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IRRIGATION PROJECT ASSURED.

The Hewitt Land Co. to Begin Survey at once.

PROJECT WILL COST \$300,000.

Construction Will Begin as Soon As Plans and Surveys can Be Completed.

(Special to The Examiner.)

Mr. M. Swartout of Tacoma, Washington who was expected in Lakeview last week and who represents the Hewitt Land Co., in Oregon, was unavoidably detained but the following statement was forwarded by him to The Examiner for publication:

"In August of 1906, Mr. M. Swartout and Mr. C. H. McKendree came to Lakeview for the purpose of inspecting the possibilities of an irrigation project in Goose Lake Valley. The conditions existing on the West side were found so favorable that the purchase of lands tributary to Drews Creek was considered a safe investment. F. M. Miller of the Bank of Lakeview and Mr. C. H. McKendree were authorized to make such purchases as they might deem advisable, and Mr. McKendree has, since that time, acquired title to several thousand acres of land. The unbounded faith of this company and its representatives in the future of Lake county, and in Goose Lake Valley in particular, has led them to spare no expense in investigating the possibility of reclamation of what would now be considered arid lands.

For this purpose the services of Mr. M. D. Williams, a Civil Engineer, now located at Klamath Falls were retained, and he has been for the past two months engaged in making a study of the lands, reservoir sites and the water supply, and has submitted a favorable report on the entire project. Mr. Williams is an Engineer of exceptionally varied experience as regards irrigation, having followed that particular line of work for the past ten years throughout the entire West. Four years of that time having been with the U. S. Reclamation Service as Reconnaissance Engineer, which work has made him familiar with the conditions existing on the Projects of the U. S. Reclamation in the 17 Western States and with the private systems adjacent to them. This familiarity with Irrigation matters has led the Co. to place implicit faith in his judgment.

The Engineers' report having determined the feasibility of the Project it is now the intention of the Company to proceed with the work of construction as soon as the necessary details can be arranged and weather conditions will permit.

It is hoped that water may be furnished for the Irrigation of approximately 30,000 acres of land, the larger portion of which will be in private ownership.

The present plan of the Company is to furnish water at the smallest possible cost to the Land Owners, and to

arrange for the payment of the same in a number of annual payments, the amount of which to be determined by the total cost of the Project and the number of acres which may be signed for irrigation by the owners. Lands owned by the Company will all be signed for irrigation and will stand their pro rata amount of the cost.

As soon as detailed estimates of the cost can be compiled the figures will be submitted to the people and steps will be taken to organize a Water Users' Association. In general the same plan will be followed as that adopted by the U. S. Government on the Projects under construction by the Reclamation Service, which is that the title to the works and the water will be turned over to the Stock Holders as members of the Water Users' Association as soon as payments for Water Rights are paid up. It is not the intention of the Company to derive a revenue from the Irrigation works as is common on projects of a similar character but to share with the people on the cost of the project and in the increased valuation of the lands which are to be reclaimed.

The foregoing will show the successful completion of the project is entirely dependent upon the co-operation of the people in the matter of signing their lands, and it is hoped that when the proposition is submitted to them that it will meet with their approval and be deserving of their support.

To the people of Lakeview who may be directly or indirectly interested we can say that we hope to be of material assistance in the upbuilding of the town and will do everything in our power to aid in the general prosperity of the community. To Mr. C. H. McKendree is due the credit of interesting the Hewitt Land Co. in the above Project and to his untiring energy is due the carrying of the project to its present issue. Should the people of Lake County see fit to lend us their support and by so doing make it possible for us to carry out our present plans Mr. McKendree will continue as he now is in entire charge of the interests of the above Company.

To the people who are not familiar with the name of the Hewitt Land Company, it will be well to explain that the Company takes its name from Mr. Henry Hewitt, Jr., of Tacoma, Washington, who is the largest Stock Holder.

Mr. Hewitt is a man of large and diversified interests in land, timber and railroads and is rated as one of the most wealthy men in the state of Washington. During the past summer Mr. J. J. Hewitt, a son of Mr. Hewitt visited Lakeview, and together with Mr. McKendree inspected the Project in detail. The fact that he, as a member of the Company, was both pleased and interested has added to the enthusiasm and interest displayed by the entire Company."

State Taxes Higher.

A Salem dispatch to the Portland Oregonian says: The counties of the State of Oregon will be called upon in 1907 to pay double the amount of state taxes they did in 1906. This is due largely to the fact that in 1906 no levy was made for appropriations to the amount of over \$371,000 held up by the referendum on the omnibus appropriation bill. The items of these appropriations must be included in the levy for 1907. The levy of 1906 was abnormally low and the levy for 1907 will be abnormally high, which unusual circumstances are the more noticeable because coming so close together.

The amount of money needed for state purposes in 1907 will be approximately \$1,500,000 of which \$401,000 will be raised from indirect sources or retained from unexpended appropriations leaving \$1,100,000 to be apportioned among the several counties. This year the total revenue required was \$1,028,000, of which \$625,000 was raised by direct taxes levied by the counties. In 1905 the amount apportioned among the counties was \$1,025,000 and in 1904 \$1,225,000, the large amounts for these years being due to the Lewis and Clark Fair, the Indian War veterans' appropriation, the portage road and the Celilo canal appropriations.

The figures for 1907 are only approximations, as the estimate of revenue

needed will not be made until January, but the figures, \$1,100,000, are not far out of the way. This will be an increase of about 10 per cent. over 1905 and any county wanting to know what its apportionment will be can determine that point with approximate accuracy by adding 10 per cent to its share of the state tax raised in 1905. Roughly figured, the amount that will be raised by each county for state purposes in 1907 is as follows:

Baker, \$26,383; Benton, \$22,775; Clackamas, \$37,770; Clatsop, \$23,900; Columbia, \$11,950; Coos, \$22,887; Crook, \$14,657; Curry, \$4,500; Douglas, \$38,898; Gilliam, \$9,820; Grant, \$10,370; Harney, \$18,000; Jackson, \$35,400; Josephine, \$10,150; Klamath, \$12,995; Lake, \$12,000; Lane, \$52,100; Lincoln, \$6,150; Linn, \$5,300; Malheur, \$10,000; Marion, \$69,169; Morrow, \$10,700; Multnomah, \$352,117; Polk, \$34,600; Sherman, \$9,800; Tillamook, \$9,800; Umatilla, \$55,250; Union, \$25,000; Walla, \$8,230; Wasco, \$26,385; Washington, \$33,335; Wheeler, \$7,555; Yamhill, \$44,085.

It will be seen by the above that Lake county pays more state taxes than eleven of the counties, while her population is much less than many of them, there being but two counties in the state with a less population. Those counties are Wheeler and Curry.

Chas. Easton was up from Pine Creek first of the week.

ELECTRIC ROAD FOR LAKEVIEW.

The Scheme is Said to be Well Under Way.

COMPROMISE BETWEEN ROADS.

Line is to Connect S. P. With the Western Pacific Through Lake and Klamath.

The Klamath Falls Republican last week copied the Examiner's article of two weeks ago, in regard to the irrigation of the West Side of this valley, and adds the following:

For the last two months this project has been under way, and options on hundreds if not thousands, of acres of land have been taken. Back of this move is one of the most gigantic schemes ever inaugurated in this state and if the present plans are consummated, will change the face of the railroad map in this great Inland Empire. The prominent factor in the movement at this time is the Hewitt Land company of Tacoma, Wash.

Up until about six months ago there were in the field several corps of engineers seeking a feasible route for the Western Pacific through Oregon and Washington, into Portland, Tacoma and Seattle. During this time the Northern Pacific had men in the field doing a like work for a route to San Francisco. Suddenly orders were issued recalling these engineers.

The reason for the sudden recall was not accounted for until The Republican published its article of last August. It was then made known that Hill, on learning the purpose of Gould, and not caring for an antagonist of his mettle, made the proposition that both roads meet at a point to be agreed on later. From this common point each should use the other's tracks, one north, the other south. This agreement gave Hill and Gould what they need and joined the forces of Harriman's worst enemies. After a careful reconnaissance Lake county was decided or as the meeting point, thus placing both roads in close proximity to a great territory for traffic—the great Klamath country. The next step was the construction of a line into Klamath county. Several gentlemen came to Klamath Falls, ostensibly with the Portland excursionists on a sight seeing expedition; in reality to see what could be done towards the line from Lakeview. These gentlemen had been approached before in an effort to interest them in the Carroll project. A cursory examination of the enterprise convinced them of its practicability, and in the course of their investigations they became acquainted with the Hill-Gould agreement, for one of them, Mr. Hewitt is pretty close to Mr. Hill.

When Hewitt and his party came here they divorced themselves from the Portlandites and made their headquarters at the Henley ranch, Carroll's home. Many excursions were made from this point, including in which



REPOSE IN EGYPT
FROM PAINTING BY VAN DYCK

[CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT.]