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TELLS OF GOVERNMENT IRRIGATION.

Water Is Common Property, Is Sold to The Land and There Will No Wrangling. No Water Monopoly.

F H. Newell, chief engineer of the United States reclamation service, was in Portland Monday and submitted to an interview by the Evening Journal. His businees in the west is to form the initial plans for reclaiming the great northwestern arid section by means of the irrigation plans to be adopted under the recent act of congress.

"My mission at this time," says Mr. Newell, "is to take a general survey of the country, consult with the people and ascertain from them so far as I can their desires. The new law is the most carefully written of any of the recent enactments and to achieve the best results must be delicately handled. In a nutshell, it treats unappropriated waters of the country as the common property of the people, and they must not become the asset of any individual. No man can buy them at any price. They are a heritrge from the benafactor to be used only for the healthy annointing of his soil or the propulsion of industry's wheels.

"To inagurate a system of irrigain any locality we must ascertain: Can the water be obtained; is there arid land in sufficient quantity in the vicinity to make its reclamation an object; what will be the cost.

"If all these conditions are satisfactory the government advances the money to do all things necessary to house the water and distribute it where it is needed. The cost of such control of the supply and its distributing will, of course, vary One location, for example, may cost but $5 per acre; another $10, another $12; and in difficult locations even up to $20 and $25. Say that the first cost to the government is $12. That sum is charged up to the irrigated lands, and the owner of the soil may repay the government in ten annual payments With the surety of a crop each season, this may be undertaken with absolute confidence, and will not prove a burden to the beneficiary of the law.

"The water for irrigation is not sold to any individual. It is sold to the land only, and the charge becomes a lien upon the property In default of payment for two years the rights are forfeited and the benfited land will be sold for its liquidation. In case of homesteads, to which government title has not been acquired, the land reverts back to the goverment in default, and subject to entry as if not previously filed upon And another thing: no person can acquire a right to a greater quantity of water than is necessary to irrigate the land actually cultivated by him For example, if a person owns a 160 acres of land should acquire water rights for that acreage, and then cultivate but 80 all his rights would be cancelled. No trickery, chicanery, or false representations will be tolerated by the government, its one purpose being to husband the water resources of the arid regions, and employ such water to the best advantage in making soil valuable that is at present without value.

"In cases where streams are already appropriated their will be no wrangling with the claimants, so far as the government is concerned. We will simply let them alone until they have settled their differences among themselves, and then, if possible, the United States will take up the work and proceed along its own lines. Where the value of manufacturing concerns are impaired by reason of destruction of water powers, the government is not engaging in disputations, but intends to put this beneficial law into active service with as little friction as possible.

"Charles H. Fitch, engineer in charge of diversion service, will remain in Portland for some time He will visit different sections of Oregon, look over the field, obtain all information possible, report his findings to the secretary of the interior, and await instructions. I traveled through the region last fall with Congressman Moody I have the Deschutes river, in Wasco county, in mind, and streams in Crook, Malheur, Harney, Wallowa, Grant, Lake and Union counties in view. Our work, however, will be slow, as we must proceed with caution. Government lands are sold for a fund, and this fund expended in irrigation is afterward returned to the national treasury, and those in charge of it must be solicitious for its perpetuation. Homesteads taken in the arid region will be without the commutation clause in the filing. Actual residence will be required.

"The result of this irrigation scheme will be that small farms will replace the large ones. A man who lives on a farm of 160 acres within a year or two will make it 80 Then he will drop to 50, and will find he has all he can do at that Ten acre fruit farms will supplant 60 acre ideas and ambitions, and then the rose will bloom where the sagebrush grows."

There is nearly $6,000,000 in the fund already for reclamation purposes, says the Journal.

Mr. Fitch, like his superior is an enthusiast. He will be active in the line of duty, and his intelligent work is likely to be better understood as time elapses.

Sumpter Opposes Reserve.

Business men in this district are becoming impressed with the fact that great injury is sure to result from establishment of such a forest reserve as is contemplated in the order issued by the department of the interior. As the full force of the measure dawns upon all, the sweeping effect, peculiar cause that may have been potent at this time, and permanent injury to a rapidly developing district, resentment is rapidly taking place with alarm.

It is the unanimous sentiment that the order is not the result of any sincere desire to preserve a forest. Rather the belief prevails that some deep schemes are outcropping. Business men of this city do not hesitate to say that big influences coveting the timber are at play. How such influences could enter upon a reserve policy calculated to withdraw the timber from use, for the present at least, and expect to profit thereby, is not yet clear, unless it be that as soon as the reserve is created, and all the small locators who have been swarming over the field lately are off their guard, the interior department will be urged to withdraw portions at a time for location, which may be picked up by great interests.

However this may be, the sentiment among men who have given the matter thought is against reserve. A determined effort will be made to have the reserve, if created, confined to the higher elavations, and not include the vast low areas that cannot serve as a water preservative, and which are peculiarly valuable for timber. In this manner there can be no conflict between the mining and lumber interests. On the contrary, the timber will be invaluable as an inducement for all rail lines, supporting such till mining, stimulated by rail transportation, develops to a stage where it can do so, aided by the limited agriculture. Letters have been written to the high officials, asking that time for protest be given.

In explanation of the causes that may be active in behalf of the reserve, it is not the purpose of the Sumpter men to say that the government officials are a party to the scheme they believe at work. It is thought here, however, that the forestry department and other department officials have been urged by schemers in a manner leading to the belief that the people hereabout demand the reserve. It will be their effort to disabuse their minds of this impression.—Sumpter American.

THE BIG PROJECT IS A GO.

FROM COOS TO BAY SALT LAKE CITY.

The Great Central is to Build Through Without Delay, and on as Straight a Line as is Possible.

Chief Engineer Kinney, of the Great Central, gave out the information that the transcontinental features of the Coos Bay railroad had been accepted and he had been directed to make location of the line through te Salt Lake City.

This acceptance, he said, provides for bonding the road at $16,000 a mile, involving in round numbers $15,000,000, though the exact distance between Coos Bay and Salt Lake has not yet been determined.

"Who is it that will do all this? Whose money or what railroad is supporting you project?"

"Well, to tell the candid truth, I dont know," he responded. "And what is more, I don't know as I care much. I do know that I am employed by respusible people, who advancing all the money necessary in the preliminary operations; that we are paying promptly for what we buy, and will contiue to do so. I know that I have been instructed to proceed with all possible speed to make the definite location of the line through between Salt Lake and Coos Bay, and that I shall do my best to obey instructions. The preliminary work will take three months at least, so I do not look for active construction to begin on the line before next spring. That is, on the main line. Work on the Belt Line Railway at Coos Bay will not be delayed for that.

"I may say this regarding the construction of the road: We will probably begin first on the Salt Lake end, and will drive the piles during the coming winter for the road across the southern end of Great Salt Lake. The Salt Lake end of the line will be under a separate incorporation, which will be filed in a few days.

"H. D. Jerrett, first assistant engineer, and Mr. Peltz, of Pennsylvania, have gone to join George Lyman Moody, who has been reconnoiteriug the line for a considerable distance from Coos Bay, and they will go to work on the main line at once. I regard it as quite significant that my instructions are to get the straightest line possible, and that any reasonable advance construction cost will be borne for the sake of getting a first class road. That looks to me like serious business."

Commissioner Binger Hermann of the general land office arrived in Portland Saturday. He is an astute old politician and with the influence his present position brings him it would not be surprising should he be elected United States senator when the legislature convenes next January. It is likely that other prospective candidates views his presence in Oregon with nervous apprehension.

An exchange says that when you see a couple walking along the street and the man goes on while the woman pauses to look at the shop windows it's a sure sign they are married.

A Parisian doctor has compounded a serum injection that he claims is fatal to boils. It was Job's luck to live a few thousand years too soon.

A firm is doing business in Buffalo, N Y, under the names of English & Irish. Still more odd, English is an Irishman, Irish is an Englishman.

Much of the charity that begins at home is often because it is too weak travel away.

The Windsor Bar has been moved into the building on the corner north of the postoffice. Caldwell & Byrd, the proprietors have fixed up the new quarters in a very comfortable shape and have added a billiard table.

The Life Of Tracy.

Five days after Tracy, the multimurderer, was laid to rest, the "Life of Tracy" has been published by the Keystone Publishing Company, of Seattle, and is now on the market. Such a statement 50 years ago would have been consided absurd; 30 years it would have been considered impossible; 20 years ago, possible in a limited sense; 10 years ago, probable, and today it is an actual fact.

FOR SALE—Two lots front on Main St and First St. with cottage on each, one barn. Four lots with orchard of pear, apple and cherrie, currents & gooseberries bearing, two room house on it, access to an irrigating ditch. Also one lot with seven-room building, good location. Terms: One third cash with two years for balance in equal yearly payments at 8 per cent. For particulars call at this office.

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Notice of Final Settlement.

In the County Court, of the State of Oregon, for Harney Count.

In the matter of the Estate of William Marrs, deceased.

The administratrix, Martha Marrs, having filed her final account in the above estate, the court has appointed the 11th day of Aug. 1902 for the hearing of objections to such final account and the settlement of said estate.

MARTHA MARRS.
Administratrix with will annexed
Dated this 11 day of July 1902.

Notice of Final Settlement.

In the matter of the Estate of Jessie J. Shepard, Deceased,

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has filed his final account as the administrator of the estate of Jessie J. Shepard, deceased, and by order of the court made and entered July 9, 1902, Saturday, August 23d, 1902, at one o'clock p m, of said date, has been fixed by the court as the day when all objections to the final account will be heard and the business of the estate settle. And all persons having objections to said account are required to appear on said date at the County Court room in Burns, in said county and state, that they may be heard.

Dated this 19th of July, 1902.

L. W. SHEPARD,
Administrator

Administrator's Notice to Creditors.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, S. W. Hamilton, was on the 9th day of July appointed by Hon H. C. Levens County Judge of Harney County Oregon, administrator of the estate of Henry H Masterson deceased, and letters of Administration duly issued thereon. All persons holding claims against said estate shall present them with the proper vouchers at the office of Biggs & Bigg attorneys, in the city of Burns, Oregon, within six months from the date of this notice Dated this 12th day of July 1902.

S. W HAMILTON.
Administrator of H. H. Masterson's Eftate.

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