

SLAUGHTER OF DISTRICT PLAN SPELLS CALAMITY

Dunbar Carpenter Answers Arguments Advanced by Attorney Reames Against Irrigation Project—No Alternative Proposition—Valley Will Continue to Go Back.

To The Editor:

I have read with attention the communication of Mr. A. E. Reames, appearing in your issue of December 11th. The standing and ability of Mr. Reames are such that his views necessarily and rightly must be considered as the strongest possible statement of the case of those opposed. They are therefore deserving of close analysis.

Mr. Reames stresses the fact that he is in favor of irrigation. His statement must be taken at its face value; so it becomes unnecessary to devote any attention in considering the arguments advanced, to the basic need of water, both Mr. Reames and the proponents of the district being at one upon that point.

Mr. Reames apparently feels that the creation of a district necessarily means that the water will be taken from the Canal company, and rather than have that happen, he prefers water at all. I do not understand that he as any alternative proposition at least he suggests none in his letter, so it does not seem an unfair conclusion to draw that the opponents if the district are adopting merely negative attitude.

No Alternative Proposal.

It is hardly necessary to point out that first the directors of the district and finally the landowners themselves will decide from what source the water is to come. It appears certain that the only chance of getting irrigation at all lies in the organization of a district at this time. If there are other sources of water supply, that will be brought to the attention of the directors and members of the district at the proper time. I know from my own experience as secretary of the Water Users Association in 1915 that the only hope of accomplishing anything at all is to perfect an organization. It would appear that a more consistent attitude for these favoring irrigation on general principles but opposing the supply from the Canal company would be to vote for the incorporation of the district and afterwards, when the specific question is up for vote, to work and vote against the particular proposition to which they are opposed. I do not understand how they can now assume that only the offer of the Canal company will be considered.

Arguments Examined.

However, I should like to examine the arguments advanced by Mr. Reames. He feels, if I understand correctly, that the Canal company will not be able to deliver sufficient water, and he cites figures, mostly from arid eastern Oregon, to sustain his contention.

Mr. Reames may or may not be correct in his estimate of the amount of water to deliver in normal years. For the present, I will assume that four acre feet of water is the desirable minimum, and that year in and year out the Canal company will not be able to supply that amount. Mr. Reames does not indicate how much water the Canal company will probably have. Let us further assume that on an average, it will have only half that amount, one and one half acre feet. Does this necessarily condemn the proposition? Not as I see it.

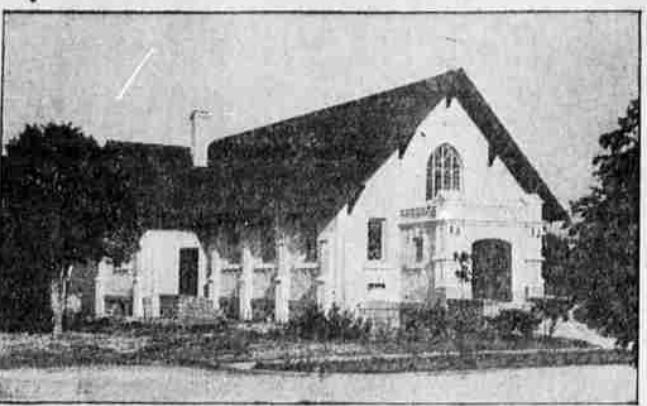
It appears to me that Mr. Reames' argument is based on the assumption that the Rogue river valley lies in an arid belt. But such is not the fact. If it were, if there were practically no precipitation, as is the case in eastern Oregon, it would obviously be unwise to bond lands to buy water which, with the normal rainfall, would never be sufficient to produce crops.

Average Rainfall.

The weather reports extending over many years show that the rainfall around Medford varies greatly. Speaking only from memory, it is my recollection that in some years the precipitation has been over forty inches, that thirty is not uncommon, that the minimum is fifteen inches, and that extending over a large number of years, the normal, not average, precipitation is above twenty-three inches.

It will be granted, I think, that when the rainfall in any one year aggregates in excess of thirty-five inches no irrigation will be required. For the sake of this argument, I will grant that when the precipitation is under twenty inches, the Canal company will not be able to deliver sufficient water to mature large crops. Please understand clearly that I am

New St. Marks Church to be Dedicated on Sunday



St. Mark's, the handsome new Episcopal edifice at the corner of North Oakdale and Fifth streets, has been completed and the opening services and the ceremony of laying the cornerstone will be held tomorrow. The Rt. Rev. Walter Taylor Sumner, bishop of Oregon, will be in attendance and preliminary to the Sunday ceremonies there will be an informal social gathering at St. Mark's hall Saturday evening at 8:30 of the members of the parish and St. Mark's Guild, in honor of the bishop.

The services will be as follows: At 8 a. m., holy communion; at 11 a. m., Bishop Sumner will deliver a sermon and bless the altar. Special music will be provided for this occasion. The services of laying the corner-

stone will be held at 2:30 in the afternoon, Bishop Sumner officiating. Evening prayer will be held at 7:30. The public is cordially invited to these services.

St. Mark's is one of the most attractive and substantial church buildings in Medford, built of concrete and brick at a cost of \$5000, with interior furnishings representing an additional outlay of \$2000. It was principally through the efforts of Rev. William Hamilton, vicar of this parish, that this structure was erected and completed. For the past three years he has labored unceasingly to secure the funds to build a home for his congregation, one that they and the city might look upon with pride.

A majority of the landowners—men who have their all at stake—are going to follow their representatives, after further investigation and full report by their directors as to any plan recommended, equally blind to destruction, passes ordinary human comprehension.

DUNBAR F. CARPENTER.
San Francisco, Dec. 14, 1916.

MANY EXPERTS AT FARMERS WEEK

No men anywhere in the world know more about their specialties than some of the big men selected to discuss the important questions which they will handle at the Farmers and Home Makers' Week at the Oregon Agricultural college from Jan. 2 to 6. Some of the leaders are as follows: E. N. Houser, grain exporter, Portland; L. M. Jeffries, U. S. grain standardizer; R. D. Jarbo, chief of grain inspection, Washington; L. F. Russell, leading prune authority in the world's prune center, Washougal, Washington; J. B. Neff, California's nut expert, Anaheim, Cal.; J. A. Churchill, state superintendent of schools; R. E. Ellington, assistant chief western dairy division, Salt Lake; W. E. Meyer, testing association specialist, Salt Lake; Capt. Paul Weyrauch, president Fruit Growers' Agency, Inc., Walla Walla; E. C. Schroeder, noted Holstein breeder, Moorehead, Minn.; Telmer Rabild, in charge of dairy farm investigations, Washington, D. C.; and Miss Alice Havenhill, noted English child specialist.

Miss Anna M. Turley, extension specialist in home economics, has the following to say: "I feel we should give special attention and urge that the women of the rural communities come to this conference. The men, perhaps do not need as much encouragement to get them away from home as the women do, so I want to add that you urge the women of your county to come for the week. All those interested please notify the county pathologist's office as arrangements are under way for charting a special car."

Unquestionably Mr. Reames is perfectly sincere. It is to be feared, however, that others who are against irrigation in toto from whatever source are sheltering themselves behind his implied-demonstrated influence and public spirit. If they can kill the proposed district because it may take water from the Canal company, you will find that they have equal-strong and valid objections to any other plan proposed hereafter. Any red herring will do to draw across a trail one does not wish to be followed.

In view of the clear warning given that the Canal company is trying to "unload," I cannot think so poorly of the intelligence and integrity of the men you will elect as your directors as to believe for an instant that they are going to walk blindfolded into the trap set, according to Mr. Reames, in the sight of all men, or to sell out to any concern, thus assuring their own ruin. The further assumption that

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50 PERCENT GAIN IN ALFALFA CROP THROUGH WATER

Even Best Alfalfa Land in Valley, Yielding Three Cuttings Without Water, Increased 50 Per Cent With Water as Proved by Experience of Fred H. Hopkins on Snowy Butte.

One of the pioneers in the use of irrigation in this valley is Fred H. Hopkins of Central Point, who has been a water-user for the past nine years. The Hopkins lateral, one of the first to be constructed, was built to carry water to his Snowy Butte orchard, and was named after him. Water was expensive to obtain in those days; it entailed the construction of flumes and ditches by the water-user, yet these expenses were cheerfully borne by Mr. Hopkins, who realized the necessity and benefits of irrigation. The reason for using water, in dollars and cents, was outlined by Mr. Hopkins Friday by a comparison of irrigated and non-irrigated yields on his thirty-nine-acre field of alfalfa bordering the Pacific highway near Central Point.

Mr. Hopkins' alfalfa land consists of heavy Bear creek bottom land, the kind of land that opponents of irrigation unite in declaring does not need water, because it will grow good alfalfa crops without it, better, perhaps, than nine-tenths of the land in the valley, yet water made a 50 per cent increase in yield.

Without water three cuttings were made in the 1915 season, the first of 102 tons, the second 51 tons and the third 18 tons, or a total yield of 171 tons, which at \$10 per ton realized \$1710, or about \$43.80 per acre.

Water was applied in the 1916 season and the following amounts were cut: First 101 tons, second 100 tons, third 50 tons. This makes a total yield of 251 tons, at \$10 per ton—\$2510, or about \$64.30 per acre. The distinct gains from the use of water, it will be seen, was in holding up the yield in the second and third cuttings.

The net gain from the use of water was \$20.50 per acre, or a total of \$800 for the field of 39 acres. From these figures it is easily seen why Mr. Hopkins is an ardent supporter of irrigation.

"In this valley," said Mr. Hopkins, "I would not think of farming without irrigation. It is the only thing for farmer or orchardist. I am and always have been a booster for irrigation."

BLEACHER SEAT BASEBALL GAME TO BE ABOLISHED

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—Permanent abolition of the bleacher seat—the 25-cent seat—is foreseen in the action of the National league, favoring a reduction of the seats in this section of the baseball grandstand to a "minimum." The club owners are desirous of going away entirely with the 25 cents, it is explained, but in the cities where they have been a fixture for years, the proposed change will have to be made gradually.

President Ebbets of the Brooklyn club is father of the movement to reduce the cheap seats to a minimum, and it is strongly favored by all the club owners. He claimed that if something was not done to increase revenue and cut down expenses the business of operating baseball clubs would become a losing proposition.

Prior to the adjournment yesterday the magnates of the National league took further action for the curtailment in operating expenses by recommending unanimously a retrenchment in players' salaries. The salary list of more than one of the National league clubs last season exceeded \$100,000 and the probable reduction may be estimated by the statement of one club owner, who said that he expected to cut his salary list by at least one-fifth.

Changes in the rules governing the world's series, as proposed by August Herrmann and President Tener, were recommended by the league. These include the provision that the players of the two teams competing in the series receive a stipulated amount and that a percentage of the receipts be divided among the players on the other clubs finishing in the first division of each league. By this plan, it was claimed, interest would be stimulated among the second division clubs in their efforts to finish "with in the money." After the plan is drawn up in direct form it will be submitted for approval at a meeting of the two leagues. This meeting will probably take place in February.

Mrs. Geo. Aakler, from Bozeman, Montana, arrived here Thursday evening to spend the Christmas holidays with her daughter, Mrs. P. Donohof. They expect to start for San Diego the first of the year to spend a few months, where Mr. Aakler will join them later.

FOUR CANDIDATES SEEK MAYORALTY

Four candidates are now in the field for election to the mayoralty of the city. Friday petitions were circulated for the nominations of J. H. Cooley, independent and H. O. Nordwick, prohibitionist for mayor. C. E. Gates has already declared his intention of running on the business men's ticket, while the petition calling for the nomination of F. V. Medynski on the people's progressive non-partisan ticket, was filed Saturday afternoon at the city recorder's office. This petition, which bore 45 names, is the first to be filed for any candidate for city office at the January election.

The contest for councilman in the second ward promises to be close. John Carlin is in the field on the business men's ticket, O. C. Boggs is running as an independent, while it is probable that H. L. DeArmond will be the candidate of the people's party.

Charles Pruett was a Medford visitor from Butte Creek Saturday.

Catarrh Cannot Be Cured

with LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal medicine. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quick medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best blood purifiers, combined with the best blood purifiers acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing catarrh. Send for testimonials, free.

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Something for Every Member of the Family

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Cigarettes	Magazine Stands	Parlor Tables	Rocking Horses
Shaving Stands	Sewing Stands	Costumers	Doll Carts
Leather Rockers	Writing Desks	Tabourettes	Black Boards
Sewing Rockers	Dressing Tables	Silverware, Chafing Dishes	Tricycles
Parlor Cabinets	Brass Beds	Cut Glass, Percolators	"Irish" Mail
Library Tables	Buffets	China Ware	Air Rifles
Foot Stools	China Cabinets	Hand-painted Plates	Express Wagons
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