will be surrounded with every lands under existing reclamation projects are not fully settled. Also because safeguard human ingenuity can prosome projects which have been mentioned are unsafe and undeserving. "What is said of drainage in west-Also because we have thousands of ern Oregon applies with considerable acres of logged off lands and other force to irrigation. As is well known, lands unoccupied such areas as those along the east side

What Have We to Offer?

of the Willamette valley as far south "The 100 per cent margin necessarily as Eugene, an important part of the oaded upon Carey act projects, the exessive costs per acre, terms of pay ment and other conditions affecting fer from deficiency in moisture, and government projects and the imposcould be made more productive by a moderate amount of irrigation which ible terms of various kinds affecting private or corporation projects, ought in these cases can be applied at a to be a sufficient answer to the first minimum of expense. Like the Grainproposition.

> "If we cannot discriminate, profit by past experience and discard the manifestly unsound projects and administer such a trust honestly, wisely and discreetly, as thousands of other trusts are administered, then I am unable to answer the second objection.

"The impractical and unworthy enterprises we have with us always, but this does not deter us from proceeding with those which appeal to sound reason and ripe experience.

"As to the present abundance of other lands for settlement: Can we really offer them of a nature and or terms within the reach of the man and family who must start with their bare hands? I think not.

Canada Getting Best Men.

"We no longer have that type of ploneer who without a dollar of capital can be expected to acquire and make productive the cheapest Willamette valley logged off lands anywhere. preciated from the fact that in five countles of Central Oregon alone, Without decrying the settlement of logged off lands, we all know that it costs vastly more money and effort cerned, there are roughly 10,000,000 acres of tillable land, an area as large to make a start on them than on even the most expensively irrigated or drained lands. There are many deserving families who would make a success, with modest assistance by rur-"At least half of the land returned al credit, on lands reclaimed and sold on proper terms, which the district's ing only about five per cent of the tillable land actually cultivated. A credit backed by the state's credit could safely offer. Canada gets from one to two hundred thousand of our best bone and sinew annually by givproduced less than a ton per acre and ing every man who is a worker such

a start whether he has a dollar or not, "Whatever may be said about Carey act projects, it must not be forgotten that they have been chiefly responsible or the increase of 6000 people and a valuation of over \$3,000,000 of farms in Crook county alone. Also that in here are in those five counties about spite of the untoward conditions recently prevailing, of the 70,000 acres reands for which an adequate water supply can be obtained, and about claimed 50,000 acres have been actually

State Should Be Willing. "If this could be accomplished dur-

ing the hardest period for such promuch more rigorous terms than would projects irrigable at \$25 to \$50 per acre where sufficient settlement and we not reasonably expect a much greater degree of success from well development had taken place to make district projects enjoying the low interest rates and other advantages of state participation? The state being the chief beneficiary through increased taxable area, population and production would be giving but small return by its carefully safeguarded guarantee. "Our state, in its administration of highly prosperous inhabitants Most of the marsh lands could be loaning over \$6,000,000 to our land. loaning over \$6,000,000 to our farmcent of the net revenue, furnishes an il-They are among the richest lustration of its ability to care for such lands in the world. They are also par-ticularly inviting because of the under trusts, as well as the best private business organization. Doubtless some nomically utilized to care for details of

Money Cannot be Bottom of acres drainage and irrigation project innance of dry farming lands separating these ing.

"It is plain that the national government that the national government to be a separated by the service of the serv that capital cannot be obtained for such private or corporation projects perfectly apparent that if we are to in- other."

Answer in Rhyme Comes to Youth From Hoosier Poet

THE OREGON DAILY JOURNAL

During letter writing week Vearl Crooks, a pupil of the Highland school, invited James Whitcomb Riley to visit the Rose Festival in June. In reply the poet sent the following poem:

Sing a song of cheer! Here's a holiday, boys, Lasting half a year! Round the world, and half is Shadow we have tried; Now we're where the laugh is-

On the Sunny Side.

Hi and whoop-hooray, boys!

Bluebirds in the pear, Blossoms over each tree In the orchard there! All the world's in joy, boys, Glad and glorified

On the sunny side!

On the sunny side!

Where's a heart as mellow— Where's a soul as free— Where is any fellow We would rather be? Just ourselves or none, boys, World around and wide,

Laughing in the sun, boys, On the sunny side! -James Whitcomb Riley.

Newberg Has Hopes For New Factory

Jones Brothers Company of Portland Investigate Pield With View to Establishing Branch of Their Business.

Newberg, Or., March 13 .- The possicility of having Jones Brothers & Co. of Portland establish a branch business and vinegar and also putting up logan-berry juice, is encouraging. President Jones of that company was in Newberg on a tour of investigation and was favorably impressed. Thursday of last week two members

of the Newberg Commercial club-R. J Moore and George Larkin—called on Mr. Jones at the factory in Portland and was requested by President Jones o secure if possible a lease on a portion of the cannery building here. At meeting today of the cannery board was voted to make the lease desired There are about 1000 acres of commercial apple orchards just coming into bearing in this vicinity, in addition to many acres of family orchards and in no part of the state are grown loganberries superior to those grown here.

Crushed by Machinery.

Tacema, Wash., March 13 .- (P. N. S.)-Three heavy crates of machinery lects within our memory and under the toppled over on Robert Fyrk, aged 26, a longshoreman, at the Milwaukee be imposed under state auspices, might | dock last night, and probably injured him fatally. The crates were about to be loaded on a steamer for Russia conceived and properly administered when two of them became unbalanced and fell against the third, which Fyrk had just arranged in position.

> crease our farming industry or its efficiency to any marked extent, it must be done along these lines.

"Are we then in this imperial state the school funds, of which it is now so devoil of men and measures and public spirit and financial resc that development of half of our arable man in this room, or any outside of it, believe that there is any question of our united ability and disposition to provide for these undertakings without saddling upon the state a penny of real liability or loss? If not, then shall we meekly sit down, see our best industry go backward and conspire to discourage the greatest railway development that has been inaugurated in many ect in Oregon for years. It is agreed years? Surely in this great commo wealth we can find enough character. ability and experience to steer us from on any terms. National rural credit the shoals of parsimony and stagnation larger proportionate population are legislation applicable to our wants is on the one hand and from the rocks of put in the way of reclamation there apparently far removed, and yet it is extravagance and speculation on the



Fourth Floor Sixth

Just in By Express-Big Assortment

Stylish, Inexpensive

New Spring

MILLINERY

\$2.75 to \$5.00 Models

-Popular-priced Spring Millinery is in demand - and we're ready to supply it. Table after table is spread with these new models just in and the output of our own expert milliners—every bit as stylish and good-looking as the higher priced millinery! Come in tomorrow and see the wonders we've accomplished.

\$5 Millinery a Leader

-We've a wonderful display of hats at this very conservative price. Flower and ribbon trimmed, newest stylesand chic tailored hats.

\$2.75 to \$4.50 Hats

-Embrace every possible style for early Spring. Sailors, tri-cornes, toques, turbans-flowers, ribbon and wing trimmed.

Untrimmed Shapes \$1.25-\$3.50 -A huge assortment in Milans and hemps-very latest shapes in

Flowers and Foliage, 15c to \$1.50 -For the trimming of these shapes. High and sober colors, every possible effect.

April Butterick

Patterns Ready. "Butterick Fashions," 25c. and

any 10c-15c pattern



Delineator

for Subscribers

now ready in our Pattern Store, Second Floor, Fifth

Street.



New "Dix Make" House Dresses

New Spring styles in famous "Dix Make," the smart, neat house dress worn by particular women all over the country and soid here exclusively in Portland. -With pretty touches of hand embroidery, pleated waists and full skirts, every

woman who enjoys being neat and dainty in her home should select several. -Scotch ginghams, chambrays, lawns, madras and percales in pretty shades of pink, blue, lavender and green-some striped, some dotted, and some plain-all sizes-in a variety of styles! Priced 98c, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00 and \$4.00.

-Third Ploor, Sixth Street

Mrs. T. B. Wheelock's FREE

COOKING LESSONS

now in progress in our auditorium, sixth floor Mrs. Wheelock lectures on domestic science and gives attractive and practical cooking demonstrations twice daily—10:30 A. M. and 2:30 P. M. No charge. The Pyrex Glass Cooking Dish demonstration will interest you, too.

The Best Place to Lunch

The Dutch Room for men, where they may smoke and chat over

their meals. Excellent cuisine, congenial at-

PRISCILLA TEA ROOM for men and women. Afternoon tea served. Unequaled service.

-You'll enjoy the quiet, restful surroundingshigh above the noise and confusion of the street!

Tomorrow and for the Balance of This Week---a Big Meier & Frank

roll silk umbrellas, English

style. Excellent quality. Fast

black silk covers, thoroughly

waterproofed, made over finest

in light and dark woods.

SALE OF Men's and UMBRE -Now is the time to prepare for the Spring rainy season! We have the largest stocks of um-



umbrella in this sale tomorrow! \$3.50 Umbrellas, \$2.85

-Women's black silk umbrellas, 26inch size, with best steel rods and ribs. Plain, straight handles of natural woods and black crook handles.

brellas in Portland, and there are

marked savings on reliable umbrel-

las of all kinds. In face of the great

advance in steel rods, ribs, runners

and all umbrella cloths-this is a

truly remarkable sale! If you want

splendid, real savings-choose your

\$4 Umbrellas, \$3.19 Colored Silk Umbrellas, \$5 -Men's and women's tight-

-Genuine rainproofed umbrellas in fast colors. All popular colors-red, green, purple, navy, gray, black, black and white. Made with all-wood sticks and

frames. Many pretty handles popular "Prince-of-Wales" han-

\$2.50 Umbrellas, \$1.95

-A good, inexpensive umbrella. Fast black, made on 26 inch frame, with detachable handle in many styles, both plain and fancy. Strong steel rods and ribs-a good, durable, everyday umbrella. Special at \$1.95.

-Why throw away that damaged umbrella? A new cover for \$1, \$1.50 up to \$4.50 makes it new -Main Floor, Fifth St.



\$6.50 Umbrellas, \$3.65

-Very fine quality black silk umbrellas for

women. Every one fast black and waterproofed.

Made with detachable handles in a wide assort-

ment of styles. Some sterling silver trimmed.

\$4 Umbrellas, \$3.19

brellas. Every one fast black

and waterproof. Full 26 inch

size, steel frames. Many novel

handles, including the "Prince-

of-Wales" style. Neatly cased

26 inch size. Best frames.

again! Expert workmanship.

and tasseled.

Women's fine black silk um-

Four More New and Pretty

Wirthmors, \$1 Waists Sold Here Only in Portland

-Yes, they're just as good looking as any of

their predecessors, and, in addition, they show all the newest style touches. Note the pretty scalloped effect, the trim tailored model and the two dainty lace trimmed waists illustrated. -Smart in style, of good material and extremely low as to price.

Wirthmor Dollar Waists -Pourth Ploor, Central



Just In—Complete Assortment

blouses, chic awning stripe, Kaisar silk, golfine in high colors and white.

-Tailored models are mostly on flaring lines, very wide, with set-in pocket and ornamental flaps. These include the jaunty sports skirts of knitted fabric, golfine and worsted materials. -Wash skirts, too, are being worn very early this year. Linenes, repps, wash silks and pique, and narrow and wide striped materials, white and high colors. -Fourth Floor, Fifth St.

Pure Lard "White No. 5 Pail, 69c

-A one day sale, in spite of market advances. No. 10 pails specially priced tomorrow, \$1.35.

medium weight, pound, 12c. Sauerkraut, solidly filled No. 21/2 cans, the dozen \$1.10. the can, 10c.

Smoked Shoulders, sugar cured.

Fine Bacon, sugar cured, 10 to 12 lb. strips, ½ strips, the pound, 2014 c.

Lima Beans, California dried, ! 5 lb. cloth sacks, 39c. Italian Prunes, 70 to 80 to lb. size, 5 pounds, 25c. White Beans, California, large, 5 pound cloth sacks, 39c.
Karo Syrup, "Blue Label," No.
5 cans, 30c.

White Lily Butter, fancy Oregon make, roll, 70c. Whole Wheat Flour, or Graham, No. 10 sacks, 35c. Tea-Room Coffee, noted for its flavor, pound, 35c. Solid Pumpkin, No. 21/2 cans, dozen 95c, 3 cans 25c.

209-10-11 Corbett Bldg., 5th and Morrison

Manufacturers of the Genuine Kryptok Lenses

Note how the rays focus before reaching the retina, causing myopia or near sight. No matter how excellent the mechanical work in a pair of glasses, it counts for nothing unless the formula from which the lenses are ground is the correct one for

your eyes. The formula will only be correct when it is based on

the result of a careful examination.

Consequently, a thorough examination is the first requisite for a satisfactory pair of glasses.

Our system of eyesight testing has no superior. ¶ Our 26 years' experience is behind this system.