

NEW IRRIGATION CODE PROVIDES CERTIFIED BONDS

Assistant State Engineer Summarizes Work of Legislation for Irrigation—Three Directors for Districts Instead of Five—Land Owners Must Have One Acre to Vote.

By PERCY A. CUPPER (Assistant State Engineer.)

The new irrigation code enacted by the recent legislature changes a number of minor details relative to organization, the most important, perhaps, being the substitution of three directors for five and the provision that no land owner in the district shall be entitled to vote unless he owns one acre or more of land. Under the new statute the state engineer is required to either approve or disapprove a project and is authorized to make a field inspection. He is also required to approve the works of the district before final payment to the contractor is made. Changes were made in the sections relative to the issuance of bonds. While the old statute made it mandatory that a bond election should be held, it is optional under the new law and the time of maturity of bonds is left to the discretion of the district. The provisions of the statute relative to the making of assessments was changed in order to make it possible to assess irrigated lands within the district in proportion to the benefits they received from the construction of the irrigation works.

Certification of Bonds.

The most important addition to the old statute is the provision of the new law relating to the certification of bonds. This statute was patterned after the successfully operating statute in California and provides that any irrigation district may make application to a board consisting of the state engineer, attorney general and the superintendent of banks to have the bonds of the district certified.

This board is required to make an examination of the lands in the district, pass upon the amount of available water supply, the feasibility of the project in general and determine whether the lands in the district, together with the works to be constructed with the money arising from the issuance of bonds and other assets of the district are equal to twice the amount of the bond issue to be certified.

If the board finds conditions satisfactory and all requirements of the statute are complied with, a report is made to the secretary of state, who in turn is required to certify the irrigation district bonds. When the bonds are so certified they become legal investments "for all trust funds and for the funds of all insurance companies, banks, both commercial and savings, trust companies and bonding companies and whenever any money or funds may be lawfully invested in bonds of cities, counties, school districts or other municipalities in the state of Oregon, such money or funds may be invested in the said bonds of irrigation districts and whenever bonds of cities, counties, school districts or municipalities may by any law now or hereafter enacted be used as security for the performance of any act, bonds of irrigation districts under the limitations in this act provided, may be so used, and may also be used as security for the deposit of public money in the banks of said state."

No Experiments Tried.

While it is difficult to determine in advance how a new statute will operate, almost every feature of the new law has been worked out in actual practice either in this state or some other state and the revision of the statute has been such as to eliminate only those features of the old law which have been found unsatisfactory. For this reason it is believed that Oregon now has the best irrigation district law on the statute books.

The organization of a large number of irrigation districts within the past year and the prospect that a number of new districts will be organized in the near future points to the fact that irrigation development in the future will be almost exclusively under the irrigation district plan. It is, therefore, of great importance to the state that we have a statute under which these districts can successfully operate, and also a statute under which bonds may be issued and find a market.

The provision for the certification of bonds is a new feature of the new law. It is a provision which has been found in California and which has been found to be a very successful feature of the California law. It is a provision which has been found to be a very successful feature of the California law.

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of irrigation district bonds should develop a ready market for these securities and also improve the market for irrigation district bonds not certified, as such bonds may now be handled by contractors and others with the assurance that as soon as the works are constructed and the land increased in value the bonds can be certified and find a ready market. Undoubtedly the passage of the irrigation district law will greatly stimulate irrigation development in this state.

For Tumalo Project.

An appropriation of \$25,000 was requested from the legislature for an investigation and repair of the Tumalo reservoir on the state's irrigation project in Deschutes county. An appropriation of \$10,000 was allowed for this purpose and it is generally conceded that this appropriation will make it possible to determine the condition of the reservoir and repair the same if it is feasible to do so. It is also generally conceded that the leaks so far developed can be stopped.

House bill No. 258 provides for the cancellation of permits issued by the state engineer. Whenever in the opinion of the state water board the terms of a permit have not been complied with and it will operate to the advantage of the state to have the same cancelled, the permit may be referred to the superintendent of the water division in which the place of use is located. All parties are given an ample opportunity to be heard and if in the opinion of the board the permit should be cancelled, the state engineer is authorized to cancel the same from his records. An appeal is allowed from the order of the board in the usual manner.

Cancellation of Permits.

Certain projects in the state have been delayed to some extent, due to the fact that permits of uncertain standing have not been cancelled from the records as no procedure was provided for the cancellation of the same. Under such permits in some cases only sufficient work had been done to constitute a beginning of construction work, and unless the same were voluntarily cancelled, it was practically impossible to clear the records of these uncertain filings. The enactment of this statute should be of considerable assistance to those who are endeavoring to construct irrigation projects.

Under the water code as passed in 1909, the circuit court to which was referred the findings of the state water board in an adjudication proceeding could take testimony without referring the matter to the state water board, and this was found objectionable and a statute was passed at the last session providing that in case any additional testimony was desired, the matter should be re-referred to the board for this purpose.

Drainage Law Amended.

In the organization of drainage districts in eastern Oregon a question was raised as to whether irrigated lands contributing to the swampy condition of other lands could be included in a drainage district and assessed, notwithstanding the fact that they received no direct benefit from the construction of the drainage works. The drainage law was accordingly amended so as to make it possible to include such lands in a drainage district and assess the same. In some cases the irrigated lands above are entirely responsible for the swampy condition of the lands below, and it seems that these lands should be assessed for a part of the reclamation works which their irrigation renders necessary.

As some effort was made at the last session of the legislature to abolish the desert land board, which has charge of the reclamation of the arid lands, but in view of the fact that the abolition of this board and the conferring of its duties on the state land board would eliminate the two members of the board technically entitled to receive most of the important features, the consolidation bill was defeated.

Fred Lay of Welles was a Medford business visitor Wednesday.



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JAPS WELCOME AMERICAN BREAK WITH GERMANY

TOKIO, Feb. 5.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—The diplomatic rupture between the United States and Germany was welcomed with enthusiasm throughout Japan. The press devoted columns to the news.

The interviews given by prominent diplomats and navy officers, all unnamed, to the press unanimously agreed that as the American navy is one of the strongest in the world, it would be an easy task to help crush the German naval power in event of a declaration of war.

Too much liberalism and leniency has been shown Germany by the United States says the Asahi. If President Wilson did not take a decisive step and declare war on Germany to force her to abandon her aggressive ambitions he would not be able to realize his ideas of lasting peace for the world.

Admiral Kato minister of the navy, in an interview said that if the American navy took the offensive against the Germans it would surely be effective in sweeping the German navy from the international sea routes and stop the menace to the world's shipping interests.

Margus Okuma in a brief interview declared that the determination of the United States was a natural course of the events of the past and now that America had openly pledged her hostile attitude it was needless to say that Germany would eventually be compelled to yield, abandoning her ambitions and aggressive designs. This was a cause of great congratulation for the sake of the world and the peace and happiness of humanity.

Fears that the situation would affect America's great importation of Japanese silk caused a panic in the Yokohama silk market.

OMAHA, Neb., Mar. 7.—A blizzard is prevailing today over northwestern, western and central Nebraska, according to reports received here. Snow has reached a depth of three feet on the Alliance division of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad. West of Haigler, Neb., to Akron, Colo., a blinding storm has caused abandonment of train service. The storm began Tuesday morning and is traveling south and east.

PAINS SHARP AND STABBING

Woman Thought She Would Die. Cured by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.



Ogdensburg, Wis.—"I suffered from female troubles which caused piercing pains like a knife through my back and side. I finally lost all my strength so I had to go to bed. The doctor advised an operation but I would not listen to it. I thought of what I had read about Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and tried it. The first bottle brought great relief and six bottles have entirely cured me. All women who have female trouble of any kind should try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound."

Mrs. LYRA DONOHUE, Ogdensburg, Wis. Physicians undoubtedly did their best, but with this case steadily and could do no more, but often the most scientific treatment is surpassed by the medicinal properties of the good old fashioned roots and herbs contained in Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

If any complication exists it uses to write the Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., Lynn, Mass., for special free advice.

SWEDISH MONARCH PETITIONS CABINET TO KEEP OFFICE

BERLIN, March 7.—The address of King Gustav of Sweden, in requesting the cabinet to retain office after the members had tendered their resignation, is quoted in an Overseas News agency (the German official news bureau) dispatch today as follows:

"I understand the difficulties which caused your resignation, I have, however, full confidence in my actual councillors, who are well acquainted with the extraordinary conditions created by the world war. A change of government under the present circumstances would not only occasion great difficulties, but might be interpreted as meaning a deviation, in one direction or the other, from the impartial policy of neutrality strictly adhered to hitherto and which I am firmly resolved to maintain in future."

"For this reason, considering the responsibility of my position, I cannot accede to your request. I beg you insistently to make all efforts to find a way out of the difficulties which caused your resignation. I therefore ask you to remain in your offices which I intrusted to you and hope that such a way out may be found."

The Swedish ministry resigned Monday, but at the request of King Gustav consented to remain in office in the hope of arranging the crisis. The resignation followed a defeat of the government in parliament the previous Saturday on a governmental request for the appropriation of 30,000,000 crowns to be used in preserving Sweden's neutrality, only one-third of the sum requested being granted.

SPEED UP RETURN OF BORDER TROOPS

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March 7.—Orders were received by southern department headquarters today to "speed up" the return movement of state troops from the border to that

Great European Recipe for Catarrh, Clogged Nostrils, Catarrhal Deafness, Head Noises

Few people realize what a serious disease catarrh really is. If neglected the damage it does is often irreparable. Deafness, lung troubles and head noises that drive the sufferer nearly frantic are invariably due to this insidious disease. Don't neglect catarrh! Don't let it make you into a worn-out, run down catarrhal wreck. What is catarrh today may soon be something far more serious. Remember it is more than a trifling ailment—more than a disgusting disease. Its a dangerous one. Unchecked it frequently destroys smell, taste and hearing and slowly but surely undermines the general health.

If you have catarrh in any form go to your druggist and get an ounce of Parmit's (double strength) about 75c worth. Take this horse and get to it 1-1 pint of hot water and 4 ounces ordinary granulated sugar. Take a tablespoonful four times a day. Parmit is the great European recipe for catarrh that is now being so extensively sold here in America where it is giving satisfaction even under our own trying climatic conditions.

Catarrh being a disease of the blood, the only possible way to cure it is by treating the blood itself. Drive the catarrhal poisons from the system by treating the blood and the disease itself must vanish. Parmit has been successful in so many cases because it acts directly upon the blood and mucous membrane.

To be able to breathe freely, to hear painlessly, smell, taste and arise in the morning refreshed and strong and with head and throat free from phlegm are conditions that make life worth living.

For your own sake give Parmit a trial—and with your whole system crying for relief—why not start the treatment now? Parmit is sold and recommended by all first class druggists.

Health's Drug Store, Strang's, Haskins, Medford Pharmacy, West Side Pharmacy can supply you.

Our Opening Sale of Silks, Wool Dress Goods and Wash Materials is an Authentic Spring Display

We felt mighty enthusiastic over our Opening Sale of Silks and Dress Fabrics and by the great crowds of women who have already been in and chosen from the largest assortment of novelty and staple fabrics which we are showing at little prices we are sure that our Opening Display is more than a sale. It is an event extraordinary.

Spring Silks of Every Color, Weave and Design are Shown, also Wool Dress Goods and Wash Fabrics

So wonderful in the matter of values is this event that we invite you all to partake of the economies which we can offer for only a little while longer.

SEE THESE PRICES OUR GREATEST SALE OF SILKS

- 32-inch Imported Pongee, all silk, well worth \$1.00, for this sale only, **69c**
- Silk Poppins 40-inch Silk and Wool Poppins, in almost every new spring shade, this cloth is cheap today at \$1.50, for this sale, **\$1.39**
- Silk Chiffon Just received, a full line of fine chiffons, 40 inches wide, worth \$1.25 a yard, for this sale, **\$1.15**
- Georgette Crepe This beautiful cloth comes in all colors, very popular for waists, worth \$2, special, yard, **\$1.75**
- 32-inch Jap Silk, fine quality, worth today 75c, for this sale, yard, **59c**
- \$2.00 Taffeta \$1.48
- 36-inch All Silk Taffeta, chiffon finish, comes in black and colors, well worth \$2.00, this sale, yard, **\$1.48**
- Fancy Silks 36 inches wide, comes in the much wanted sport stripes and plaids, real values \$2.25 a yard, **\$1.75** for this sale only
- "Kayser's" Silks The latest fabric for sport coats, skirts and suits, this cloth is knitted, not woven, comes in a beautiful line of colors, special **\$2.48** at

Thursday's Specials

- 5000 yards of fine Zephyr Gingham, fast colors, worth today 20c, our price, yard, **15c**
- School Day Cloth, the best fabric for children's dresses and boys' waists, fast colors, beautiful patterns, a regular 25c grade, very special, **22c**
- 50 pieces of new Galatea for middies and dresses, fast colors, very special, yard, **22c**
- 32-inch fine Batiste in a wonderful line of patterns, fast colors, very special, yard, **18c**
- "Agatha" Percales, 36 in. wide, cheap at 20c and will soon be worth 25c, for this sale, **17c**

Don't Miss This Sale of Woolen Goods We Can Save You 25 per ct on Dress Goods

- 50 pieces of beautiful new Fancy Stripes and Plaids for skirts and suits in the new spring colors, very special for this sale, **69c**
- Mohair Stripes, 36 inches wide, in blue, brown and green, very stylish for spring wear, very special, yard, **69c**
- Shepherd Checks, 54 in. wide, for making coats and suits, all wool, worth \$2.25, for this sale only, **\$1.75**
- Silverbloom, the new cloth for sport skirts, will wash molar finish, special, yard, **75c**
- Wash Corduroy, 56 inches wide, in white only for coats and suits, worth \$1.00, for this sale **75c**
- Velour Coatings, in the much wanted shades for spring coats, 54 inches wide, worth today, \$4.00, a yard, for this sale, a yard, **\$3.25**
- Storm Serge, 42 inches wide, sponged and shrank. Colors, navy and black. Cheap at \$1.50 sale price, yd., **\$1.25**
- Coating Serge, 56 inches wide, sponged and shrank, the best wearing cloth made. Special, a yard, **\$2.75**
- Fancy Suiting, 54 inches wide, comes in plaids and stripes, a splendid cloth for suits and coats, special, yd., **\$1.98**
- Bedford Cord, 42 inches wide, white for baby coats and separate skirts, very special, yd., **\$1.50**



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