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GOVERNMENT WILL FAVOR LAKE COUNTY

That Goose Lake Will be Drained at an Early Date Seems Certain-- County's Development is Assured.

There now seems little reason to doubt that the United States Government officials have inspected arid lands in Lake county were favorably impressed as to the practicability of certain irrigation schemes in the county and that they have made reports so favorable to their adoption, that the government has decided to withhold the lands available for irrigation under government auspices, in all forms of entry. There are in the Northern part of Lake County about 250,000 acres of land included in three irrigation schemes, which we can be no doubt, the United States intends to reclaim by irrigation, though when the work will begin may not yet be determined. At this point there may be something of the people to do, in making a presentation of many strong reasons why the actual work should begin as early a date as may be found practicable.

It is to be remembered that some of the very best of these lands have been applied for by the state of Oregon under the Cary act, at the solicitation of a corporation known as the Portland Irrigation Company. We do not know that this company has not yet given some trouble and some delay in the Government's commencement of the work, unless some steps shall be taken by the people interested, to bring about a final determination of this matter by the Government, and this corporation is retired from the position of a claimant to the land. We cannot know now, that the Portland Irrigation Company is no longer in the way of the adoption and execution by the government of the Chewaucan scheme.

There is, however, every reason to believe it has been ruled against the withdrawal of the lands from entry in any form, clearly indicates the purpose of the Government to hold the lands for irrigation in its own scheme, and the company has never moved a wheel of dirt, nor done any other act which we know that tended to the establishment of its claim, but to

make some surveys of ditches and reservoir sites. So their rights can be of little value.

We should certainly adopt some plan of ascertaining what is the precise situation of our irrigation schemes. What progress has been made toward completion of the plans of government work, and when it may be expected the work can be taken up in earnest. If we had more information, we might find we could do something to hasten the beginning of work. We should be active and alert to find whether we may not do something to forward the interests of Lake county.

There are 70,000 acres of virgin soil, as good as the best in Lake county, included in the Chewaucan scheme alone, now unproductive, that, by government drainage and irrigation will be made to yield crops equal to the very best farms in Lake County. Now think of what that means. It is at least equal to the present reliably productive area of Goose Lake valley, in Oregon.

To see this land reclaimed, and every acre of it yielding bountiful crops, which it must when watered, to have a thrifty enterprising farmer and stock raiser on each 160 acre tract, and to feel the new life infused into every business and industry in Lake county by it, seems something worth striving for; a condition of things to be hastened, if it could be promoted by any possible effort of our's. That Goose Lake is to be drained at an early date seems certain. There is covered by that part of the lake situated in Lake county about 80,000 acres of land. A large part of this, when uncovered will become very valuable meadow and agricultural land, which added to the projects in the Northern part of the County must almost double the productions of Lake county.

Lake county can well look with complacency and pride upon her future. We have a surety of development by government irrigation which will place us well to the head of the column of productive counties in southern Oregon.

More Indictments.

The Federal Grand Jury at Portland has returned indictments against nineteen prominent men of the State of Oregon for "conspiracy to prevent and obstruct free passage over, and the free use of public lands of the United States" situated in Wheeler county.

This is the Butte Creek Land Lumber and Livestock Company, and in this connection, Binger Hermann is again indicted, charged with aiding this conspiracy.

John H. Hall, Mr. Hency's immediate predecessor in the office of U. S. District Attorney, is also included in the list of persons charged with this offense. Henry Meldrum and others, are indicted under the same section of the revised statutes, charged with conspiracy to defraud the United States, by making false and fraudulent surveys.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Malarkey's bill, making it a felony for a saloonist to sell liquor to a woman under 21 years of age, or to allow such a woman to be or remain in his house, or in any house or box connected with his saloon. The penalty may be imprisonment in the penitentiary not more than three years.

The Esch-Townsend railroad freight bill has passed the House of Representatives by a vote practically unanimous. In the face of this vote and the strong support to the bill given by all parties in all parts of the country it is not believed the bill can meet much opposition in the Senate.

Senator Gallinger, chairman of Merchant Marine Commission, has admitted there is not the remotest chance for his bill known as the Subsidy Bill, to pass this Congress.

The committee on appropriations in the House of Representatives at Salem has completed the estimate of State expenses for the ensuing two years, and find that it will be about \$2,150,000.

The House of Representatives at Washington does not seem disposed to allow the amended statehood bill to become law. Unless the Senate shall recede from its amendments to the bill, the temper shown by house republicans is to let the bill fail. Democrats favor the amended bill and hope enough republicans in the House may agree with them to pass it.

Both Houses of the Oregon legislature have voted against bills to abolish the Drain Normal School.

The Joint committee of both Houses of the legislature, has been appointed to investigate McMahan's charge of mismanagement at the State Penitentiary.

The following bills have passed both houses in the legislature, and await only the approval of the Governor to make them laws. Authorizing county courts to allow experimental roads to be built on public highways. Authorizing district boundary boards to condemn land for public school purposes. Requiring teachers in public schools to give 30 days notice of resignation.

The bill to license hunters has passed the state Senate unanimously, and has been unanimously reported for passage by the house committee on game. It will doubtless become a law.

Public Lands Commission Report.

The commission appointed to consider and report upon the advisability of changes in the land laws, has filed its report.

The commission believes the timber and stone acts should be repealed, and that a long and continuous residence on homesteads should supersede the present custom of commutation.

The following is their recommendation regarding grazing lands, taken from the Oregonian:

The question of control of the grazing lands of the Government is considered at length. It is estimated that there are 300,000,000 acres of land in this country apparently fit only for grazing purposes, and laws are recommended designed to prevent the constant destructive work perpe-

trated on these lands by trespassers and to prevent the frequent conflicts over public grazing lands among different classes of stockmen.

One of the recommendations is that the land laws and their administration be left in the hands of the Interior Department, and provides for Congressional legislation turning over the grazing privileges on the public domain to the Department of Agriculture with ample safeguards and protection to the actual settler. The report goes into a number of other matters with a view of protecting the immense public area of the country.

The commission consists of Commissioner Richards, of the General Land Office, Giffard Pinchot, chief of the Forestry Bureau, and F. H. Newell, in charge of the irrigation work of the Department of the Interior.

It is Finished.

Congressman J. N. Williamson has been indicted by the United States Grand Jury at Portland charged with subordination of perjury. Mr. Williamson and his partner, Dr. Guesner are accused of inducing 45 persons to enter land under contract that, title to the land taken should revert to them at a future time. They supplied money to make the entries.

Judge Albert H. Tanner, the law partner of Senator John H. Mitchell, has been indicted by the United States Grand Jury at Portland, charged with the crime of perjury. It is alleged that Judge Tanner swore falsely when testifying before the Federal grand jury during its investigations of transactions of his firm in matters which lead to the second indictment of Senator Mitchell.

Judge A. H. Tanner, law partner of Senator Mitchell, has plead guilty to the charge of Perjury, committed in his attempt to shield Senator Mitchell when testifying before the grand jury, and facts are disclosed which appear to be very damaging to the cause of Mr. Mitchell.

All Successful.

The examination of applicants for certificates to teach in the public schools of Lake county was completed last Thursday.

The entire class passed successful examinations. The following received certificates of the first grade:

Miss Myrtle M. Smith, Mrs. Lura Cloud, Miss Lizzie Moreland, J. Q. Willits. Miss Pearl Hartzog received a certificate of the third grade.

Mr. Paul, who is teaching in Klamath County was examined here for reasons of convenience, and his papers were sent to Klamath county to be marked.

Honor Themselves.

The democrats in Congress honor themselves in giving hearty support to the President in his determined effort to subject the railroads to government supervision in the matter of freight rates. But, they need not claim it as an exclusively democratic policy.

Democrats are sincerely friendly to the interests of the people, but they have no leader amongst them capable of uniting the country as Mr. Roosevelt has, and forcing legislation in the face of railroad opposition.

Not a county in the state of California that has not one or more, high schools. Modoc, the least populous of all, has two. Shall Lake not have one?

OLD TIMES AND OLD TIMERS

Further pursuing his reminiscences Mr. M. T. Walters said:

The first hotel in Lakeview was built by A. R. Jones, on the lot where the Brewery saloon now is. This hostelry, though unpretentious was a creditable frontier establishment, and many a weary traveler found there, the warmest hospitality, and much needed refreshment from a weary journey through a country very thinly inhabited. Most of our early visitors were from the Rogue River, or Willamett valley. They were to us as our news papers now are, and some of them were almost as "windy" as The Examiner. If a newspaper chanced to come into possession of one of us, it was passed around, and was read in every family, and re-read until worn out from handling it, though we were more careful with it than with money.

A. Snider was the first merchant to establish a business here, with Andy McClellan in charge, and Mr. McClellan was Lakeview's first Post Master, the office being kept in Mr. Snider's store, on the lot where Bailey & Massingill now do business. The arrival of the first mail was a great event; our papers then being a month old, seemed as fresh and new to us and were read with even more eagerness than we now read our dailies, 48 hours from the press.

Mart Hopkins was here early, being Lakeview's first blacksmith. Mart's residence I think, was where George Jammerthal's business establishment stands, and his shop on the opposite side of the street, probably where Mr. Lake's repair shop is. We must not regret those early days Mart, when we were so full of the vigor and hope of the young pioneer. They were days of hapiness, because they were days of love and hope and helpful effort. Days when a man would take off his shoes and give them to his friend.

Lakeview cannot forget us, nor does it wish to. Our names are in its earliest annals, and our work is in its foundation. There are others, who were with us then, and with cheerful hearts and willing hands, nobly did their part as helpful neighbors and strong co-workers with us in laying the corner-stone upon which Lakeview is built.

Of some of them I may talk some other day."

Meeting of Supervisors.

The meeting of Polk County road supervisors, called by the County Court to meet in Dallas yesterday, was attended by practically every supervisor in the county, and will be, it is predicted, the starting point for a great good-roads wave that will roll over the county. However, the County Court made no positive promises. A motion asking purchase of a rock-crusher, graders and rollers was carried by a large majority- but it is understood that the court will not purchase a crusher this season, though possibly one grader and roller, one for every three districts, may be supplied and the dirt work for a large amount of road be done this season.

The commissioners say available quarries, price of transportation and many other vital questions must be settled before the county will buy a crusher.—Telegram.

Large Treasury Credit Balance.

The Oregon Treasury Department published a semiannual statement for the year ending Dec. 31st, which is a presentation of facts relating to Oregon finances, highly interesting.

There is on hand to the credit of the general fund \$385,000, as against \$300,000 at same time last year. This shows sufficient cash to defray the ordinary expenses of the State until 1905 begin to flow in.

There is on hand of the irreducible fund, only \$200,000 against \$200,000 at same time last year. This shows a larger amount of this fund to be at interest, and that is as it should be.

The total credit balance in the treasury to the credit of all funds is \$585,000.