

# SODA DEPOSITS WILL BE WORKED

## ALKALI LAKE INDUSTRY TO DEVELOP

Refining Furnaces Shipped to Mines and Trucks Bought to Transport Product to Railroad—Soda Almost Pure—Mines Have History

(Chewaucan Press.)

One of the great industries of Central Oregon, the development of which has been patiently awaited by the inhabitants of this vast empire has come into its own.

The vast soda deposits of Alkali Lake are to be refined and put upon the market at once.

F. L. Young, superintendent of the mines informed a representative of the Press last Saturday that he had just received a telegram from Mr. Spreckles in San Francisco that the furnaces had already been shipped and are now enroute to the mines. They will arrive at their destination in a few days and will immediately be placed in position near the deposits. Fuel is already gathered so that no delay upon this score will be experienced.

Two trucks and possibly more have been shipped from San Francisco with the furnace and these will first be used to transport the machinery to the mines and later to haul the refined product to the railroad.

As the soda is taken from the deposits it contains sixty per cent of water and all this will be taken away in the furnace. This leaves a comparatively light product of which great loads can be hauled making the transportation problem a much easier one to solve. The balance of the product, that which will be shipped, is practically pure, as pure at least as the soda sold by all grocers, as it contains only two per cent of impurities.

Just how many men will be employed is not known and while the number will probably be small it will likely be increased as the industry develops.

The history of these mines is one of interest. Mr. Willis discovered that the white substance commonly called alkali by the old time rangers was really soda in an exceedingly pure form. This was about 15 years

ago. He had made the trip overland from the Columbia river to Alkali Lake and upon his return he imparted to Mr. Young, who was then living in the northern part of the state, the information gained upon the trip. Some time later both Mr. Young and Mr. Willis returned to the lake and staked the claims. Both gentlemen soon moved to this section in order to work their properties and hold them. Then began a fight against heavy odds to hold their property. Year after year these men were taxed to their utmost to scrape together enough money with which to do their assessment work and every year the struggle became more difficult. All the time they were trying their utmost to secure financial backing for their enterprise. Mr. Young finally secured the major portion of the claims and still continued his desperate struggle to hold them. About four years ago things got to the point where assessment time arrived and no money was available with which to do the work. Mr. Young found it necessary that year to place sentries upon the claims to guard them against restaking until he could get together enough money with which to make his assessment. He finally succeeded and that same year he interested Mr. Spreckles of San Francisco, the great sugar king, in the project. Mr. Spreckles visited the mine and agreed to stake his money on the project. A new company known as the American Soda Products Co., was formed and since then the eventual success of the mine has been assured.

The mine is located in what was one time the bottom of an ancient sea and from all appearances the deposits are formed from underground sources as the product is deposited in great pot holes sometimes many feet in diameter, which were emptied immediately refill with soda. It is pronounced by competent judges to be the most remarkable deposit of the product to be found anywhere. The great purity of the soda makes the refining work a simple matter.

### DELEGATES RETURN AFTER WORKING FOR JONES BILL

J. T. Hinkle Says Both Jones and Smith Measures Likely to Pass at Present Session of Congress.

(The Oregonian.)

Joseph T. Hinkle of Hermiston, arrived in Portland yesterday from Washington, D. C., where he attended the convention of various state representatives interested in irrigation and drainage development.

Mr. Hinkle and O. Laurgaard, of Portland, represented the State of Oregon. Delegations were present from all of the Western irrigation

states, as well as from most of the drainage states of the South.

Resolutions were passed urging Congress to give favorable consideration to the Jones bill and the Smith bill, both of which are now pending. The Jones bill would enable the Federal Government to guarantee the interest payments on approved irrigation or drainage projects. It would be materially beneficial to the Western states, it is argued, and by stabilizing the market for irrigation and drainage securities. The measures, provides, in a Federal way what the legislation proposed by the recent state credits conference proposes in a state way. Senator Jones, of Washington is author of the bill.

The Smith bill is closely related to the Jones bill. It would make government lands capable of reclamation within any improvement district subject to lien, the same as privately owned lands. One drawback now is that Government land is exempt from liens, thus retarding many needed district improvements.

"I believe that Congress will pass one or both of these bills at the present session," said Mr. Hinkle, at the Imperial hotel last night.

#### NEW BOOKS RECEIVED.

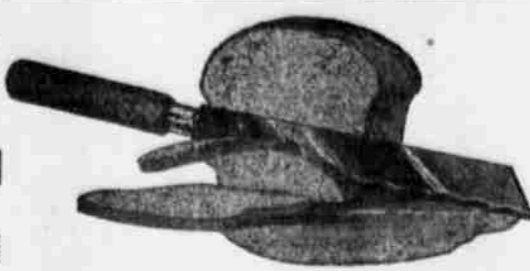
The following books have been added to the Bend Public Library: Bachelior, "Darrel of the Blessed Isles;" Beach, "Bride of the Gods;" Barr, "Bow of Orange Ribbon;" Bunyan, "Pilgrim's Progress;" Cervantes "Don Quixote;" Dana, "Two Years Before the Mast;" De Foe, "Robinson Crusoe;" Eggleston, "Hoosier Schoolmaster;" Elliot, "Silas Marner;" Field, "Lullaby Land;" Fielding, "Tom Jones;" Grey, "Last of the Plainsmen;" Hale, "Man Without a Country;" Hawthorne, "Tanglewood Tales" and "Wonder Book;" Henry, "Cabbages and Kings" and "Options;" Holmes, "Poems;" Irving, "Rip Van Winkle;" Jackson, "Ramona;" Jerome, "Idle Thoughts of an Idle Fellow;" Kaler, "Toby Tyler;" Keats, "Poems;" A-Kempis, "Imitation of Christ;" Kingsley, "Water Babies;" Kipling, "Captains Courageous;" Keller, "Story of My Life;" Ollivant, "Bob, Son of Battle;" Richmond, "Second Violin;" Ruskin, "King of the Golden River;" Sharpe, "Where Rolls the Oregon;" Spyl, "Heidi;" Stevens, "Uncle Jeremiah;" Stoddard, "Talking Leaves;" Swift, "Gulliver's Travels;" Wiggins, "Mother Carey's Chickens;" Wy-a, "Swiss Family Robinson;" Alger, "Pictola;" Field, "Quest of the Four Leaved Clover."

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