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Fred Warnock

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THURSDAY..... Aug. 31, 1905

COMES TO END.

Irrigation Congress Closes After Interesting Session.

Portland, Aug. 24.—After an interesting session which consumed the entire day, the thirteenth annual meeting of the National Irrigation Congress came to an end this afternoon. The session is important for its pronounced stand assumed on three subjects.

It declared emphatically that sympathy is with the small land owner against the large landed proprietors who seek to have the irrigation law amended so as to permit the retention of more than 160 acres of irrigated land. The congress also expressed the opinion that the government enterprise in the work of reclaiming arid land should not unnecessarily interfere with prior private enterprises, nor private enterprises with prior government projects.

Finally, it vigorously expressed its disapproval of the repeated attempts to inject the subject of undesirable foreign immigration into its deliberations, contending that this subject is one in which the congress as a body is not interested.

Owing to the impracticability of securing an attendance of delegates in the sectional meetings without first gathering them in general session each day, the congress today changed its constitution to provide that at all future assemblages a general session shall be held each day of the convention period.

The day was otherwise marked by the reading of a letter from President James J. Hill of the Great Northern railway, the unanimous choice of Boise, Idaho, as the next meeting place and the re-election of Governor George C. Pardee to the presidency.

The irrigation congress adopted a series of resolutions today, of which the following is the substance of the more important.

An endorsement of statehood for the territory of New Mexico and joint statehood for Oklahoma and Indian Territory.

The congress believes that too much capital, public and private, cannot be invested in the reclamation of arid lands and therefore declares that government, as well as private enterprise should both be extended to the utmost, nor should private unnecessarily interfere with nor prevent government enterprise from building reservoirs and other works for reclaiming arid lands.

In order to encourage beet sugar production in the United States the congress asserts its opposition to the granting of further concessions to tropical islands. The resolution advocates federal legislation in behalf of the industry.

It is the opinion of the congress that the national irrigation law should be so extended as to include the state of Texas within its provisions.

A confusion said to exist in the minds of many people on the subject, the congress declares that there is not nor has there been any connection whatever between the national irrigation congress and the national irrigation association. It announces also that no person or company is authorized to collect money in behalf of the congress.

The congress also favors the early reclamation of small tracts of land whenever the cost per acre of reclamation does not exceed the cost per acre of larger enterprises of similar character.

The federal congress is urged to enact such laws as will enable the national government to exercise the rights of eminent domain when necessary to carry out the purposes of the national irrigation law.

The congress endorses the effective and businesslike administration of the forestry bureau, the efficiency of the work of the reclamation service, but recommends that the reclamation service and its representatives co-operate with the state officers in matters affecting the states' landed interests. The resolution also commends the work of the experiment stations of the department of agriculture and the United States weather bureau for its assistance to the reclamation service.

Irrigation in Klamath.

Salem, Aug. 24.—"The construction of the Klamath Irrigation System is a practical certainty," said State Treasurer Moore today upon his return from a two weeks' visit to Klamath county. "Of course there is a bare possibility that the project will fail, but the success of the enterprise is as certain as matters of that kind can be at this stage of the proceedings. The Government has required that 75 per cent of the property owners within the territories to be covered by the system shall sign agreements for the sale of their land in excess of 160 acres, before construction shall begin. My confidence in the success of the enterprise is due to my confidence that the property owners will sign the required agreements. In other words, I think the people who own property in the district will see that it is to their own financial interest to make the agreements.

"The requirement is that the property owners execute trust deeds for all their land in excess of 160 acres. The trust deeds provide that the owner shall sell his land to settlers in tracts of not to exceed 160 acres each, or, that if he fails to dispose of it before the Government has water ready to turn upon it, the Secretary of the Interior may sell it in 160-acre tracts to the highest bidders giving the owners the proceeds of the sale. I believe this is a reasonable requirement and that the land owners as a rule will so regard it.

"It is the intention of the Reclamation Service to let a contract for the construction of the first section of the system as soon as 75 per cent of the property owners reached by that section have signed the agreements. I expect to see this accomplished and a contract let for the construction of the first ten miles of canal, including 4,000 feet of tunnel, before the first of the year.

"It seems to me to be a good plan to construct the canal in sections and put the land upon the market a little at a time, for that will enable the property owners to sell to the best advantage. If all the surplus land in the 250,000 acres to be reached by the system were thrown upon the market at once, it would be more difficult to sell at a fair price.

"As I understand the Government's plans, those who do not sign the required agreements will be unable to secure water for their land. By later complying with the requirements they can secure water rights, but they will be required to pay a slightly higher rate in order to place them upon an equality with those who paid earlier. If 75 per cent of the property pays the cost of constructing the system, the money paid by the other 25 per cent later will go to the 75 per cent to reimburse them for the excess they were compelled to pay.

"Matters of this kind take time, and I am not surprised that the people take plenty of time to think it over before signing agreements. In the end, however, I am satisfied they will see that they cannot sell their land to advantage or use it themselves unless they have water rights, and since they cannot get the water rights without complying with the Government requirements, they will fall in line and all will be working in the common cause of securing the construction of an irrigation system which means immense development to the resources of the Klamath country."

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Co-operation in Irrigation.

The visits of F. H. Newell, chief of the reclamation service of the United States, to various localities in the irrigable territory of Oregon and Washington, and the explanations he is making as to the intentions and aim of the government in respect to irrigation, will give the people a much better knowledge on this subject than they have heretofore had, and will probably verify the hope that they will give a more full and hearty support to the work which the government is undertaking for the benefit of the landowners. Mr. Newell says that the great difficulty just now is in making the people understand that the aim of the government is to assist them, and that only by mutual co-operation can the best results be obtained.

Mr. Newell calls particular attention to the East Umatilla and Malheur projects, the progress of which he says depends almost wholly upon the efforts of the people who own the lands. He intimates that the work may be postponed for an indefinite period unless the people come to the terms required by the law.

The representations made by Mr. Newell should have the careful consideration of the people.

New Cure for Consumption.

New York, Aug. 25.—Physicians of this city are much interested in a circular issued yesterday by the New York Post Graduate Hospital, announcing the discovery of a new cure for consumption. This new remedy is the juice of raw table vegetables—potatoes, beets, cabbages, onions, celery and the like procured by grinding and squeezing, a dose being two ounces after meals.

The statement is made that 11 patients with well-developed pulmonary tuberculosis have been absolutely cured and are now good subjects for life insurance risks. Fifty other patients are still under treatment, and said to be progressing satisfactorily.

Experiments along these lines have been going on at the hospital for several years, and occasional brief accounts have been published of cures alleged to have been performed.

Accompanying the circular are the names of two New York physicians, who, it is stated, were appointed by the hospital authorities to observe and re-

port on the experiments, and they speak in most sanguine terms of what has been accomplished and what will doubtless follow as the work proceeds.

In addition to applying the raw vegetable juice as a cure for the most obstinate case of consumption, the hospital's circular announces that "it is believed, moreover, that this will lead to a means by which everybody may be rendered immune from the deadly tubercule bacilli, just as vaccination safeguards from smallpox.

It is stated that experiments were begun on a small scale, with only a few vegetables ground by hand. Later machinery was introduced, and nearly every vegetable used as food employed.

The Willamette river is one-tenth of one foot below low water mark at Portland. But once in recorded history has it been lower, and then it stood 2 1/2 feet lower at that point than now.

Reduced Rates to the Seaside.

The Southern Pacific Co. has placed on sale at its Portland offices, round-trip tickets to Yaquina Bay and Newport at rate of \$6.00 for season tickets and \$3.00 for Saturday to Monday tickets. This is a fine place to take your family for a few weeks outing at a moderate cost.

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