

The Times-Herald

VOL. XXXVII

BURNS, HARNEY COUNTY, OREGON, NOVEMBER 3, 1923

NO. 1

GOVERNMENT AID DEPENDS ON LAND PRICES

Finance Harney Valley Irrigation District Project if Local Attitude Right.

Sam Mothershead, secretary of the Harney Valley Irrigation District, arrived home Wednesday evening from Portland where he had gone to consult with Senator McNary relative to the proposition of enlisting government aid in the project. Mr. Mothershead had expected other officers of the district to accompany him down on this mission but at the last moment circumstances arose which prevented Director Olsen from going down. Mr. Mothershead states that he is confident this project would have a good chance with the government reclamation service provided the land be priced at a reasonable figure, as he found Senator McNary very favorably impressed with the cheapness of reclamation, therefore Sam says it is a matter of getting the land signed up at an attractive figure.

The government has an oversupply of high priced irrigated land now awaiting colonization. There is no demand for it. The average colonist available is looking for land that can be purchased at moderate prices that will produce the ordinary field crops and suitable for dairying. That's the attractiveness of the Harney Valley project and if the local land holders will place a price on their land there is every reason to believe that it will meet with approval of the government.

This appears to be one of the "best bets" now before the people of this section. It is known that the government admits Oregon is entitled to reclamation funds but owing to the high price of reclaiming and disposing of land under other projects that have been placed before the department for consideration the officers are not favorably disposed to the propositions.

This is an important matter and should have immediate attention. The large holding concerns will no doubt hold the key to the situation. If these can be induced to place their holdings at a fair price there is little doubt but that smaller land owners will fall in line.

No doubt the irrigation district directors will give the matter immediate attention and should they desire co-operation in getting the project before the government reclamation service the citizens of Burns will give it their approval and personal aid.

There is no longer any excuse for delay in construction of the necessary reservoir and distribution system to make the irrigation of the land under the unit a big benefit. With the government machinery back of it the colonization problem is largely solved, as it is admitted there are home seekers ready to invest in moderate priced lands. A government project has many advantages at this time as it would save the negotiation of the bonds with the usual discount and delays.

The railroad building through the district is a factor in getting the real construction under way as it eliminates the former objection of remoteness from transportation and market.

Let's get busy on this undertaking and strike while the opportunity is right.

NEW BOOKS AT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Burns public library has recently received some valuable books through the state library. There are 150 gift books which remain in the library. These are reference books that cover a wide range of subjects and are exceptionally fine.

In addition to the gift the Library Board has secured 51 volumes as a loan from the state library which are here for a limited time only and should be taken advantage of before the 15th of January, the time they must be returned to the state library.

A list of new fiction will be added to the library during this month. The regular monthly meeting of the Library Board will be held on next Tuesday evening when the list will be selected.

The books loaned by the state are: Alexander, The Sunday School and the Teens.

Jaeger, Denizens of the Desert. Madden, Forest Friends. Elliot, Birds of the Pacific Coast. Rose, Feeding the Family. White, Bungalow Book. Gates, Apron-strings. Henshaw, The Inheritance of Jean Trouve.

Hopkins, Brisco, The Sixth Scene. Howard, F. M., Happy Rascals. Hutchison, If Winter Comes. Jacobs, The Lady of the Barge. Jepson, Selwyn, The Qualified Adventurer.

Jerome, Anthony John. Kolland, Catty Atkins, Sailorman. Lewis, Main Street. Babbitt. Walpole, The Cathedral. Dunne, Mr. Dooley's Philosophy. Shute, The Real Diary of the Worst Farmer.

Paine, Lost Ships and Lonely Seas. Bradley, Highways and Byways in North Wales. Street, Mysterious Japan. Rinehart, Through Glacier Park. Alder, Men of the Inner Jungle. O'Brien, White Shadows in the South Seas.

Skinner, Adventures of Oregon. Burgess, The goop Encyclopedia. Fox, Fox First reader. Harris, Eugene Field reader. Lucia, Peter & Polly in winter. Lucia, Peter & Polly in autumn. Perkins, The Dutch Twins primer. Anderson, Fairy tales and stories. Douglas, Favourite French afire tales.

Jewett, Wonder tales from Tibet. Fabre, The story-book of science. Seers, Book of Nature stories. Burgess, Mother West Wind's children. Carter, Lion and Tiger stories. Rolt-Wheeler, Boy with the U. S. Trappers. Clark, Tiny Tollers and their works.

Mathews, The Book of birds for Young People. Brooks, Master of the Strong Hearts. Ernst, Mark of the Knife. Rolt-Wheeler, The book of Cowboys. Chburn, Our Little Swedish Cousins.

Patterson, When I was a girl in Switzerland. Allen, David Crockett, Scout. Hutchins & Hutchins, Sword of Liberty. 1 month only: Ossendowski, Feasts, Men and Gods.

LADIES' LIBRARY CLUB
(Contributed)
The Ladies' Library Club met October 27, at the home of Mrs. J. W. Biggs with Mrs. W. A. Gowan, Mrs. J. E. Sizemore, Mrs. C. C. Griffith as joint hostesses.

The President reported that \$67.50 was deposited to the book fund as a result of the picture show given Friday, October 26. The Club wishes to thank the public for the liberal patronage given, and also Mr. Byrd for his kindness and liberality in the matter of rent, lights etc. Mrs. Griffith sang A Dream, by Bartlett and Sweet Miss Mary to a warmly enthusiastic audience. Mrs. Dillman played the accompaniments with art and musical grace. The program for the day was then presented as follows: Mrs. Griffith singing O Promise Me and Marcheta. These songs gave great pleasure to the company. Mrs. W. A. Gowan read a paper on Modern Egyptian art, speaking of the beautiful carvings on the Minarits and doors and windows in Egypt of today. Mrs. J. W. Biggs carried us back to art in the time of King Tutankhamen, speaking of the wonderful art and ceiling of the tombs being covered with pictures giving a complete story of the common life of that halcyon period in Egypt. Delicious refreshments were served. The next meeting will be November 10 at the home of Mrs. Sutton.

HARNEY COUNTY HIGH FOOTBALL TEAM VISITS

Defeated Canyon City-John Day Last Saturday; Play Here This Afternoon.

The local high squad journeyed into Grant county last week end, and defeated the John Day-Canyon City high school combination.

The boys all report having a fine trip, good roads, balmy weather etc. A dinner was given at John Day Friday evening at which were members of both elevens and teachers. This reception as well as the hospitable treatment received from the various homes was indeed pleasing.

The game played at John Day was an interesting contest. Harney scored first and Grant countered. The score at the end of the first half was 13-6. The second half was almost a repetition of the first the final score being 26-13. The H. C. H. S. touchdowns were scored one by McConnell and three by Thornburg. McGowan converted two tries on passes from Welcome.

The new back field combination of Thornburg, McGowan and Dent worked well, showing considerable power and dash. Thornburg made one feature dash of 50 yards for a goal. The line charged better and was more alert than in the Bend game.

This Saturday the same teams battle at the Fair grounds in Burns. The contest should be an interesting one and with good weather, attract a large crowd.

At 6 o'clock the girls of Harney High will tender a dinner to the boys at the school.

In the evening a Harvest Dance will be held at the Town Hall.

BURNS MUCH TALKED ABOUT TOWN

Burns is one of the most talked about towns in the northwest according to those who have visited outside points in recent weeks. The railroad extension and timber activities of Fred Herrick are the subject of discussion and much inquiry is made of the business possibilities and general development surrounding Burns.

We who stay at home do not seem to realize the big opportunities that await the development of this big country and what the coming of the railroad, building of the sawmills and construction of the irrigation system will bring to us. We do not expect the impossible, but the possibilities are surely underestimated and we should make an effort to comprehend the big advantages this new development brings to us. We should give the future more attention and be prepared to meet the new order of things.

UNION PACIFIC BUILDING THE BURNS-CRANE LINE

Character of Construction Indicates This a Part of Through Route West.

While it has been generally understood that the railroad extension from Crane to Burns was really the Union Pacific Co., no announcement to that effect had been made by any officer connected with that corporation up to recently. In an interview published by the Portland Journal the other day President Carl Gray gave out the information in connection with an expression of the attitude of his road building across the state.

It will be recalled that an attempt was made during the past summer to compel the building of the cross state line, members of the public service commission being in Burns to secure information to substantiate its claim that the present business justified the road. Mr. Gray and a party of the officers of the Union Pacific system arrived in Burns the following day in company with Fred Herrick to consider the Burns extension. At that time the subject was discussed and Mr. Gray stated that his company had no intention of building across the state and would not consider it until business would justify it.

It is now considered possible that the line extended to Burns will go on through the timber to the west when the timber development will justify. This would put Burns on the through line. This conclusion is reached by the announcement made by Mr. Herrick that 90 pound steel will be used over the entire present railroad line to Seneca, indicating that it is to be a through line.

In his interview published in the Journal Mr. Gray said: "Such a condition is impossible of fulfillment and the Union Pacific can not build this line unless and until there are business developments which will justify it. We have undertaken to extend the line from Crane to Burns, as to serve a lumber milling operation at that point. We are perfectly willing to entertain other business propositions but we cannot, and for reasons which we believe to be unanswerable, undertake the construction of the cross state line."

Mrs. Wm. Bennett, her son Merle Bennett and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Cummins and Miss Moore were visiting with the Bennett brothers and their families last week. The visitors reside in Grant county, Merle teaches at Mt. Vernon and the Cummins also live there. Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bennett have moved from their Silvie valley ranch home to a place on the John Day a few miles from Mt. Vernon.

OBSERVE ARMISTICE DAY MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Harney County Post The American Legion, will observe Armistice Day on Monday, Nov. 12, in conformity with proclamations and the generally accepted time this year. The usual election of officers and business meeting will be held followed by a banquet and a dance.

LARCHER-SMITH ENTERTAINER

When you hear the Larcher-Smith Entertainers on Tuesday, Nov. 13 evening at the Liberty, it will be hard to believe that there are only two of them, such a variety of talents have these two women, and such a volume of sound do they produce, with piano-accordion and clarinet or drums.

The outstanding features of the programs given by Misses Bessie Larcher and Beatrice Smith, are the ensemble of piano-accordion and clarinet, a most unusual and delightful arrangement, also the combination of accordion, bells and drums. The solo work of the musicians are noteworthy and Miss Larcher's "drumology," in which she ably demonstrates that there is music in the drum alone, is a novel and entertaining number.

The piano-accordion has of late become tremendously popular, and when handled by one of Miss Smith's attainment becomes an instrument of unusual warmth and brilliance, with lovely tonal quality. She is the possessor of a beautiful instrument valued at \$600.

Miss Larcher's clarinet work has received much favorable comment wherever she has appeared, and her mastery of the drum and taps is quite unusual for a woman. She also plays a saxophone and gives costumed character readings in which her comedy is exceptionally fine.

A short one-act sketch is given by Misses Larcher and Smith as a climax to an evening of real entertainment. This is the second Lyeum number scheduled for the winter under the auspices of the Mothers' Club.

HARNEY III TO RESUME WINTER SCHEDULE MONDAY

Principal McDade of the Harney County High School has asked The Times-Herald to announce that the school will begin on the regular winter schedule of hours next Monday, taking up at nine o'clock in the morning and closing at 3:15 in the afternoon.

During the athletic field activities the school was an hour faster, and closed earlier in the afternoon, but the football game this afternoon closes the outdoor activities for the present season and the regular time will be observed.

C. A. Korten is here from Chicago. He is at present at his farm east of Burns looking after his affairs but will remain but a day or two.

LIGHT PLANT NOW UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Ready for Service Within 30 Days; New Equipment to Be Added at Once.

Dr. H. M. Horton has disposed of the Electric Light & Power plant in Burns to W. R. Letson and E. O. Hodge, of Tillamook county who are preparing to put it in good condition and furnish lights and power. The plant is to be completely overhauled with a 75 horse power diesel engine added.

Messrs. Letson and Hodge are operating light plants in Tillamook county, the former residing at Beaver and the latter at Tillamook. They are experienced light men and announce they expect to have the plant in operation in Burns by the end of this month.

Arrangements have been made whereby they will begin with the water power at the mill which will be used during the season available, but the engine will be the means of power during the other portions of the year. The mill power will be available by the 20th of this month but the new men in charge are giving themselves plenty of time when they announce the plant ready for service by the end of this month.

The new firm has also purchased the Charles W. Ellis triangle corner at the intersection of the highway and railroad grade in the southeastern part of town which they will use as a spur for the storage of the fuel necessary for their engine. This is a happy arrangement. Senator Ellis and the city were on a deal for this property as the railroad right of way takes a portion of it, making it undesirable for anything much but a storage or warehouse purpose and even then it would be cramped. It was fortunate to secure a purchaser for the property that could use it to advantage. Being situated right on the railroad right of way makes it an ideal place to erect a storage tank and spur to place the fuel for the light plant.

Messrs. Letson and Hodge left here Thursday on their return to Tillamook to get their families and will come back to Burns immediately in order to get the plant in readiness for service as soon as possible.

Burns has long needed adequate light service that was dependable. The service in the past has not been satisfactory, that is, was not always to be relied upon. Some times we had lights but about as often we didn't. The Cooleys gave very good service last winter, but they didn't keep them on but a few hours each night.

The field is one that has big possibilities for furnishing electric lights and power and with experienced men in charge and capital to equip it for dependable service they will soon have a good business.

MOTHERS' CLUB

(Contributed)
The Mothers' Club met at the home of Mrs. Claude Brown Thursday afternoon with Mrs. Robt. Bennett as joint hostess.

It was decided to dispose of the playground equipment and any one desiring any part of it will find the particulars, character of apparatus and prices by applying to Mrs. Mary Bennett, acting president of the Club. This equipment consists of several pieces that would add much to the playgrounds of schools.

There were 28 members and three visitors present.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Leland Fry.

RAILROAD GRADE WORK CONTINUES ACTIVE

The railroad grade on the route from Crane to Burns is practically completed and contractors are busy between this city and the timber. Grading is under way as far up as the Canyon City road on Pelson creek with the right of way cleared and ready for grading as far up as the Fred Black place.

Nothing new has transpired since the last issue of the paper in respect to additional work. The several contractors are busy and progressing as rapidly as possible. The bridge work is under way with prospects of track laying being commenced within a short time.

