

East Oregonian
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

Published Daily and Semi-Weekly, at Pendleton, Oregon, by the EAST OREGONIAN PUBLISHING CO.

Entered at the post office at Pendleton, Oregon, as second class mail matter.

ON SALE IN OTHER CITIES
Imperial Hotel News Stand, Portland.
ON FILE AT
Chicago Bureau, 309 Security Building, Washington, D. C. Bureau 301. Fourteenth Street, N. W.

Member of the Associated Press.
The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for republication of all news dispatches credited to it or otherwise credited in this paper and also the local news published herein.

Subscription Rates (in Advance)
Daily, one year, by mail \$4.00
Daily, six months, by mail 2.00
Daily, three months, by mail 1.50
Daily, one month by mail .50
Daily, one year by carrier 2.75
Daily, six months by carrier 1.35
Daily, three months by carrier .65
Daily, one month by carrier .25
Semi-Weekly, 1 year by mail 2.00
Semi-Weekly, six months by mail 1.00
Semi-Weekly, three months by mail .50

Telephone 2

WHY FEDERAL AID IS NEEDED AT UMATILLA RAPIDS

In a lengthy editorial Sunday the Portland Oregonian proves very clearly it is not awake, or does not wish to awaken, to the great opportunity open to the people of the northwest through development of hydro electric power in the Columbia basin.

Strangely enough the Portland paper tries to discourage the Umatilla rapids project on the ground that project would develop too much electric power. Its editorial sets forth that the continuous power that may be developed at Umatilla rapids would more than suffice to operate all the railroads of Oregon and Washington, that it would produce more power than is now used in the entire Portland district and that the secondary power that may be developed at the rapids would be greatly in excess of what is needed for irrigation pumping.

If those facts are true they constitute an argument for building the project, not for delaying construction indefinitely. The building of a great power plant such as this would mean cheap power because the cost per horse power would be low. Then the availability of cheap power would automatically broaden and enlarge the market. The Oregonian is mistaken in its estimate of the present power market of the northwest. It errs through figuring on the market for high priced electricity. Naturally the market for such power is limited. There would be a limited market for bread if bread had to be sold at 25 cents an ounce. There would be no demand for railroads if railroad charges were prohibitive. There would be very little demand for Sunday newspapers if they had to sell at \$1 a copy. The comparison could be carried on indefinitely but it is not necessary. The mistake of the Oregonian is so palpable that it scarcely needs exposure. All intelligent men and women know that electricity is not being used as it could be used. It is used not at all in Oregon for heating purpose, though in Tacoma a municipal electric plant makes home heating possible. Electricity is not widely used for cooking and in only the more fortunate homes it is used to do the washing, ironing and sweeping. It is conservative to say that electricity is not being used for one twentieth part of the work it would be called upon to do were cheap power available. It is idle for any one to talk about a lack of market for power in the northwest, if cheap power can be had.

The Oregonian's editorial quotes "an engineer" as saying that only 114,000 acres of land is subject to irrigation through pumping from the Columbia by power developed at Umatilla rapids. That is evidently a low estimate, because there are government and state reports showing a much larger acreage as subject to irrigating by pumping. But even a 114,000 acre project would be no small affair. It would be bigger than any present project in Oregon. Such a project would add over \$10,000,000 to the assessment rolls of the counties affected, thus reducing the tax burden on present property.

One might suspect that the Oregonian does not want a great power project built because such an enterprise would reduce electric charges and thus cut dividends of electric companies now in the field. But the Portland paper is anxious to have the federal government spend millions improving the Columbia channel to Portland so as to facilitate water competition against the railroads and incidentally build up Portland trade. If such federal aid is justifiable for Portland, why is not federal aid for an interior project a good thing also?

Furthermore, the Oregonian supports the federal reclamation policy whereby the United States government has expended many millions watering arid land that is now competing with privately developed land. It is probable that the price of alfalfa today would be twice what it is had not alfalfa production been vastly increased in the last ten years through government reclamation of land. Yet at a time when alfalfa growers find their product a drug on the market the Oregonian urges a federal policy under which \$250,000,000 more of federal money will be used to finance new irrigation work. Where is there any logic in asking the government to finance competition with farmers and then shy at asking federal help on power projects. If it is good public policy to reclaim waste land why is it not good public policy to reclaim waste water power?

The Oregonian says it is "not a vain hope" that private capital will develop power on the Columbia. Private capital may do so sometime but it will not be on a very big scale. The private electric companies naturally want a limited supply of power so that the power they have can be marketed at good figures. Private power companies want a sellers market while the public need is for a buyers market. There is a well known community of interest among the power corporations and that understanding works against the building of projects that would reduce prices. If private electric interests developed power at Umatilla rapids they would have a mammoth supply of low priced power. Through regulatory laws now in effect they would have to sell that power at a price based on the producing cost which would mean to cut northwest power prices to one half or one third what is now charged. May we reasonably expect the electric corporations to do that? Certainly not and no practical man expects it. Furthermore, a project like the Umatilla rapids project is too big for private financing. The reclamation feature is too big for any private concern to succeed with and private capital certainly cannot be expected to devote its energies to improving the navigability of a river. That is distinctly a government task, just as much so as channel improvement on the lower river. Eastern Oregon is not protesting against the use of federal money for bettering the channel to Portland, why should a Portland newspaper argue against federal aid for an Eastern Oregon enterprise of similar merit?

If Columbia basin power is developed on a big scale as it should be it will be done through federal aid or through aid from some other public source. There is no other answer and the facts should be faced. We have had a hundred years of reliance on private development and not a kilowatt of power is being generated on the Columbia. If private capital wants to enter this field why has it not done so? Why does not a private corporation offer to build the Umatilla rapids project? Should such a corporation enter the field in good faith, agreeing to sell its power at a fair rate above the production cost that corporation would be welcomed with open arms. But such a thing is so much to expect for reasons already mentioned.

The people of the southwest are backing a power and irrigation scheme on the Colorado that calls for more money than does the Umatilla rapids project. Compared with the Umatilla rapids project the Colorado project is hair brained. Yet the southwest is asking federal aid and has secured one preliminary appropriation from congress. It was secured this summer despite the Oregonian's claim that the federal government will not spend money for such purposes. If the southwest can secure federal aid for such work why not the northwest? We have a better power stream than the Colorado. Why not harness it and make some use of our birthright?

Let the Oregonian wake up.

Veal and Produce

Mr. Farmer! Now is the logical time to turn your livestock into ready cash. It will bring you as much now as it will after a lot of expensive feeding.

We pay the top price at all times.

THE TABLE SUPPLY

Phone 187

739 Main Street Pendleton
CHAS. D. DESPAIN & CHAS. W. GOODYEAR
Proprietors

WE ARE RED HOT AT THE BUSY BEE

Tuesday Morning, 9:30 Sharp.

GOMPERS ASKS HARDING TO CALL CONFERENCE OF MINERS AND OWNERS

President Says His First Duty in West Virginia is to Re-establish Peace and Order.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5.—(U. N. S.)—Samuel Gompers asked President Harding to call a joint conference of the West Virginia miners and operators to consider means of ending the labor troubles there. The president said until the authority of the United States is established in West Virginia and order restored he does not feel he can act further. He said his first duty is to reestablish peace and order.

SKILLED WORKMEN ARE ACCEPTING ANY WORK

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 5.—Over 15,000 skilled workmen in this city are either idle or working at makeshift jobs, according to estimates from employment circles. The great army of the unemployed is larger now than at any period since the world war, it was stated. Thousands of skilled workmen are taking any kind of work offered.

Conditions this winter will be the most serious in history, it is predicted. Employment agencies report a higher class of men applying for jobs than ever before. The usual army of "floaters" and laborers has been swelled by this class of skilled labor. The situation has been made more acute here by the influx of jobless men from eastern cities. Unable to find employment in the eastern centers, they have struck out for the west under the impression that a shortage of labor exists in the west and that work would be easy to obtain. Hundreds have applied for work here who have arrived from the East within the last several weeks.

Many of the unemployed are railroad men. Large numbers of others are skilled mechanics. Others are from the building trades. There has been a suspension of industrial activity in this region. Each month this summer the number of unemployed has grown.

28 YEARS AGO

(From the Daily East Oregonian, Last evening in Portland, M. Willie Moxon and Miss Flora Morse were married. Mr. Moxon is a young gentleman of Portland, who, although not well known in Pendleton, is yet very

DOINGS OF THE DUFFS

TOM DIDN'T HAVE THE SYSTEM.

BY ALLMAN



The Crescent Dry Goods Co.

Invites your inspection of our new arrivals in

COATS SUITS DRESSES
AND SKIRTS

Priced exceedingly low for such extraordinary values.

Phone 127 for Better Merchandise at Lowest Prices.



Phone 127 for Quick Delivery

"Cold in the Head" is an acute attack of Nasal Catarrh. Those subject to frequent "colds in the head" will find that the use of HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE will build up the system, cleanse the blood, and render them less liable to colds. Repeated attacks of Acute Catarrh may lead to Chronic Catarrh. HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE is taken internally and acts through the blood on the mucous surfaces of the system, thus reducing the inflammation and restoring normal conditions. All Druggists. Circulars free. E. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio.

Highly spoken of by those who know him. Miss Morse is the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Morse, of Pendleton. She has lived here all her life and number among her friends and admirers all the young people of this city. She was always prominent in local society, and consequently her permanent removal from Pendleton will be a source of regret. They will reside in Portland at No. 602 Rodney Avenue, and will be at home to their friends on October 1. They go immediately to housekeeping, their home having been ready and furnished for occupancy. It will be the earnest wish of the East Oregonian, as well as of hosts of friends in Pendleton and Umatilla County, that the young couple may be happy in their married life. That offer of the First National Bank of Pendleton to take wheat at forty cents a bushel in the payment of notes due it is being applauded all over the state. If other banks would do the same wheat would bring something near what it is worth.

ANNUAL

Labor Day Ball

Music by the

MELODY BOYS

of Portland.

Artists of Artesian Airs

Members A. F. of M.

Masters of Mesmerizing Melodies

AT

Liberty Hall

PENDLETON

TONIGHT

Winona Wagons

3 1-2 \$195.00

3 1-4 \$175.00

3 \$160.00

Now is the Time to Buy.

Sturgis & Storie