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NO.

SILVIES IRRIGATION PROJECT WILL BE CONSTRUCTED WITH NO MORE DELAY

The Silvies river irrigation project is going to be constructed without further delay if present plans are perfected and there is every reason to believe they will mature. The Pacific Live Stock Company and the William Hanley Company have come out definitely and stated they will undertake the responsibility if the people of the district are ready to go in with them. They are ready to begin the construction of the reservoir and complete the entire system of irrigation just as soon as an irrigation district can be properly formed and the organization in shape to do business.

Mr. Hanley and Mr. Olsen, the latter the local representative of the P. L. S. Co., made these facts clear to a gathering of men at the Commercial club rooms in this city last Wednesday forenoon. The plan had been disclosed to a few individuals before the meeting and it was suggested that the matter be taken up with a larger number of the water users of this community.

C. A. Sweet opened the discussion at the meeting on Wednesday forenoon by stating it was the object of those present to discuss the boundaries of an irrigation district which would include all or practically all of the adjudicated irrigated land of the Valley, which would be practically the same as the former "big district" as petitioned for by P. G. Smith and others, except it was proposed to include some of the land on the west side of the Silvies river at Warm Springs and Potter swamp, and to exclude some of the lands near the lake where the owners had expressed a desire to be excluded. Mr. Sweet explained that he was informed both the P. L. S. Co. and the William Hanley Co. would come into this district with approximately 20,000 and 10,000 acres respectively. If assured of being protected and given proper recognition.

Mr. Hanley opened his remark by saying we all know what we ought to do. We have bothered along for thirty years and nothing of a constructive nature yet accomplished; present progressive methods demands we do something. He stated that if we get together on a general plan of irrigation the adjudication of the water is solved, as we have solved it by eliminating any quarrel as to priority when we band ourselves together for the purpose of an economical distribution of the water under a proper system of storage.

Mr. Hanley said he had discussed the problem with Mr. Treadwell, Mr. Olsen and Mr. Nickel of the P. L. S. Co. and they had decided to take the responsibility of financing and constructing the project if given satisfactory assurance that an organization would be formed that would give them support. He explained the responsibility of the undertaking and showed that the lands owned by the two companies would bear the greater portion of the burden of cost under a bond issue, therefore they would expect to have protection. In this connection he suggested that the companies have two members of the board of directors and that the organization provide for an advisory board which should be elected and direct the policy of the organization.

In this connection he called attention to the necessity of using Silvies Valley as a reservoir site wherein the P. L. S. Co. is a holder of much land, and the further fact that the Hanley company has been decreed certain rights to surplus water, which must be adjusted harmoniously. This advisory board is for the purpose of making such adjustments in connection with the directors. Mr. Hanley said he thought the present boundary lines should be confined to the irrigated lands as the present proposed lands must stand the cost and until it is better not to promise until delivery is assured. He pointed out that the irrigated land can stand the cost regardless of dry seasons and that a surplus will soon be available because we are not always going to have dry seasons. It was further pointed out by Mr. Hanley during the time he was discussing his phase of the question that the building of the reservoir eliminated all question of rights so far as the present irrigated land is concerned and that the development of surplus water was only a matter of getting it properly distributed.

Mr. Hanley said he hesitated to promise five years of his time to this project but with his experience of the past many years and his close identification with the affairs of the country he felt it a duty; he felt it would likely be the last job he would do for the country and wanted the satisfaction of doing it in a manner that would command the confidence of his neighbors.

Mr. Olsen announced that the Pacific Live Stock Co. was ready to

take hold of an irrigation district and the development of a reservoir site—and to do it now. All his company asked was a leadership in the important work. They were prepared to assume the responsibility as they have the necessary engineering, legal and bonding connections to make the undertaking a success. He stated his company had had experience in the past with even larger irrigation projects than the one necessary in this valley and had worked them out successfully and at a much less cost than other concerns. All his company wants is an opportunity to prove its sincerity and a chance to do its part in this important development of this big country. Mr. Olsen said the settlement of the land suit had given them an opportunity to do this. He said we should have harmony as it is absolutely necessary to the success of the undertaking as we are starting out with a new view in our mind and the determination to get somewhere; a new plan of opening up this big country and sell off the large land holdings.

The gentleman discussed incidentally the plan of disposing of the lands under the agreement with the settlement with the state at this point. He said he believed it was the biggest thing ever started here as under present conditions and with an adequate irrigation system the land was too valuable to hold for stock purposes, so colonization was the best plan.

Mr. Olsen closed his remarks by saying it was proper to confine the boundaries to the land that would have to stand the expense and until it was demonstrated there was sufficient surplus to cover an additional acreage worth while it would be better not to promise.

He further said that to put in the project, with the reservoir and complete distribution system was a stupendous undertaking and meant the expenditure of big sums of money which must be carefully handled to get 100 per cent values for the expenditure.

Sam Mothershead was asked to express his views and he stated it was his opinion that the Pacific Live Stock Co. was in a position to handle such enormous project more economically than with less per cent waste than any concern within his knowledge, as compared to others. He said he had always advocated the one district plan as he couldn't see where more districts could be formed without conflicting. Mr. Mothershead said he was active in promoting the one district started last winter but he also realized it was too big an undertaking for small men therefore he looked upon the plan outlined by the companies favorably.

Ted Hayes, another of the active men engaged in farming and a water user, expressed himself favorable to the plan and thought it should go.

Jake Welcome said it was just what he had been wanting to hear for a long time and he was ready to go.

H. J. Hansen and others expressed themselves in a similar manner and that the plan looked like a winner.

The subject was further discussed by Chas. M. Faulkner, Charles W. Ellis, J. W. Biggs and C. A. Sweet. Mr. Faulkner stated he had no direct interest; not having any land under the project, but from an engineering standpoint he considered the one district plan the only feasible one. Mr. Ellis said he was interested only as a resident of the community but the plan outlined looked like a proper solution of the problem.

Mr. Biggs said he had always favored a one district plan and gave his reasons. He also said it was just to confine it to the irrigated land until such time as it was found there was surplus. He had always considered there was a surplus but had never found any way to ascertain the amount. Mr. Biggs pointed out that since all the land served would be from the same source of water supply he could not see where more than one district could be organized without interference. While he wanted to see every possible acre of Harney valley furnished with water or irrigation he believed it more important to have one acre properly served than two with half enough. He thought the plan of the local concerns financing and constructing was certain to result in a more economical expense than to get people who were not so well organized.

A committee was finally chosen to arrange for the boundary of a district and it is the intention to circulate a petition to be submitted to the proper authorities at once.

As was stated in the opening paragraph of this article, it looks most favorable to the early consummation of the dreams of the people for the completion of the Silvies irrigation project in a manner that will be best to all concerned. This means much to this country.

NEW HUNTING GROUNDS



Keep Government Insurance

Harney County Chapter, American Red Cross, at a recent executive meeting elected Robert M. Duncan Chairman of the Home Service Section, and Don M. Taylor Secretary. Both are ex-service men and were elected particularly with the idea in view of assisting ex-service men in re-instating their government insurance and in transforming it from the war time to a peace time form. These gentlemen have investigated this insurance as insurance, as an investment, and

in comparison with commercial insurance and are both thoroughly conversant with the government insurance laws.

Inquiries from ex-service men or from dependants or beneficiaries of deceased ex-service men should be addressed to either of the above mentioned at Burns. They will promptly reply giving full data requested as collection of payments, forms of policies etc.

SANTA GIVES A SHOP TALK

for Local Shops and urges you to Shop Now!



No one knows more about Christmas joys than Santa Nor does anyone better realize its disappointments

He says the greatest source of regret, upset, delay, discouragement, misunderstanding and disappointment is LAST MINUTE SHOPPING. The early shopper finds leisure and pleasure in selection; complete stocks, clerks alert, etc.



Buy Oregon made goods Keep prosperity at home this Christmas—buy in Burns Compliments Burns Commercial Club

SUCCESSFUL MEETING OF COMMERCIAL CLUB

Many Topics Discussed and Passed Upon.

The Burns Commercial club meeting last night was one of the best that it has enjoyed both in numbers and enthusiasm. C. M. Faulkner, Vice President, occupied the chair and the business was transacted with dispatch.

The gravel used on the Central Oregon Highway, Burns to Lawen, was openly discussed and satisfaction was expressed at the action of Chief Engineer Nunn of the Oregon State Highway Commission in sending Dr. Losell, the analytical chemist of the commission to Burns to study the gravel situation. A committee of the Commercial club and members of the county court will wait on the gentleman and present our views.

U. F. Swigert of the Pacific Bridge Co. of Portland was present at the meeting and in a concise talk congratulated the Burns Commercial club upon their work, bade them to proceed to uplift the community and not let discouragements or lack of attendance, deter them from accomplishing the object they had in view. Mr. Swigert was for several years president of the Portland Commercial club and he offered his assistance to the club to get the signatures of the Portland people to our petitions, not only because it would help Burns but of benefit to Portland merchants.

Secretary Jones has prepared a petition to be presented to the Fourth Postmaster General for a daily mail service between Bend and Burns, and it is expected that our Senators and Representatives will aid us in this much needed reform.

Camp ground for Tourists received the attention of the members and we can expect to share in the tourist profits that must need pass through Burns, for if you take a map, you will note that Burns is situated in a direct line between Yellowstone Park, and the wonder of Oregon, Crater Lake.

The secretary in a logical and vigorous speech called the Commercial club's attention to the amount of money sent from the city and the community to large department stores and mail order houses. He advocated them, and through the club, the community, to keep this money at home, buy their goods from the home merchant, and build up the city.

Lack of Communication Causes Loss to Stockmen

Shortsightedness of Postal Authorities Responsible.

William Byram arrived over this week from his ranch on Canyon creek with a herd of his cattle to feed for the winter. Mr. Byram used to come this way frequently and many of his neighbors would like to bring stock here to feed during the winter but because of lack of roads and direct communication as in former days they find it to their advantage to send their stock into Idaho to feed.

In former years, during the time the mail routes were maintained between this city and Canyon the stock men were in a position to bring their stock over as they knew the roads were kept open and they could leave their stock on pasture in Bear Valley and neighboring ranges until snow time, but now they have no assurance of being able to get through with their herds and he has brought over his pure bred Durhams a month earlier than he would otherwise. Mr. Byram still has good pasture at home but he feared that if he did not get his stock over now he might not be able to do so later, there fore he is compelled to feed at least 30 days longer than necessary because of it.

Shortsightedness upon the part of the government postal authorities is not only responsible for inadequate mail service but also for inconvenience and expense to individuals other than merely the delivery of mail.

It seems a pity that men are compelled through such circumstances to send their money out of their own state and take their stock around such distances to feed when it could be avoided by the establishment of a needed mail route.

STIRLINGS HOSTS FOR THANKSGIVING DINNER

(Contributed) Mr. and Mrs. William Stirling entertained at a four-course dinner Thanksgiving at 6 o'clock. Place cards were laid for William Hanley, Rev. B. S. Hughes and wife, Mayor Charles H. Leonard and wife, Prof. C. F. Hughes, Misses Constance Hughes and Dorothy Leonard Mr. and Mrs. Stirling. Music, conversation and jokes by "Uncle Bill" furnished the evening's entertainment.

P. L. S. COMPANY WOULD DISPOSE OF LAND IMMEDIATELY

Engineering Work Depends on Weather.

ONLY POSSIBLE DRAWBACK IS PRICE

Every Acre Sold Will Carry Full Water Right and Have Ditches.

The Pacific Live Stock company is going to begin active work toward disposing of the 10,000 acres of land mentioned last week in its settlement with the state land board of the pending suit.

Supt. A. R. Olsen was in the city the fore part of this week and discussed the proposition with several people. Mr. Olsen gave positive assurance that the land would be sold just as rapidly as possible.

Mr. Olsen also stated it was the desire of the company to dispose of the land at once. If weather conditions will permit the Engineering features will be worked out this fall in order that the tracts may be ready for sale at least by early spring. It is the intention to lay out a system of ditches, roads, and everything that will be beneficial to making the land attractive to the purchaser.

Every acre to be sold will carry a full water right and will be properly laid out with necessary ditches, as well as drain ditches. The tracts will be so arranged as to provide for roads making them easy of access to the public highways. In fact this promises to be one of the best arranged sales of real estate ever attempted in this section. The fact that the company feels the land is too valuable to devote to stock raising is a feature that indicates breaking up of the big holdings of the concern in this valley and the colonization, bringing in many families and thus adding to the population of the country. This also means greater and more intensive production.

Mr. Olsen said it was the hope of his concern to dispose of the first unit of these lands at once. If they can all be sold out during the coming spring it will suit the company much better than if the sale should continue longer.

The only possible drawback to the quick sale of these lands it would appear to the writer is the price. Mr. Olsen was not in a position to state what the prices would be. Of course the land will be appraised in accordance with its productiveness and each tract will be priced on such a basis. The long term payments will be attractive in the purchase of these lands and will be a feature, yet the price will govern to more or less extent the rapidity of the movement of this land to small holders.

Where to Find News

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Theatre News The sisters Faith Third Page B. Frank Irwin Talks Frank Heinz Dies

Fourth Page First definite irrigation proposition On Christmas morning.

Fifth Page Some recent real estate transfers. Red Cross Christmas seal sale. Boxing contest a draw.

Sixth Page We could but we won't It produces Produce Commercial club Resolutions Notice of Hearing

Seventh Page Classified Ads. Legal News

Eighth Page Local Happenings.

ONLY 21 More Shopping Days

