

FARMERS TALK FOR NEW FLUME

The stockholders of the Farmers' Irrigating company met Saturday forenoon in the rooms of the Commercial club and discussed the advisability of repairing the high flume over Pine creek or building a new flume and ditch along the bank of the bluff, something that would be permanent. The meeting was called by the board of directors for the purpose of ascertaining the sentiment of the stockholders regarding the proposed improvements.

"The board of directors realize these improvements should be made, and they have the authority to make them," explained President Blowers as he called the meeting to order, "but we wish to make no large expenditure of money without the stockholders understanding just why the money was spent and the extent of the necessity for extending any sum the board should appropriate."

After much talking on and off the subject at hand the board was upheld in their action by a motion that carried unanimously.

The notice of the meeting place was given as the K. of P. hall, but with such a small number present at the opening hour, and no one having a key to the hall, the farmers adjourned to the rooms of the Commercial club. Last spring the spacious rooms of the opera house would hardly hold all who wanted to listen to the proceedings, but the Commercial club rooms accommodated all who were present Saturday morning. Before the meeting was well under way there were 50 or more there.

After waiting some time for Manager Staten, who was to be present with a detailed report of the findings of the examining committee who went over the ditch, President Blowers called the meeting to order and explained himself the intent of the meeting.

"After a careful and thorough examination of the high flume over Pine creek, the board finds it must make extensive repairs to the flume, which is in very bad condition, or expend a larger sum in constructing a flume and ditch along the bluff, something that would be permanent," went on Mr. Blowers. "To the casual observer, the high flume may be considered in fairly good condition, but close observation will demonstrate that the timbers are very rotten, and that it will require a large amount of repair work. A ditch is expensive, we know, but it should last a life time, while repairs will last but a few years at best. Joe Wilson made the survey for us around the hillside. We feel that the repairs should be permanent. We do not wish to throw money away on temporary repairs. Something must be done—the flume repaired or a ditch built. We prefer to build a ditch, but wish to get the sentiment of the stockholders in the matter before expending the money."

N. C. Evans, a former member of the board of directors, considered that the whole matter properly belonged to the board. "They have the power to do what is necessary and should proceed as they see fit," said Mr. Evans. "If the cost of repairs will exceed ten per cent of the cost of the flume a new one should be built. The sale of the unused stock will bring in all the money required for the building of a ditch, but if not at present, it would be a business proposition to borrow the money and make repairs that are permanent. No flume is supposed to last over ten years."

President Blowers then stated that one of the reasons for calling the meeting was the fact that there are no funds in the treasury. The sale of all additional stock that will be made this winter must go toward paying for the unused stock in the Valley Improvement company. To make the repairs on the flume or build a new ditch will necessitate the borrowing of money or an added cost to the price of water next summer. It was then brought to light that the matter of settling up the affairs of the O. Valley Improvement company seems to be in an undetermined status. "Mr. Davenport," said Mr. Evans, "reported having received 100 cents on the dollar for stock in the old company, although there is no record of it. It was also shown at a recent meeting of the stockholders of the Valley Improvement company that more shares had been issued than the company was incorporated for." Mr. Evans considered that the present ditch company would have to pay for all unused stock, whatever it was, as it could not well repudiate the balance of the shares.

Mr. Blowers said he had attended the same meeting of the Valley Improvement company and that it was finally agreed that the stockholders would be satisfied with 30 cents on the dollar, the amount secured by the principal stockholders when they sold the property to the farmers. This will have to be paid. Lee Morse wanted to know if the farmers would be held responsible for the payment of 40 excess shares, since the Farmers' Irrigating company had been given an indemnity bond of \$10,000 to cover all debts in excess of the purchase price of the ditch as agreed upon last winter.

Manager Staten had come in and President Blowers called upon him for his report. It was in substance what Mr. Blowers had stated at the opening of the meeting.

The flume in many places is defective and will require much work for repairs. The channel in the ditch has been cleaned of all rocks. At the "slab pile" the ditch is in very bad shape. Some 200 feet of new cribbing will be required. The underpinning at Pine creek is in poor condition. "Wiglass" waiting last summer located the weak spots and kept the flume from falling down in the middle of the summer.

The flume this year was taxed to its utmost capacity, then why should it be expected to carry 300 more inches this coming year? Between Ditch creek and the high trestle the cut is four inches high, and the water was backed up in the flume four inches. There is a marginal difference of seven to ten inches in the water level in the flume from Ditch creek to Pine creek.

The east approach to the bridge is very unreliable. Fourteen new beams must be put in, and it will require 4200 feet of lumber in the approaches. The main span is in good shape. The flume over Pine creek will require 6000 feet of lumber. The timber on this high trestle appear sound below, but up among the braces they are in very bad shape. The manager couldn't guarantee the safety of the structure even with an outlay of \$400 in repairs for a distance of 200 feet or more. By building along the bluff the high flume would be entirely eliminated and for much of the distance a permanent ditch could be constructed.

Morse again stated that the directors should proceed with the work. Evans said the ditch last summer could have carried 300 inches more than it really did.

To this Staten replied that the farmers could make a personal examination for themselves, if they could not justify the discrepancy of the two statements regarding the condition of the Pine creek flume. He proposed to see that there was no cry of "graft" in the expenditure of the company's money, and wanted the farmers to thoroughly understand the necessity for any outlay of money that may be made.

J. T. Nealeigh wanted to know the cost of the proposed new ditch and flume. Mr. Staten considered \$2500 sufficient, but on second thought concluded it would be \$3000. At this there was a general expression in favor of building the permanent ditch.

The question of funds again came under consideration. Blowers said he did not think there would be sufficient sale of stock to pay this and other expenses. Geselling wanted to know if water would be sold this year to outsiders. This little shot precipitated a general fusillade. Evans declared the stockholders have no right to sell water. It was permitted last year because of agreements before the signing of the contracts. The original intent of the corporation would not permit the shareholders to speculate in the sale of the water.

It seems that Charley Ross put up \$3000 for 100 shares last spring in order that the company might have the money, and with the understanding that he would have the privilege of selling the surplus water to bring him interest on his money that he so kindly let the company have the use of. Now the question arises, can Mr. Ross continue to sell water this coming year? It was the consensus of opinion that he could not, but that he should be allowed to unload his surplus stock to those who needed it.

Benson stated that it was against his wishes that Mr. Ross secured more stock than he wanted. Mr. Kellogg spoke against the selling of water, and returning to the original question, wanted to know if it was advisable to repair the old flume, when the farmers could not be guaranteed that the structure would not break down in the middle of the berry season.

Lee Morse moved that the action of the board be accepted and that they use their judgment in building a new flume or patching up the old one.

Mr. Evans arose to explain the uselessness of such a move, and to point out some glaring defects in the procedure of the meeting. The chairman considered the motion proper enough. While it wasn't actually required it would express the sentiment of the farmers.

Before a vote could be taken, Manager Staten started a bombardment at N. C. Evans, concerning some surveys the latter had made last summer for the ditch company, but the field notes of which had never been given into the custody of the new manager.

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N. C. Evans wanted to know of the board of directors if, when they constructed the new flume, they would charge the cost to repairs or construction. If they kept on charging much work to repairs, when the entire stock is finally sold there would be something like \$40,000 to pay a \$20,000 indebtedness.

Lecture on Theosophy. Editor Glacier: In view of the fact that the subject of Theosophy has been so much misunderstood and so grossly misrepresented in our vicinity a few of the adherents and students of this beautiful philosophy (which embraces the very essence of religion) have decided to hold a meeting, free to the public, where the tenets and teachings of Theosophy will be set forth and explained in a lucid and simple manner.

A short paper will be read by Mrs. Louise Goddard and questions will be answered by her and others present who have made a study of the subject. The meeting will be held in Carmichael hall on Saturday evening, November 26 at 8 p. m. sharp, and all are invited to come and hear the truth regarding this philosophy, which is comparatively new in our midst, but world-old in Eastern countries, where it has been a potent factor in the promotion of civilization and the humanization of the race.

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BIG APPLES WERE GREAT SURPRISE

G. L. Robinson, who returned Friday morning from a six-weeks' trip to St. Louis and the East, says the big Hood River apples were a source of much surprise to the World's fair visitors. Many of them had no idea that any such fruit could be grown on the Pacific coast, and when they saw the apples, they wanted to come to Portland next year to see the country where such fruit can be grown.

Mr. Robinson was at St. Louis when the Hood River apples were opened and put on display. There wasn't anything there to compare with the Hood River apples, said Mr. Robinson. The Hood River apples eclipsed everything in the horticultural building, and caused Oregon to be more talked about than anything else that had been placed on exhibition. Mr. Robinson was one of the Hood River men who had vegetables on exhibition at the fair.

Mr. Robinson visited St. Louis and Indianapolis, and went on to Madison, his old home, which he had not seen for 31 years. That part of Indiana, which one day was filled with fruit, today has no orchards. The old trees all went to ruin and have been grubbed out.

On his way home Mr. Robinson stopped at Grand Canyon, Col. This is the great Colorado fruit section. They raise good apples and strawberries there, but the strawberries will not stand the shipments that the Hood River berries do. The fruit association there took note of how the Hood River berries were hard and fresh after a 1000-mile trip, while the homegrown fruit was wilted the next day after being picked, and took the address of the Hood River Fruit Growers' union that they may secure some plants from here.

Grand Canyon can grow some fine apples, as Mr. Robinson proved by some samples of highly colored Winesaps, which he brought with him for inspection. The Spitznberg cannot be grown there. Mr. Robinson says for their fancy apples the Grand Canyon orchardists received this year \$1.50 a box.

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A. A. JAYNE, Secretary. GEORGE T. PRATHER, Selling Agent.

COLUMBIA RIVER AND NORTHERN RY CO.

Time Schedule Effective Sept. 1, 1904. DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAYS. Connecting at Lyle with Regular Line steamers for Portland and way landings.

No. 6 MILES	STATIONS.	No. 5 LEAVE A.M.
0	Goldendale	6.30
7	Centerville	6.48
14	Daly	7.02
28	Wahkiacus	7.45
32	Wrights	7.55
36	Gravel Pit	8.05
43	Lyle	8.35

Train will leave Lyle on arrival of the Regular steamers from Portland.

Time Schedule Str. "Geo. W. Simons." Effective, Sept. 5, 1904.

A.M. LEAVE	ARRIVE P.M.
7.00	Cascade Locks 6.15
7.10	Stevenson 6.05
7.30	Carson 5.45
8.00	Collins 5.15
8.25	Dranco 4.45
8.45	Menominee 4.25
9.05	White Salmon 4.05
9.20	Hood River 3.45
9.45	Mooser 3.30
10.40	Lyle 2.45
11.30	The Dalles 2.00

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Some Bargains. 1. 6 acres one mile out, all in berries. A beautiful location—will be sold at a bargain. 2. Two 20 acre tracts, on East Side. All set to apples; best varieties. 3. 34 acres—one mile out, set to apples, pears, clover and strawberries. 4. 42 acres—4 miles out, 16 acres in orchard—10 in full bearing. First-class improvements. A beautiful home. 5. 80 acres—3 acres 7-year-old apple trees, balance in clover and general farming. New four room house. 6. 40 acres in the most beautiful portion of the valley. 4 acres in orchard one year old, 3 1/2 acres in berries, 4 acres in alfalfa, balance general farming. 7. 10 acres four miles out; splendid soil; 1 acre apples, best varieties; one year planted. 1 1/2 acres in strawberries, 2 acres in potatoes, 5 acres in clover. 8. A number of 10, 20 and 40 acre tracts of unimproved land, that will bear investigation. Also a number of large tracts from 160 to 320 acres in Oregon and Washington. Some few residences and lots in every portion of the city. W. J. BAKER, Real Estate Agent, Hood River, Oregon.

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R. B. Bragg & Co. Ladies' Skirts--New Arrivals. We