

THE GAZETTE-TIMES.

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MORROW COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

Thursday, January 14, 1915.

THE IRRIGATION CONGRESS.

The privilege extended to the editor of this paper to attend the meetings of the Irrigation Congress in Portland the past week is greatly appreciated and one to be long remembered. It was a gathering of note and composed of a bunch of Oregon's best and foremost citizens, the great majority of whom are intensely interested in the subject of irrigation from its practical side, being settlers on projects now under process of development. The Congress is rapidly growing and its influence is becoming more pronounced each year. The attendance at this meeting was fully twice as large as that of any previous year, and the enthusiasm was in proportion to the increased attendance.

A splendid spirit of harmony and unity of action prevailed throughout the entire session of three days. It was manifest on all sides that while each community represented had its own individual interests that appeared to be uppermost, there must be no sidestepping from the main issue, and that is to get proper recognition from the State and Federal governments of the needs of irrigation in all Oregon. Money is the one great need, and the lack of this is keeping back the proper development of the various projects now under way as well as that of opening up new fields, just as promising and worthy as any of those now promoted.

In presenting the needs of Morrow county, S. E. Notson made it clear that one of the greatest fields for irrigation in this state lies within the borders of our county. And there need be no apology offered for the statements he presented; in fact our section was shown to compare favorably with the most favored spots of the great Eastern Oregon empire, and we feel like saying that it was made to stand out far ahead of the most of them. And those fully conversant with the facts will concede this. We shall have to wait some time yet, perhaps, for the means necessary to bring about the development we desire here but it may possibly come to us sooner than we expect. The north end of this county, and Gilliam county as well, will come into their own some of these days and will be connected up with one of the greatest irrigation schemes of the west. We hope that soon this may be brought about. In furtherance of this it stands us in hand to join ourselves up with this Irrigation Congress and see to it that each year we have a full quota of representative men at its sessions.

Representatives of the Congress will go before the legislature at Salem to ask that a half mill tax be voted to raise funds to help further the interests of irrigation in Oregon. The general government is expected to meet the state, dollar for dollar, in this work and thus some badly needed funds will be made available. This measure should pass, although it is expected to meet with some opposition. The money is not to be

asked for as a gift from the state but is expected to provide funds that can be loaned to the different projects on long time at a reasonable rate of interest. It has been demonstrated that even the partially developed projects are good security upon which to loan money and they of course become better as the improvements continue. In supporting the millage tax, Hon. J. N. Teal, of Portland, who is a persistent and consistent advocate of the interests of Eastern Oregon, had this to say: "It is no use to mope now over the injustice to Oregon at the hands of the federal government in the distribution of reclamation funds. The thing to do is, not to spend the time in weeping over the past, but to look to the future. It would be false economy for the legislature to refuse to levy a small tax in aid of irrigation when every dollar so appropriated would bring a dollar from the federal government for turning the desert into production, and making thrifty homes on what is now barren waste."

The city of Portland realizes to the fullest extent what this development means, and her business interests have pledged to the promotion of this great work. This was vouchsafed the Congress by several of the best speakers of the city who appeared on the program.

All officers of the Congress were re-elected for the coming year by unanimous vote, which is indeed a high compliment of the efficient manner in which they have performed their duties. There is every reason to expect great things in the development of Oregon growing out of the work of the Irrigation Congress.

Our hats off to Governor Withycombe.

There was some irrigation in Portland, in fact as well as theory, during the meeting of the Irrigation Congress. It rained.

What splendid opportunities are being passed up. The weather is warm; the frost is out of the ground and mother earth is ready for the downpour; the clouds come up and pass over, but no rain. Let us pray. We take it all back. After writing the above and getting it into type, the weather man has changed his mind and we are now getting a splendid rain, which is general all over the county, and there is every indication that it will continue for many days.

INLAND EMPIRE IN INFANCY OF ITS FARM DEVELOPMENT.

Men thought 60 years ago that Illinois had reached or was nearing the maximum of its agricultural development. "All the good land was taken," and dissatisfied families were moving away to Iowa, to Missouri, to Kansas and Nebraska, and even to distant Oregon.

But time has shown that Illinois had only fairly started its agricultural growth and greatness. Its area of 12,000,000 acres in farms in 1850 had grown by 1910 to 32,500,000 acres, and still more impressive, the average value of farms and farm improvements and equipments had increased from \$1663 to \$15,505. Here is an increase of nearly ten fold, although the average size of Illinois farms diminished in that period from 158 acres to 129 acres.

In the progress and development of a new country it is the unexpected that happens. Communities almost invariably underrate their own potentialities.

The record of Illinois will be repeated in the Inland Empire, for we have only fairly started on the work of agricultural development. Greater achievement is still before us. Diversified and scientific farming, irrigation, clearing of great expanses now timbered or logged off, and the finding of forage plants by nature adapted to commercial production on lands now thought to be arid and all but worthless—these and other factors will play their part in the bigger development that will come along with

the passing of the years. Pseudo "dry farming" will bring its share of development surprises. The United States agricultural department and our agricultural colleges are searching the world for forage plants that offer commercial possibilities for the arid and semi-arid lands west of the 100th meridian.

One of the speakers at the Pullman wheat convention, Professor H. A. McCall, in charge of the dry land experiments at Lind, in Adams county, enumerated alfalfa, field peas, rye, Sudan grass and sweet clover as crops that can be profitably grown on much of the so-called dry land area of the Inland Empire.

Little is known in the Pacific north west concerning the new plant, Sudan grass, which is causing a sensation in Texas, and other portions of the southwest. The first seed was brought to this country only five years ago from the African Sudan, but almost incredible claims are made for it as a profitable forage plant. It is said to grow eight or nine feet high, and to adapt itself to almost any variation of moisture. So great is the demand that Texas farmers are making fortunes from sales of seed alone, yields running as high as 500 pounds per acre and the market price ranging from \$1 to \$1.50 per pound. It is said that Texas' 1914 crop of Sudan grass will have a value of \$1,500,000.

These claims appear extravagant, and may well be taken with some reserve since the sale of seed has been so extensively commercialized, but it seems probable that a plant of great value has been discovered and that it will play a large part in the building up of the country's depleted herds and flocks.

This gives us moreover an inkling of the future growth and wealth of regions now unsettled and regarded as worthless desert. Science, enterprise, the passing of public domain and national needs—all combine to foster western agricultural development. Agriculturally, the Inland Empire is yet in the infancy of its soil productiveness.—Spokesman-Review.

COUNTY COURT.

(Continued from first page)

each presented to the County Court a sworn statement of the bona fide subscribers to their respective papers and it appearing that the Heppner Herald had the largest list of subscribers, was selected and designated as official paper for Morrow County for the year 1915, and the 25th day of January was set for the day of hearing objections to said appointment.

Bills allowed at January 6-7-8th term of County Court:

Table listing bills allowed at January term of County Court, including names like C. C. Patterson, salary Co. Judge, and various other entries with amounts.

IMPORTANT EVENTS

1914-15 AT

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

WINTER SHORT COURSE—JAN. 4-30

Agriculture, including Agronomy, Animal Husbandry, Dairying, Horticulture, Poultry Husbandry, Insects, Plant and Animal Diseases, Creamery Management, Marketing, etc. Home Economics, including Cooking, Home Nursing, Sanitation, Sewing, Dressmaking and Millinery. Commerce, including Business Management, Rural Economics, Business Law, Office Training, Farm Accounting, etc. Engineering, including Shopwork and Roadbuilding.

FARMERS WEEK—FEBRUARY 1-6

A general clearing house session of six days for the exchange of dynamic ideas on the most pressing problems of the times. Lectures by leading authorities. State conferences.

EXTENSION SERVICE

Offers lectures, movable schools, institutes and numerous correspondence courses on request. MUSIC: Piano, String, Band, Voice.

No tuition. Reduced rates on all railroads. For further information address, The Oregon Agricultural College, (tw-124-10-1-1) CORYVALLIS, OREGON

Advertisement for Red Dragon Squirrel and Gopher Poison, featuring an illustration of a dragon and text: 'Kill the Squirrels and Gophers... Red Dragon Squirrel and Gopher Poison... Results—Your Money Back'.

Table listing names and amounts for a commission hearing, including Paul Rietman, H. C. Ashbaugh, Slocum & Bucknum, etc.

COMMISSION HEARING.

(Continued from first page)

road Company was to confuse in the minds of the witnesses the matter of changing the present day service to a night service instead of giving an additional motor train on the branch road. The Railroad Company having failed to furnish segregated record of statistics as to the expense of operation and receipts of the Heppner Branch, altho asked for by the Commission as early as August 28, 1914, it was impossible at this time to prove from the vast volume of statistics, as filed in their exhibits, that they would be justified in putting on additional service. The segregating of this report, according to the statement of the Company would take about ten days of an expert. When the final briefs are filed all this irrelevant matter, introduced by the Company, can be cut out and the issue clearly stated and the fact arrived at to the public necessity and reasonableness of the petition filed by the citizens of Morrow, Grant and Gilliam counties. As it fell to my lot to conduct the hearing before the Commission, I feel like saying to the public that the vilification indulged in while the Company was presenting their side of the case will in no way effect the final outcome of the hearing, as the Commission ruled that there had been nothing presented to show that the Chairman of this Committee had not acted in full authority given by the Heppner Commercial Club and as such authority given was on file with the Commission it was not necessary to call any witnesses in rebuttal. J. PERRY CONDER, Chairman of Committee.

Chas. Johnson was up from Lexington last night to appear as a witness before the R. R. Commission.

Something Doing!

IN COOKING UTENSILS

We have just received a shipment of the celebrated

Saluco Aluminum Ware

—the kind that sells for 25c the piece

There are a dozen or more patterns in the lot, including sauce pans, stew pans, pie plates, cake pans, dip-pers, salt and pepper shakers

This ware will stand the test

Watch our window for display and COME IN AND INVESTIGATE

SAM HUGHES COMPANY

Oregon's School For Oregon's Teachers

OREGON NORMAL SCHOOL Monmouth, Oregon

PURPOSE—The training of teachers for professional work. FACULTY—Every member professionally trained. DEPARTMENTS—For fitting elementary teachers for city and rural schools. COURSES—Professional, Supervisors, Rural, Primary. ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS—Completion of two years high school work or its equivalent. GRADUATION—Completion of Elementary of Standard courses leads to State Certificate without examination. TERMS BEGIN—Regular, February 4; Short, April 5. Summer, June 21. INFORMATION—For further information write to Registrar.

GOOD JACKS FOR SALE

The People of Morrow and Adjoining Counties

Have the opportunity now to get good Jacks, the best in the Northwest if not in the United States. 22 head to select from. On the EASTERN OREGON JACK FARM, Seven miles northeast of Lexington.

I keep no high salaried men to sell my Jacks and anyone in the market for Jacks who can come to my farm will save commission fees, etc.

If you do not find as good Jacks here as there are in the Northwest or the United States, I will pay expenses of your trip both ways, providing you are a competent judge and know a good Jack when you see it.

Let your wants be known. I solicit your correspondence.

B. F. SWAGGART

LEXINGTON :: :: OREGON

ANNOUNCEMENT



Owing to a demand for better facilities for handling valuable papers for our customers, and to a recent order from the Comptroller of the Currency regulating documents left in the hands of Banks or any of its officers, we have just received for installation a complete equipment of safety deposit boxes and vault fixtures manufactured expressly for this Bank. They are now being installed by a representative of the manufacturers and the public are cordially invited to call and inspect them.

Safety deposit boxes will be offered for rent to firms and individuals on reasonable terms. Each box is controlled by an individual key.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF HEPPNER