

P. L. S. COMPANY NOT OBSTRUCTING PROJECT

Mr. Treadwell Throws Some Light on Silvies River Irrigation Project in Reply to Mr. McConnell's Interview Published Short Time Ago. Company Outlined Position in a Letter

San Francisco, April 18th 1914. —Manager of The Times-Herald: Referring to the interview by Mr. C. B. McConnell in the issue of your paper of April 11th, in which he charges the Pacific Live Stock Company with obstructing his proposed irrigation project, and in which he also seeks to make that company responsible for what I consider useless litigation involved in the proposed adjudication of rights in Silvies river, I take the liberty of calling your attention to the following matters:

By a letter addressed by the Pacific Live Stock Company to Mr. McConnell, dated April 20th, 1912, a proposition was made to Mr. McConnell, in order to facilitate his project, which is as fair a proposition as any one interested in the waters of Silvies river could be expected to make. That letter was as follows:

"April 20, 1912
"Mr. C. B. McConnell,
"Burns, Oregon
"Dear Sir:—We have had under consideration for some time your communication in regard to the proposed irrigation project on Silvies river of reservoiring the water of the river in Silvies Valley for the irrigation of additional lands in Harney Valley. As you are aware, we have holdings both in the proposed reservoir site in Silvies Valley as well as lands in Harney Valley depending entirely for irrigation on the waters of Silvies river. We do not wish in any way interfere with the project, but at the same time we know that you realize that we could not do anything which would jeopardize our present water rights. We understand that you realize that before you can proceed with your project you must have an understanding with the present water users in Harney Valley. This is absolutely necessary because until you have an arrangement which absolutely fixes the amount of water to which they are entitled and to be entitled, you will never be able to know what water you have for the irrigation of new land, and until each of the present owners is guaranteed his water he will not be willing to permit any use of the water on the new land.

"If this matter, however, is adjusted to the satisfaction of the present irrigators, we see no reason why you should not be permitted to go ahead with the project, and we can assure you that you will find our company willing to adjust that matter on the same basis that it is adjusted with the other irrigators.

"No doubt, all that will be necessary will be to determine the present land irrigated and agree upon a uniform amount of water to be allowed to each party per acre, and we will be perfectly willing to enter into an agreement along these lines. Until that is done, we are satisfied that no one in the valley would be willing to permit you to take the water for other lands, but as soon as that is done, if there is any surplus which you can create by storage, we would be perfectly willing to permit you to do so.

"As to the amount of water which should be allowed, we understand that you intend to construct a system of ditches through the valley sufficient to handle the water, and of course if it was properly distributed in ditches less water would be required than is used by the present methods in vogue in the valley. In case this arrangement can be agreed upon with the various water users in the valley, we would be willing to sell at a reasonable price such of our lands in Silvies Valley as may be needed for the reservoir. We feel, however, that it is useless to take up negotiations as to the exact amount to be paid for the reservoir lands until you secure a proper agreement with the water users as to the amount of water which they are to have. As we have already stated, if you can get such an agreement from the owners, we would be willing to join in it, but until you get such an agreement we could not permit, and are satisfied that the other people in the valley would not be willing to permit you to take any water from the river, and the test of your ability to carry this project out will be the willingness of the people of the valley to join in such agreement as we have indicated we are willing to enter into with you.

"Yours truly,
"Pacific Live Stock Company
"By J. Leroy Nickel
"Vice-president"

I think I am safe in asserting there is no person using waters of the Silvies river who would make a more liberal offer to Mr. McConnell than that contained in that communication, and whenever the other irrigators in Silvies Valley and Harney Valley are ready to adjust the matter along the lines outlined in that letter, we are, and always have been, ready to join with them. We simply refer to that letter for the purpose of permitting those interested to judge the truth of the statement of Mr. McConnell regarding this matter.

So far as the proceedings before the State Water Board for the adjudication of the water rights of Silvies River are concerned, I would say that these proceedings were initiated and instigated by Mr. McConnell, and the great expense that will be caused to the people of the valleys is entirely due to the instigation of that proceeding by Mr. McConnell, and not by anything that the Pacific Live Stock Company has done. In that proceeding the rights of the Pacific Live Stock Company are protested by Mr. McConnell, as well as a great number of other water users, and I suppose that even Mr. McConnell would concede that company the same privilege which he has availed himself of, namely: to attempt to establish its own rights and to oppose those which in whole or in part it deems unfounded.

In my judgment there was no occasion whatever for that proceeding, but it having been brought it is undoubtedly necessary for every party to establish his rights, and that is going to cause a useless expenditure of a very large sum of money by the people of these valleys.

The Pacific Live Stock Company at the time that proceeding was brought was at peace with practically every one on Silvies river, and there were practically no disputes between the parties as to the use of the water of the stream, but by this proceeding Mr. McConnell has caused to be instigated, it will be necessary to determine the exact quantity of water to which each party is entitled and the exact priority of the various rights, going back over a period of over twenty-five years; of course, there will be great differences as to the claims of the various parties as indicated by the many protests which have been filed, not only by the Pacific Live Stock Company but by Mr. McConnell and Mr. Hanley, and a great many other persons on the stream.

Mr. McConnell can not make us responsible for a condition which he, and he alone, has caused. The statement that I have threatened that this matter would be tied up for years is without any foundation whatever, but I have said and I do say, that from my knowledge of litigation of this magnitude it will necessarily take years of litigation before it is settled and will cost many thousands of dollars to the people

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of these valleys, all of which could have been avoided if Mr. McConnell had accepted the very liberal offer which we made and which we made solely for the reason that we felt that it was for the general good of the community that he be given an opportunity to carry out his project if it were feasible. His refusal to accept it only shows that he does not intend to recognize the rights of the people who have irrigated these valleys, but wishes to acquire the water at their expense. All that the Pacific Live Stock Company asked was that it be assured a continuous quantity of water which when economically used through ditches, as used by the other people of the valley, would be sufficient for the irrigation of its lands, and that that amount should be uniform to all parties in the valley. If that proposition is not a fair one, it is difficult to understand what kind of a proposition would appeal to Mr. McConnell.

I have no desire to enter into any public controversy in this matter, but justice to my client requires that false statements attributed to its representatives should be promptly denied, and a publication of this letter would be greatly appreciated, in order that the company may be placed right before the people of this community.

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Give this Job to a man who will reduce Taxes and cut down expenses
If you had an interest in a private business you would want it conducted on business principles. You have an interest in the affairs of this State. The State of Oregon is a business institution run for the benefit of the people in it also, in a certain sense, are stockholders in its business interests.

TAXES MUST BE REDUCED!
In the coming primary election, Charles A. Johns, of Portland, will ask the vote of every person who believes the State of Oregon needs to have taxes reduced and expenses cut down. The only way to reduce taxes and cut down expenses is to apply the same principles in running the State that you would apply in running your own business. How many institutions would run along with an increase of operating expenses from year to year? Not many. Well, let's reduce our taxes and cut down our expenses. Charles A. Johns, of Portland, is running on that platform and stands on his platform. Get him on the job! Start thinking about this today!

Will you elect a man who will cut down expenses and reduce taxes, or a politician, as our next Governor? The issue is clear. One will cut down taxes—the other will give jobs to his political friends. Which do you want?
Paid Advertisement.

GRADUATING CLASS HARNEY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Each Took Part in the Program at Tonawana Last Night, Names Alternate From Left to Right With Their Subjects.

	ESTHER HUGHT "Oregon Trail."	
	HELENE DALTON "A Natural Wonder of Harney County."	
	NICHOLAS VOEGTLY "Class Prophecy."	
	ROY BEEDY Salutatorian—"Preparing for Life."	
	MARY HENDRICKS "A Bit of History of Harney County."	
	ROBERTA HIBBARD "Address to The Undergraduates."	
	DONALD HOTCHKISS Valedictorian—"Influence of Friends and Companions."	
	ORA DICKENSON "Class History."	
	ELOISE HIBBARD "Class Will."	
	BEA GAGE "Class Poem."	

State to Realize Vast Sum From Salt Deposits

A news dispatch from Salem, says: The valuation of salt beds of Summer and Albert Lakes took a big jump today when John H. Haak and Samuel Connel, of Portland, offered the State Department Land Board \$2,000,000,000 for a 40 year lease of the property.

Jason Moore, representing New York capitalists, several days ago, offered \$1,000,000 for the same, \$250,000 for the lands and agreed to give \$50,000 bond as a guarantee of good faith. The board probably will reach a decision regarding the officers at a meeting to be held next Monday.

Letter of Condolence.

To the bereaved husband, children and relatives of the late Mabel E. Goff we as friends and neighbors extend to them our heart felt sympathy in this hour of sorrow. Mrs. Goff was born in Dallas county, Mo. in the year 1886. At the time of her death she was 28 years 4 months and 12 days of age. She had suffered about three months with tuberculosis and died at the home of her husband's parents near Lawen, on the 17th day of April. Mabel E. Rice was married to J. A. Goff July 9th, 1905 of this union were born three children, of whom two are living. The oldest is Merrill age five and the youngest Paul age three, the other dying in infancy.

Mrs. Goff comes from a splendid family, and to all who knew her she was a gentle, kind and loving woman. Never complaining or finding fault but at all times having a smile or a kind word for everyone whom she

THE "BLANKET" SYSTEM
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Experiments in handling sheep under the "open" or "blanket" system of herding made in eight National Forests during the season of 1913 show that the blanket system produces lambs approximately five pounds heavier and increases the carrying capacity of the ranges 10 to 25 per cent. It was found also that loss of sheep on heavily timbered ranges was less than the loss under the old system of close herding where they were driven back to the same bedding ground for several nights in succession.

Sheepmen formerly believed that the close herding system was necessary to prevent sheep from straying but the forest service experiments show that this is not the case. One band now in the Payette forest, which was never camped in the same place two nights and was herded in timber and brush, practically the entire summer, lost only four head, and in the majority of cases the loss under the new system was less than the loss under the system of close herding.

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J. C. Welcome, Jr.

met. One of her finest characteristics being in saying something good of one should she speak of them at all.

To her family she was a loving and devoted wife and mother whose place cannot be supplied by another.

As we look back on her life we can only see the love and sunshine that was hers to live and bestow on all whom she mingled with. Her death has cast a shadow in the home that cannot be removed.

April Apportionment County School Funds

The April apportionment of the county school funds were distributed as follows.

No.	Clerk	Am't.
1	W. I. Blott	\$1252
2	Julia Clark	196
3	Veve Rhyvaan	132
5	J. R. M. Davis	72
6	L. N. Stallard	88
7	Cassie Smyth	88
8	Starr Buckland	36
9	Rose Henderson	112
10	G. A. Collier	188
11	James Pirie	92
12	Marie Grant	104
13	Hattie Racine	208
14	Mrs. Tod Newell	60
15	Fred Otley Jr.	38
16	A. Venator	40
17	J. E. Graves	48
18	Edith Hayes	142
19	Metta M. Reed	36
20	Eliza Hamilton	32
21	J. H. Anderson	88
24	Pearl Vulgamore	60
25	Vivian Gray	72
26	Eugene Harris	80
27	Gray Kenney	64
28	Mrs. Otus Sizemore	56
29	Geo. A. Smyth Jr.	60
30	James Pearson	44
31	Annie Cote	48
32	Mrs. Ed Springer	60
33	Julia Catlow	88
34	Jessie Jones	68
35	Ettie McPheeters	160
36	W. A. Capps	84
37	J. O. Albersson	60
38	Frank Flister	48
39	Mrs. Fred Holloway	44
40	Chas. Needham	36
41	Daisy Carter	88
42	E. Oviatt	152
43	Mrs. A. C. Volmer	24
44	Mrs. Ed Howard	80
45	M. J. O'Conner	48
46	L. H. McPhail	48
47	E. L. Munson	68
48	C. Edwin Tulloch	112
49	—	56
50	C. F. Epley	100
51	C. P. Jewit	48
52	—	44
53	Alice Adrian	36

CROP CONDITIONS AT EXPERIMENT STATION

Notes on Seeding That Will Interest the Farmers of Harney County. More Grain to Increase Seed of Particular Varieties. Observations Noted for Benefit of Local Dry Farmers

BY L. R. BREITHAUPT.

Planting of field peas, wheat and oats has been concluded with the exception of a few small plots to be sown yet for tests on date of seeding. Barley varieties are being planted now, as is the flax. Alfalfa, rape and stock beets will be planted from the 10th to the 15th of May. Emmer is just drilled, and the potato varieties were planted a few days ago.

There will be about thirty acres of summer-fallow this year on the Station, all of the land that was planted to grains last year being given this treatment, except the plots which are kept in grain year after to see how poorly this practice pays. Most of the land that was in peas last year has been planted to other crops, or peas again, this year, the cultivation given the peas last year having concerned a considerable moisture which, together with the extraordinary quantity gotten into the soil the past winter has made this practice possible.

At present the Alfalfa is showing up nicely. Several plots of this has been thinned to various distances in the row in order that more information can be gained as to the proper distance for the plants to be separated for the maximum seed production. The old plots have been thinned so that each plant has about four or five square feet of soil. Although very satisfactory yields of seed were obtained from these plots last year, the yield would have been much greater had the plants been thinner.

The field peas are up and doing nicely. They do not mind how cold the weather is as do some crops. And where there is drifting sand, the peas remain in a field crop move on. Watch the wheat and oats are just

coming up and are making good stands. A plot each of flax and barley sown about the 20 of April are up and have shown more ability to withstand the cold than seemed reasonable to suppose. However, it has not been nearly so cold of late as sometimes happens at this time of the year so that, after all, it may not be wise to plant these tender crops too early.

Several acres of the most promising varieties of the grains has been sown for the purpose of increasing the seed. Among these are the Selected Bluestone wheat, Swanneck barley and a special selection from the Sixty Day oats, which is several days earlier yet than the original and much more uniform as well as an apparently better yielder. A large acreage has been planted to field peas, in which about 20 of the higher yielding varieties wins out, there will be a good start of the seed. However, it is expected that the race will be between the Carleton, Gray Winter, Kaiser, Cossack, Roluschka, Clamort and one or two other possibilities.

Following will be given the results of other crops grown on the Station last year:

Barley (Spring): Swanneck, 47.50; Hanneken, 41.65; O. A. C. 21, 33.33; Calif. Feed 21.53; Ouchac, 27.81; 195, 27.46; unnamed, 26.46; Hooded (Bald), 27.64; Odecrucker, 37.38; Hannah, 27.35; Black Hullless, 25.69; Wisconsin No. 9, 25.39; Imperial, 22.98; Utah Club (Winter) 22.85; Manchuria 23.29; Moriout, 19.03; Chevalier 18.96; Wisconsin No. 6, 18.48; Hullless, 19.31; Gatami, 17.40; Wisconsin No. 13, 15.86; White Hullless, 13.43.

The superiority of the Swanneck and Hanneken barleys was illustrated in the field planting as well as in the variety trials. These are both two row barleys. The California Feed barley is a pure strain of the common spring barley grown in Harney valley.

(Continued next week.)

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