

# THE BOARDMAN MIRROR

VOLUME 2

BOARDMAN, OREGON, FRIDAY, NOV. 24, 1922

NUMBER 42

## OPEN RIVER CONFERENCE GOES ON RECORD AS IN FAVOR OF PROGRAM FOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC DEVELOPMENT

### Delegates from Three States Gather and Endorse Umatilla Rapids Power Project As Step In Opening of the Columbia River.

Endorsement of the Umatilla rapids power project as the first step in the open river program for the Columbia, endorsement of the Smith-McNary bill now pending in congress and request for the appointment of a board of engineers by the secretary of war to make a survey of the Columbia river from Vancouver, Wash., to Priest Rapids, in Idaho, as directed, was the outstanding action taken by the Open River conference in Pendleton last Friday.

The three-in-one proposal for the canalization of the river, the development of hydro-electric power and irrigation of adjoining arid land was unanimously backed by delegates from all the Columbia basin points attending from three states.

A stirring address by Joseph N. Teal on "What shall we do with the Columbia?" opened the conference in the morning. Both this speaker and A. H. Devers of Portland who called the conference to order urged government aid for the opening and development of the Columbia.

Co-operation with railroad transportation and not necessarily competition, was advocated by Mr. Teal in explaining the proposal to open the river for water transportation. The speaker showed the great benefit to be derived by the railroads, by the electrification of the lines through power development on the Columbia. "Right improvements of waterways is the most important part of my subject," the speaker stated.

Clearing away of hitches in government action which might hinder the application of the three-in-one proposal, and thus make the whole problem of water transportation, irrigation and power development, one movement, was the argument of the speaker. The importance of the development of the down river cargoes by the improvement of the arid lands on both sides of the Columbia, was emphasized, to work with the up-river cargoes to the "bread-basket" country.

Major George Mayo, United States engineering corps; F. C. Schubert, civilian engineer of the same corps, spoke on the problems of rendering the Columbia navigable and told of work already accomplished by their department.

At the luncheon given by the Pendleton commercial association, Judge Gilbert W. Phelps of the circuit court and president of the Umatilla Rapids Power State association, Attorney Fred Steiwer and Judge Stephen A. Lowell, presented the program of the proposed Umatilla project and sketched the importance of its development to the entire inland empire. The delegation was enthusiastic over tying up of the gigantic scheme to link irrigation and power development with the open river program for transportation.

Judge Phelps outlined the birth and development of the association explaining that the interior country had reached the limit of its finances and that an appeal must now be made to the larger cities, such as Portland, which he termed the chief beneficiary of development of the Columbia river. Judge Phelps said that while the Umatilla rapids plan had been discussed at meetings of the chamber of commerce of Portland and apparently had been favorably received yet there had, thus far been little activity apparent and that Portland's more vigorous cooperation in the matter of financial and political influence is needed to inspire the northwestern members of congress to take up more vigorously the development of the Columbia basin and the Umatilla rapids project.

Judge S. A. Lowell of Pendleton, discussing the possibilities of the Umatilla rapids power project, spoke of the "great invitation that the states of the northwest offer to the

seeker for home or investment," calling attention to the great undeveloped area of the three states tributary to the Columbia and Snake. The "great opportunity", Judge Lowell pointed out lay in the fact that the Umatilla rapids project more nearly fills the requirements of the federal power act than any other known project, in that it appeals to the department of agriculture because of its promise to improve the condition of the farms of the three states through the possibility of cheap power for the electrification of the lines of the S. P. & S., the O. W., and the N. P., because of their proximity to the site of the project, thus enabling them to provide cheaper and more rapid transportation facilities. The interior department, through its reclamation service, will find, said the speaker, that the proposed Umatilla dam would irrigate 250,000 acres with a gravity system and approximately the same amount more by the use of a pumping system. The removal of the greatest obstacle to the navigability of the Columbia and its tributaries, through the canalization of the river at the site of the proposed Umatilla project, opening the Columbia to navigation for a distance of 700 miles and possibly three times that distance when its tributaries are included, is of decided interest to the war department. The "great problem", concluded the judge, is to determine a method of reaching the federal power commission so that an investigation shall be made and the commission satisfied that the project possesses all the features which seem to demand its construction.

Attorney Steiwer discussed briefly the Umatilla proposal from the standpoint of agriculture, mercantile, social and industrial welfare.

Delegates from the various sections represented indulged in a round table discussion at the afternoon session of the conference. Bert F. Savage of Lewiston, Idaho, pledged the cooperation of northern Idaho toward the ambitions of the Open River association. Ben F. Hill, mayor of Walla Walla, Wash., expressed a belief that the power of large interests to hamper development were shattered, drawing the conclusion from the recent elections in which he read a purpose on the part of the people to take matters into their own hands and retire members of congress whom they believe under the power of the monetary interests.

W. A. Goodwin of Boardman touched upon the history of the Umatilla project and gave his experiences and observations along lines of development through irrigation.

Walter E. Meacham of Baker county, A. R. Gardner of Kennewick, V. R. Cox of Pasco, and William Warner of Alderdale, expressed the interest of their section of Washington in plans for the improvement of the Columbia and its tributaries. Ben H. Rice, assistant secretary of the Columbia Basin Irrigation league, an organization endeavoring to develop lands in east central Washington, expressed his sympathy with the aims of open river association. Whitney L. Boise explained the efforts of the Portland chamber of commerce to raise \$150,000 for the furtherance of development enterprises. D. C. Brownell of Umatilla, called the father of the Umatilla rapids project, traced the history of that project and the advantages he saw following its completion. R. A. Pinneo of Astoria, pledged the support of that city toward any move for the development of Oregon's water ways. Phillips Dater, a representative of the United States forest service, explained the government's attitude toward all enterprises of this kind. He said that there were numerous applications on file for the investigation of hydro-electric power sites along the Colum-

bia and the Snake rivers. The government, he said, is anxious to handle such development so that the established lines of railroad will not be damaged for frequently the damming of the stream causes the water to overflow rail lines along the river. The government is friendly, Mr. Dater said, to hydro-electric development but is proceeding carefully and is also finding the problems of financing serious ones.

C. C. Clark of Arlington said that in Gilliam county opposition comes from large land owners who fear the expense necessary to the construction of irrigation systems.

Following are the resolutions adopted:

Whereas, The secretary of war is authorized and directed to appoint a special board of engineers to examine the Columbia river from Vancouver, Wash., to Priest Rapids, and the Snake river from its mouth to Asotin, Wash., to study and report with a view to the canalization of these rivers for barge navigation and for the development of hydro-electric power in cooperation with local interests in connection with such canalization to be used for the irrigation of arid lands adjacent to these rivers.

Whereas, the board shall also consider any proposition on the part of local interests to construct dams for development of water power for irrigation before a project is adopted by the United States, with a view to cooperation of the government in the cost of the locks required for navigation where such dams are to be installed, and

Whereas, the secretary of war is authorized and directed to appoint a board of engineers to study and report with a view to determining the most comprehensive plan for the canalization of these rivers for barge navigation and for the cooperation of the United States with local interests for the development of hydro-electric power, in connection with such canalization, to be used for the irrigation of the arid lands adjacent to these rivers. In making said report the board shall submit an estimate of the probable cost of such improvement, the length of time required to complete the project, and the order in which the locks and dams should be constructed to overcome the most serious obstructions to navigation for the economical development of power.

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by this association that the secretary of war be requested to forthwith appoint such board of engineers and see that a full report upon the above question is submitted, in order that the same may be had for consideration by the reclamation department or the federal power commission, or any other power of the federal government or board authorized by congress to proceed with such work if the same is found to be feasible, and be it further

Resolved that as part of the canalization of said Columbia river and for the development of hydro-electric power and for the irrigation of now waste land this association believes that the Umatilla rapids presents a project worthy of immediate consideration and action by the general government, and be it further

Resolved, that as one means of procuring necessary government funds for the purpose of reclaiming arid land, this association strongly urges the enactment of what is known as the McNary-Smith bill, now pending before congress, and be it further

Resolved, That the National Rivers and Harbors congress have its forthcoming meeting in Washington and likewise the National congress be furnished copies of the above resolution and information of the solicitude felt by the civic and commercial interests of the Pacific northwest for the forwarding of the plans there set forth, and be it further

Resolved, That copies of the above resolution be furnished the secretary, the chief of engineers United States army, the secretary of war, secretary of agriculture, secretary of interior and the director of the reclamation service, to the senators and congressmen representing Idaho, Washington

and Oregon in the national congress, and also that copies be furnished to the commercial bodies represented in this Open River conference with the request that they take ratifying action and hold themselves in readiness to join with their influence the furtherance of a campaign for the object above set forth, and be it further

Resolved, That the thanks of the delegates to the Open River conference be tendered the Pendleton Commercial association, to the Pendleton lodge of Elks and the press of Pendleton for courtesies extended.

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WILLIAM WARNER  
WHITNEY L. BOISE  
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## EAST ENDERS ALL EXCITED BY VISIT OF YOUNG TRAMPS

The East Enders were treated to quite a little excitement Saturday night. 'Tis quite a tale to tell. There were three young chaps who were beating their way from Lewiston, Mont., to Portland and somewhere along the line one of them fell off the train and wandered around all night, arriving at the Herefords at breakfast time Saturday morning. He was given breakfast and directed to a place where he might find work. Meanwhile his two pals had dropped off at Messner and were endeavoring to locate him. They went up to Coyote where Dale Albright's gave them some breakfast and Mr. Albright tried to help them find their pal. They apparently weren't professional hoboos, any of the three. Being unable to find the chap who was lost they continued their journey to Portland via a "side door Pullman" leaving at Messner the address of the brother of the boy they had parted from during the day. This young man whose name is Fitzhugh, had found a job on the biter and in the afternoon he began acting queerly and did all sorts of queer things, finally crawling on his hands and knees. He was obsessed with the idea that officers were after him and he wanted to run away. When he came to the canal he threw off his mackinaw and waded straight across and disappeared. A search was made for him that afternoon but he wasn't seen again. In the evening when the bus was returning from the dance, the antics of this man were the main topic of conversation and everyone was feeling half frightened, and many thrills were experienced. When the bus hove in sight of the Hadley's ranch house there was a light seen in the house and the shadow of some one moving within. Of course everyone thought it the man who was not in his right mind, so the Hadleys, with reinforcements, marched up only to find it some old friends who had come and finding no one home proceeded to make themselves at home while awaiting the return of the Hadleys. To proceed with our gruesome tale: The Cohoons on reaching home found some one striking matches out by the haystack. They left the Portland boys at the house and rushed down to Ray Brown's to call for the deputy sheriff. The emergency ring called everybody on the line but failed to awaken central, so Cohoon's drove to town after Mr. Gorman who is the present incumbent and he with M. L. Morgan and H. Binns came out but could find no one. Mr. Morgan remained in the neighborhood till morning, the others returning to town.

People were all agog by this time and some sat up till 2 a. m., and some till 3 o'clock, but still nothing happened. Sunday Mr. Cohoon sent a telegram to Fitzhugh's brother, who came up immediately, reaching Messner Monday morning. He, with Tom Miller and Bob Smith, operator at Messner, started out horseback to the desert to find young Fitzhugh.

Tom Brady came down from his camp, the spillway and told some one that the boy was up at his camp so the three men rode up there and found Fitzhugh calmly sleeping in Brady's bed, exhausted after his strenuous experience. He had thrown away his shoes and both his coats, and when asked why he did that he said he thought he could run faster. His feet were swollen badly and full of cactus. It seems that he had wandered around in the desert Saturday afternoon and night and had drifted into Brady's camp on Sunday. His brother asked him if he had done anything so that he need be afraid of the officers but he seemed worried because he was beating his way.

He had said at Herefords that it was his first experience and would be his last and the other two boys told Albright the same thing. The brother asked him why he didn't telegraph for money and he said he had no money to pay for the message with. They went to Portland by the first train out so here endeth my

Increased building operations in Portland have stimulated the brick and tile trade to such an extent that the clay yards at Willamina have been reopened. These deposits have been idle since war days. Several million face bricks have been shipped this year to Portland from Los Angeles, Spokane and Canadian cities at sales rates ranging from \$55 upward. The Willamina brick are again in the market.

The Associated Industries of Oregon has made surveys of the medical, surgical and dental professions of the state to determine the amount of nitrous oxide, or "laughing gas" used in Oregon, so that indication may be obtained as to whether local manufacturing of the product would be welcomed. Efforts are being made by a Portland concern to develop this trade with a better gas. Nitrous oxide now is supplied from Cleveland, O.

Plans are being formulated for the carnival and bazaar, which is to be given Dec. 8. Don't forget the date, nor all the big attractions. Bosco, the Snake Eater, "The Zoo", "The Baby Show," "The Country Store.", the fancy work booth, where all sorts of dainty fancy articles may be purchased, the Plain Work booth, where practical things such as aprons and bibs and dresses may be bought for a small sum, the Fortune Teller, who is to be, we understand, a native of Romy, imported for the occasion. Lunch will be served—hot dogs, pies and hot coffee. (Ten cents for a good big hot dog sandwich, 5 cents for a cup of coffee and five cents for a piece of pie, a real honest to goodness chef from the Biltmore will have charge of the hot dog stand. There will be genuine spellers for the side shows who will tell you vociferously of the merits of their particular shows.

## PLANS BEING FORMULATED FOR CARNIVAL AND BAZAAR

The next Aid meeting will be held at the church Dec. 6, just two days before the bazaar and each woman on the project is asked to bring her contribution for the Country Store. Articles for this will range in price from five cents to 50 cents but each article must be well worth the price asked for it so that all buyers will get full value. Some suggestions for this: Last year some one gave popcorn balls which were fished out at five cents per fish—(same principle) and proved immensely popular. Small stuffed animals, frilly little pin cushions, a lacy boudoir cap, handkerchiefs, holders for hot pans, a variety of articles will be acceptable. In this country store each article will be wrapped and priced and the element of chance enters in the same as in the always popular fish pond. Numerous five and 10 cent articles are especially desired for the benefit of the children, but any article valued from five to 50 cents is asked for. The ladies are all asked to save empty boxes and wrapping paper for the Country Store. More next week about the bazaar.

With 1154 injured World War veterans of this district rehabilitated, the Pacific Northwest section of the United States Veterans' Bureau leads all other districts of the country in the number of vocationally rebuilt former service people as compared with the number entering training. This announcement was made by L. C. Joseph, northwest district manager of the bureau, who stated that there are 2767 others in training at the expense of the government now. Only veterans who received disabilities in war service which prevented them from resuming their pre-war vocations were awarded training.

This district which includes Washington, Oregon and Idaho is also one of the two leaders in the United States in expeditious adjudication of compensation claims. Mr. Joseph stated. Only 476 such claims out of a total of 14,347 filed by veterans in the district are pending action at the present time. This is three per cent plus of the total number. With less than one per cent of its mail unanswered, the northwest district of the bureau leads all others in the matter of prompt answering of correspondence when this work was checked throughout the country recently.

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST LADS IN VOCATIONAL TRAINING

There are 762 disabled war veterans hospitalized in this district at the present time, a slight decrease under the number in hospitals in October. The peak of hospitalization was reached early in the spring of this year. Mental, nervous and tuberculous cases are still increasing, it was stated.

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