

CO-OPERATION URGED IN IRRIGATION WORK

Writer Suggests Method to Get Early Recognition of Harney Project and Like Expenditure Cannot Accomplish so Much for Development in Any Other Locality. Act Now

BY C. B. McCONNELL.

With the united effort and co-operation of all interested parties, reclamation work in Harney County bids fair to be undertaken along lines assuring its ultimate success and to the greatest possible extent.

Various plans for Federal and State aid to irrigation in Oregon are being considered both in Congress and the State Legislature. Bills providing for a direct appropriation for immediate work are pending in both with some prospects of early enactment. But in any event the old methods of Federal reclamation will be discontinued and changed and a practical co-operative plan will be worked out within the next year or two. It is probable that the new plan will embody federal and state guarantee of irrigation bond which will render them a safe and profitable investment, and at the same time will leave the actual construction work and full administration of the system directly with the land owners under the state irrigation district organizations.

Co-operative investigations by the engineering departments of government and state reclamation services have been underway in this state for some time, but no particular project has been designated as the first to be developed. There appears to be no project entirely ready—that is having a proper district organization, approved water supply, settled legal water rights, etc. By a careful comparative study of the situation it is shown that the Harney County projects can be most readily be put into proper shape, and that in no other locality can a like expenditure accomplish so much in the way of development.

By reason of both an economical storage and distribution, the estimated acreage charge is the lowest; large areas of high class state swamp lands would be re-

claimed and become available to farmers at a reasonable price; assurance of such development would bring immediate construction of transportation lines into the Harney Valley.

The state adjudication of existing water rights is well advanced and will be closed and the final certificates, or titles to water rights, issued during the present year. The suit of the State of Oregon against the Pacific Live Stock Co. will be tried in the state courts this summer or fall, with every prospect that this landed monopoly will be broken up and its unreasonable control of the water supply and distribution will be released. Records of stream measurements and engineering data complete in every detail and are compiled and available for immediate use.

The first unit of the Silves River project based upon individual water contracts with owners of land in the upper portion of the valley, to be served with the cheapest storage and distribution, is most attractive and could undoubtedly be financed. This, however, would be a serious mistake as the construction of this piece of work would probably preclude all future development. Before any start is made a comprehensive system should be planned out which, although it may be constructed in units, would provide for the greatest possible beneficial use of our water supply.

These conditions have all been presented to and discussed with the State Engineer and representatives of the Federal Reclamation Services. Acting upon their suggestions and advice, it would appear that the proper course to be pursued is the immediate organization of irrigation and draining districts under our state laws.

The tentative plan suggested being the formation of, First, one

district to include all lands now watered and which may be decreed a partial water rights by the board in the present adjudication proceedings; Second, a district of about 40,000 acres of arid land lying east of the river, which will require a full water right; and Third, a drainage district to take care of the state's lands in the lake region, and to be extended up the valley as needed.

After the organizations are effected, bonds would be voted and issued, based upon the cost of the reclamation of each of these districts.

By such action it will be determined just what lands are to be considered and taken care of, and a definite plan can be prepared and submitted to the co-operative investigators. Should state and federal aid not be available within a reasonable time the matter would then be in the best possible form to present to private capital and the most equitable, long time contract secured.

Under any plan of reclamation, the lands to be benefited must finally stand the costs. Here we have immense areas of irrigable lands and a somewhat limited water supply. There have been many serious mistakes made in the past which have caused enormous waste in time and money, and these have reacted to the serious detriment of all reclamation work. Advantage can be taken here of all this experience as we are starting out with a clean sheet.

This matter is entirely in the hands of the land owners of the Harney Valley. Are we to have scientific reclamation and secure the highest benefits from our water supply, high-class diversified farming, transportation and modern development? If so we must have active co-operation and the pooling of all of our interests. The business men and land owners should meet and discuss these matters and take immediate action.

Hill People Getting Busy With Road to Our East

The money for building the Boise-Winnemucca branch of the Western Pacific is ready and it only remains for the directors of the system to decide what action they will take in the matter, according to Ontario and Boise papers. The business men of Boise have offered a handsome bonus for the construction of the road and the Idaho state legislature has introduced a resolution to appoint a committee to make an investigation of the route. Everything is favorable to the undertaking.

The Hill lines own the Pacific & Idaho northern road that extends from Weiser to Meadows and from there north is a water grade down Salmon River to Grangeville, from which place there are railroad connections to all points in northern Idaho. From Weiser the proposed road will cross the river and extend south through Malheur and Harney counties to Winnemucca, opening up to greater development and settlement a vast territory. A branch line will connect the road with Boise.

At one time parties projecting this proposed line were considering the proposition of coming from the Barron Valley country through Harney Valley then on to a connection at Lakeview, but it has never been brought to a definite conclusion which route would be taken.

B. F. Bush, president of the Western Pacific, has promised to send a report of the directors' decision to the business men of Boise as soon as he receives it.

Sick Headache.

Sick headache is nearly always caused by disorders of the stomach. Correct them and the periodic attacks of sick headache will disappear. Mrs. John Bishop of Roseville, Ohio, writes: "About a year ago I was troubled with indigestion and had sick headache that lasted for two or three days at a time. I doctored and tried a number of remedies but nothing helped me until during one of those sick spells a friend advised me to take Chamberlain's Tablets. This medicine relieved me in a short time." For sale by all dealers.

AN ELECTRIC RAILROAD PROJECTED FROM WEST

Engineers Who Worked on the Oregon Trunk Survey Line into Prineville, Giving Impression it is Hill Road. Power Site and Timber Purchases East Indicate Continue to Burns

Last issue The Times-Herald admitted it had not been living up to its past reputation in building railroads and would make amends.

The opportunity has arrived in what has the appearance at least of a real live railroad that would tap a rich territory over a most feasible route.

Frank Johnson, of the Oregon & Western Colonization Co., arrived here from Prineville Wednesday night and reports Prineville is sure to have an electric line at once, connecting with the Oregon Trunk at Redmond. Engineers were expected to complete the survey to Prineville this week. They have been at work quietly for some time and are the same men who had charge of the survey for the Hill interests during the building of the Deschutes line and it is taken for granted it is a Hill move, especially since it is characteristic of these people to move rather suddenly and unheralded.

According to Mr. Johnson they have asked no concessions or favors from Prineville; have made no statements as to their connections or their final destination. It is known, however, that Redmond has been asked to grant a right of way through the town to the west, indicating they contemplate a western extension over the Cascades.

Another significant move in connection with this survey is the activity of a well known man closely identified with the Hill interests in buying large tracts of timber up the Ochoco River between Prineville and Burns. It is known this gentleman has at least three big power sites included in his timber purchases in that territory.

An electric line up the Ochoco and across the divide to Emigrant creek then down that stream to Silves river to Burns has been investigated in the past and pronounced feasible. It not only presents reasonable grades but also follows the timber line, an excellent and almost inexhaustible source of revenue for a railroad. In addition to this the proposed route would find numerous sub-stations to augment the electric supply.

Another advantage would be the line would pass near the site of the necessary dams to impound the flood water of Silves river that is to be used to irrigate the thousands of acres in Harney Valley that it may produce tonnage sufficient for half dozen railroads.

Mr. Johnson's railroad news certainly is of more than passing interest to the people of this section as it has every indication of a Hill line there will be no blaring of trumpets or "monkey business"—they'll simply build and not be long in doing it.

Auto Club Issue Booklet To Attract The Tourists

Much enthusiasm is being manifested throughout the state in the Oregon scenic booklet which is being prepared by the Portland Automobile club for free distribution at the two California fairs, says the Journal. Commercial clubs and other organizations are displaying a lively interest and are giving their assistance to the committee. The Automobile Dealers' association will donate a liberal percentage of the receipts Tuesday night at the auto show. Enough funds are expected to guarantee at least 100,000 copies.

James D. Abbot, chairman of the booklet committee, expects to have the matter on the press early in February. He says all speed possible is being made to

Madstone Used to Cure Hydrophobia Victims

Since we are experiencing an epidemic of hydrophobia in this section the following story, published under a Columbia, Mo., date line, will be interesting reading:

While playing with a little pet collie Wednesday C. J. Payton and May Mitchell, who live eight miles north of Rocheport, in Howard county, were bitten by the dog. Later when the collie began to bite stock and other dogs on the place, Mr. Payton was led to believe the dog had contracted hydrophobia. Afterwards he and May Mitchell came to Columbia to have a madstone applied.

The owner of the madstone, R. H. Moore, of 811 Range street, pronounced both as suffering from the bite of a rabid animal. Mr. Payton was bitten on the neck and May Mitchell on the eyebrow.

LATEST DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE NOTES

(From Our Portland Correspondent)

The farm land bureau of the Oregon State Immigration Commission is receiving a good many inquiries in regard to the possibility of renting good farm land, and nearly all these inquiries come from practical, experienced farmers who are not at this time financially able to purchase land. The Bureau is now planning to add this rental feature to its other work and would like, as soon as possible, to make up a generous list of such offerings. No fees or commissions of any kind will be charged, and in all cases the reliability and fitness of the applicant will be carefully investigated.

Farmers and land owners throughout the state who have land for which they have no present use, and who would like to derive an income from such acreage, are invited to write to J. W. Brewer, manager of the farm land bureau, at Portland, for blanks on which to list such holdings.

If present plans do not miscarry, Oregon will in a short time be listed among the important sugar-producing states of the Union. While Eastern Oregon has been more or less active in the raising of sugar beets for a number of years, it is recently that the movement has extended to the Willamette Valley and the counties in the south end of the state. Approximately 5,000 acres have been signed up within the past few days in the vicinity of Medford and Grants Pass, an acreage sufficient to warrant the erection of a beet sugar factory. A corporation backed by Oregon California and Utah capital has been formed to carry through the project.

The commercial club of Gold Hill has also launched a campaign for the purpose of raising the necessary \$650,000 with which to finance a sugar mill in that locality. It is more than likely that all the interests in Southern Oregon will combine and locate the factory at some central point to which the beets can be shipped with the least delay and expense.

Cos and Curry counties have raised a fund of \$5,000 to meet the expenses of a comprehensive display at the Panama-Pacific Exposition this year and within a few days the material will be shipped to San Francisco and installed in the Oregon building.

Of interest to all wool growers in this and adjoining states is a movement recently inaugurated in Portland to handle the clip from all flocks in this territory, thus eliminating the speculator and broker who have heretofore cut deeply into the annual receipts of the sheep men. Under the new plan all wool will be advised exactly what his wool is worth. It is estimated that this plan will net the woolmen from 3 to 5 cents per pound over former prices.

Shooting is positively forbidden on my farm near Burns and I shall prosecute any one found trespassing. There will be no favors shown in this respect.—H. B. Mace.

We do job printing.

COMMISSIONER'S COURT COMPLETES JAN. TERM

Business Conducted Without Aid of a County Judge as no Decision Was Handed Down by Supreme Court. Take Recess to Await Decision but Have to Finish Business Alone

The county commissioners met again last Monday and completed the business of the court for the January term. They met at the regular time and transacted some business but owing to the uncertainty of who is county judge, H. C. Levens having qualified and it was still some question as to whether Judge Thompson would hold over or not, they took a recess pending a decision of the supreme court covering the point which was to be rendered on the 20th. However, no decision was handed down and when court convened on Monday they were as much at sea in the matter as formerly, therefore the commissioners finished what business there was before them at the term and adjourned.

Following is a synopsis of the proceedings as shown by the journal entries:

Hotel Diamond granted a saloon license for a term of six months.

S. D. Miller of Drewsey allowed \$25 a month for the care and keep of Mr. Norton an indigent person.

A petition for a liquor license asked by the Albritton Hotel in Harriman precinct was denied on the ground that the petition did not contain a majority of the voters of the precinct.

James Weston granted permission to construct telephone lines along the public highways in Harney county.

The Times-Herald designated as the county official paper.

Dr. Carl C. Griffith appointed county physician for the year.

The clerk ordered to pay a bounty on coyotes and other predatory animals upon advice that the legislature has made provision for such.

C. E. Beery, former county surveyor, ordered to complete the plotting of the county roads.

J. L. Caldwell appointed stock

inspector.

Official bonds of the several county officers approved.

Dr. J. W. Geary appointed health officer.

Wm. Farre appointed member county fair board for a term of three years.

J. L. Caldwell appointed a special deputy assessor for a period of two months at a salary of \$100 per month.

Jury list for the year was drawn.

Market Report.

Receipts for last week at the Portland Union Stock Yards have been cattle, 628; calves, 51; Hogs, 8580; sheep, 290.

With the exception of a few cars the cattle receipts this week have been of mediocre quality. Tops have failed to bring more than 7.75 at any time since Monday.

Monday witnessed the largest single days run of hogs ever received at North Portland, over 7200 head being received. Many half fat and rough hogs are being received. The market is closing at 6.80 for tops.

As usual sheep continue more in demand than the supply. All offerings are being taken at steady prices. Lambs at 7.50; yearling wethers 6.50; ewes 5.50.

Biliousness and Constipation Cured.

If you are ever troubled with biliousness or constipation you will be interested in the statement of R. F. Erwin, Peru, Ind. "A year ago last winter I had an attack of indigestion followed by biliousness and constipation. Seeing Chamberlain's Tablets so highly recommended, I bought a bottle of them." For sale by all Dealers.

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