The Oregon Statesman


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 Rhea Luper, state engineer, explained to the Salem Cham
ber of Commerce at the noon meeting yesterday the irri
gation district muddle that he, as secretary of the state
reclamation commission, created by the last legislature, i reclamation commission, c
charged with clearing up-
And be it said to the credit of that commission, greater an more rapid progress has been maae than was thought pos
sible. In fact, little faith was placed in the effectivenes sible. In fact, little faith was placed in the effectivenes
of the method adopted by the legislature, which provides
way more in the nature of arbitration than any otherBay in the ten months of work under the new law the
commission has undertaken to assist in the reorganization
of six irrigation districts, involving bonded indebtedness of of six irrigation districts, involving bonded indebtedness of
$\$ 5,860,800$; an additional debt to the state of $\$ 1,584,595$ and directly affecting the
This is a big task. The bonds are not registered. Th
holders must be found. They must agree to accept as th value of their bonds the amount the district can pay-
And each district presents an entirely separate problem different methods must be applied to each.
In Oregon 62 irrigation districts have been formed. Thes districts have issued bonds in the amount of more than $\$ 12$,
000,000 , and $\$ 11,275,000$ of these bonds are still outstanding Fifteen districts have defaulted in payment of principal o Some of the districts will pay their debts in full if give extensions of time and a chance to get more settlers.
Some will pay 75 cents on the dollar; some 50 cents, so as low as 25 cents, and Mr. Luper thinks there are two tha are entirely hopeless and may be considered o
Much patience will be needed; much time-
Much patience will be needed; much time--
But the reclamation commission is functioning. It i
getting the loose ends together. These problems concer getting the loose ends ag the interested, because the credit of the state is involved. The state at large may be paying taxes for a long time in the
future on the losses of the commonwealth in aiding the
irrigation districts. irrigation districts.
Mr. Luper called attention to the fact that in the east there is a movement along the idea that reclamation should
not be further fostered by the United States government. This would be unjust. The money for reclamation work lands in the west, and fr
And in reciamation work is the only way the west, in
which the public lands are located, can benefit. The people of the west should jealously guard their right
in this respect. It is their money. The east has no publi lands left. of this section of what rightfully belongns to them. people it is a vicious bill

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Initiative petitions are being circulated for placing on the } \\
& \text { ballot a constitutional amendment prohibiting the legista- } \\
& \text { ture from modifying or otherwise acting upon any initiative } \\
& \text { tegislation approved by the people, and preventing the use } \\
& \text { lege }
\end{aligned}
$$

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\begin{aligned}
& \text { legislation approved by the people, and preventing the use } \\
& \text { of the emergency clause by the legislature- } \\
& \text { And this should certainly fail in getting enough names }
\end{aligned}
$$

$\qquad$ have been voted down in this state, and many attempted to
be placed on the ballot have failed of getting sufficient names.

## claring an emergency It might bring a st

And it is inconceivable that any one would listen to the
proposition to deprive the legislature of the power

## times of undue excitement, or by accide statute books- That, too, would be bordering on anarch <br> Do not sign such a petition. In case onto the ballot, smother it with a delug

| A leading Salem man came in last night to protest against |
| :--- |
| the idea of the abandonment of the municipal camp grounds. |
| He said 59 families were located in and around Salem last |
| year as the direct result of the city owned camp grounds. |
| He asserted that all first class tourists inquire for the mun- |
| icipally owned camp grounds, because they have protection |
| there. The grounds are guarded. They have a night watch, |
| and a care taker. This matter is to be debated on Friday |
| evening at the Y. M. C. A. forum. |
| TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGU |

## SWFETHEARTS:





Two Salem Girls Elected On Council at Centralia

THE MORNING ARGUMENT
AUNT HET
POOR PA


FINDS RELIEF
By Taking Lydia E. Pink.


s
JUSTATIN (an
That what The Eypert(Rqksisur)Thums of Your Safe-its So EASY FOR HIMTOOPEN-

BECKE \& HENDRICKS


