

The Heppner Gazette

IRRIGATION CONVENTION.

Meeting Will be Productive of Good Results.

Oregon's first annual Irrigation Convention closed its two days' session Wednesday afternoon. The convention laid the foundation for Oregon securing its portion of the National irrigation fund. It brought together representative men from all parts of the state; men engaged in rival pursuits, antagonistic in political feuds, and opposed in every possible way to each other, yet the common cause for irrigation not only prompted them to bury whatever animosities that may have been felt, but has succeeded in creating more friendly feeling and erased many of the old prejudices of one class against the other.

For one thing, the cattlemen of Central and Eastern Oregon, who have been represented as being bitterly opposed to the settlement of vacant lands, as it cut short their ranges, dispelled that long standing idea by clasping hands with the other delegates and taking a leading and active part in proceedings that will result in settling and irrigating the lands over which their herds now range. It was supposed they would almost oppose the settlement of these lands at the point of the gun. On the contrary, they invite the settler; they need him. They want him to raise fodder plants on the arid lands, so that their herds can be fed and fattened at home for the market.

Another curious fact was to see the sheepmen and cattlemen who are at swords' points on the ranges, working side by side on the most friendly terms in the convention. Men, too, of radical political beliefs, who have knifed each other upon every possible occasion, worked together, carefully avoiding those things that might arouse personal prejudices. Several times the slumbering fires seemed likely to burst forth, but the good sense of the convention always quickly turned the tide at the critical point.

Thus it is that the cause of irrigation has made the different classes better acquainted, engendered more friendly feelings, and crystallized influences that will increase Oregon's population and wealth in a rapid manner.

The labors of the convention resulted in a legislative committee being appointed to frame a better law, a permanent organization that will present the claims of the different counties and secure Government aid, and that, too, without in any way interfering with private companies already in the field.

The next semi-annual meeting will be held in Baker City the first Monday in June, 1903, and the next annual meeting

in Pendleton the second Monday of November, 1902.

The full list of officers and committees are as follows:

President—A. H. Devers, Multnomah.
Vice-President—W. R. King, Malheur.

Second Vice-President—H. E. Ankeny, Lane.

Secretary—James M. Moore, Multnomah.

Assistant Secretary—E. P. Dodd, Umatilla.

Executive Committee—A. H. Devers, Multnomah; W. R. King, Malheur; H. E. Ankeny, Lane; Henry Hahn, Multnomah; George Chandler, Baker; I. W. Hope, Malheur; M. E. Brink, Crook; E. M. Brannick, Multnomah; E. J. Frazier, Lane; Samuel Connell, Multnomah.

Committee on Press and Publicity—Ernest Bross, Multnomah; L. N. Liggett, Crook; W. C. Cowgill, Baker; W. B. Sargent, Union; W. A. Laidlaw, Multnomah.

Committee on Legislation—Sam White, Baker; T. H. Lafollette, Crook; F. M. Metcalfe, Malheur; E. J. Frazier, Lane; F. S. Bramwell, Union; W. H. Moore, Sherman; Milo P. Ward, Jackson; C. S. Smith, Umatilla; E. H. Johnson, Wasco; J. A. Johnson, Wheeler; B. E. Jones, Lincoln; R. Scott, Clackamas; M. Fitzgerald, Harney; A. C. Marsters, Douglas; Frank Davey, Marion; E. S. Phillips, Klamath; Seneca Smith, Multnomah.

The meeting of the legislative committee was short, leaving the work to the working committee of three that was appointed. The minutes of the meeting as taken by E. J. Frazier as secretary were as follows:

"Pursuant to call, the legislative committee of the Oregon Irrigation Association met at the Imperial Hotel November 10, 1902, for the purpose of organizing. On motion Mr. Samuel White, of Baker County, was elected chairman, and E. J. Frazier, of Lane County, secretary. On motion the following sub-committee was unanimously elected to formulate legislation for the promotion of irrigation development in Oregon: Samuel White, of Baker; Milo P. Ward of Jackson, and E. J. Frazier, of Lane. It was moved and carried that when the committee adjourned it would be to meet again at the call of the chairman either as whole or as a sub-committee. The minutes were read and adopted. On motion the committee adjourned.

A nugget valued at \$200 was displayed at Sumpter Saturday by Jack Hazelwood, a well known mining man. He stated that it came from the Silver creek placers, about seven miles from Sumpter. Its shape is that of a cobble stone worn smooth by contact with flowing water. Some quartz was mixed with the gold.

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