

AT BOTTOM OF RIVER

Old Indian Fish Runways Are Uncovered In Link River

WERE BUILT MANY YEARS AGO

Oldest Indians Living Do Not Remember When Dams Were Built--Are Still In Perfect State of Preservation --Have Been Covered With Water for Years

The unusual lowness of the water in Link river this year has uncovered most interesting view of the ingenuity of the first native inhabitants of this section. Many years ago, so many of the oldest Indians of the Klamath country have no recollection of when these built in Link River a series of fishing dams, in the construction of which were utilized all the best rocks not too large to be handled by human strength. Indians are that hundreds of years have passed since the ancestors of the present inhabitants of the Klamath Indian Reservation failed in the turbulent waters of the Link, building their devices which were to aid them in catching salmon during the running season.

Some 60 years ago, when white men first came to this part of Oregon, the Indians were utilizing the dams, but when asked about the origin they would shake their heads and say:

"Long time here, no one know where his come from."

The structures are built with runways through which the salmon must pass in order to get up the river. On the sides of these channels there are platforms built of rocks, upon which the Indians would spear the large salmon as they made their way against the swift current.

These ancient fishtraps have attracted very little attention, for during the past quarter century they have been visible to the casual observer but twice. Only during extremely low water do the structure protrude above the surface, and then they resemble a mere riddle and excite special attention. One of the dams is situated at the head of Link river, another about midway between

the source and the mouth of the stream, and still another a short distance from where the river empties into Lake Ewauna. Link river, however, is not a mile in length, so the dams are but a short distance apart, and were utilized by the same Indians, who would follow a run of salmon from one to the other.

The Link river is full of rapids and small waterfalls. At the head of the river, when the Indians were in possession of the country, there was situated a large village, and when the first white men appeared on the scene the inhabitants of this Indian city used the dams, but had no explanation to offer as to their origin.

In catching the fish the savages used a horn spear, consisting of a pole several feet in length, finished with a sharpened deer's horn. A cord was run along the pole and fastened to a small piece of wood, which was stuck into the horn tip. When a fish was pierced by the spear, the cord was pulled, with the result that the stick slipped from the horn, locking the spear through the fish, which could then be lifted from the water. This method of fishing has long since been discarded by the Indians, who were quick to comprehend the advantages in the means used by their white brothers.

For the past twenty-five years the water has been too high in Link river to make the dams of any use for fishing. In the meantime all the Indians have adopted modern methods, and the old relics of the savages who once inhabited this land have been almost forgotten.

P. L. Fountain returned last evening from a visit at Eugene

Kelley Missing, Where Is He?

It was reported last evening that the well-known negro character, Kelley, had drowned himself. Kelley was in town the latter part of last week and was on one of his periodic rambles. He returned to the Lee ranch Sunday where he has been caring for the horses. Last night the boy who is stopping on the place came to town and said that Kelley had disappeared and he feared he had fallen into the river which runs past the ranch.

It is thought that the boy got up about 3 o'clock and called Kelley, but the latter was too sick and would not get up. The boy then went to the lower ranch to look after some cattle and

when he returned about 11 o'clock Kelley was gone.

F. H. Mills, Sheriff Barnes and the undertaker went down the river this morning in a launch. They searched the tides, house and barn and along the river but could find no trace of the missing Kelley. His shoes were gone but the trousers and hat he wore the previous day were where he had left them at night. It is possible that he may have secured other clothing around the house, and some of the party are of the opinion that he walked to Dorris after a drink.

It is reported that he was seen in Keno yesterday and he may be on his way here.

WATER USERS WILL BUILD LATERALS ON SOUTH BRANCH

The Reclamation Service has signed a contract with the Klamath Water Users Association, authorizing the Association to advertise for bids and award contracts for the construction of earth work on the laterals for the South Branch canal. The specifications for the work are being prepared by the Reclamation Service and will be ready this week. The Association will commence advertising for bids immediately upon completion of the specifications.

About half of the laterals have been built by the government, and the remainder will have to be built this fall. It is to be ready to carry water to the land in the spring. All of the contracts will be let in small schedules and the land owners with one or more tracts will be given an opportunity to help pay for their first installment for their water right.

No money is to be paid on these contracts, but stock certificates will be issued in payment by the Association, which will be accepted by the Reclamation Service as payment on the water rights on the land. These certificates are transferable and can be sold to land owners under the ditch. There is no provision that will prevent outsiders from bidding on the work, but the intention of the act is for the purpose of allowing the landowners the privilege of contributing work in place of cash as part payment on their water rights.

As hayting is about over, the farm-

ers have several months when themselves and teams are idle, and it will be a great help to some of them to be able to work on these contracts. Payments on water rights on the land under the first unit, between here and Merrill, will have to be paid next year.

All of the contracts to be let by the Water Users Association is for earth work and can be done with scraper and team. The contract with the government specifies a maximum price for which contracts can be let. The Association will probably let the work to the lowest bidders. One man may bid on one or more schedules. The work will be done under the supervision of the officials of the Reclamation Service.

MAY SUE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION FOR PAY.

It is reported that a suit is to be brought against the Klamath County Agricultural Association for pay for work on the race track at the new grounds. E. W. Smith did the most of work by contract, and some misunderstanding has arisen which may result in a law suit.

President B. St. George Bishop, when seen stated that all he had to say was that "the Association is able and willing to comply with our part of the contract. We have the money to pay for the work when the men live up to their part of the contract." It is not known just what the difficulty is, but it will probably develop later.

RUSHING WORK ON TUNNELS.

Work on the tunnels at Dorris must be pushed to as early a conclusion as possible and a full force of men employed from the start.

Such is the ultimatum of the Southern Pacific company to their contractors, the Erickson & Peterson company. And this enterprising firm of contractors are making every effort in their power to obey orders to the very letter. Mr. Chas. Erickson, senior member of the firm, has moved his family here and taken up his permanent residence at the Otey residence across Klamath Pass, where he will be in close touch with the work from now until it is completed.

Of course the preliminary work of laying foundations and placing machinery to be used in putting through the main tunnel is necessarily slow, but already a crew of men has been placed at work at this end and good progress is being made under the direction of Foreman D. Hogan. A steam shovel and dinky engines with large dump cars are in use and at present about twenty-five men are worked on a shift. After the portal has been cemented up and the bore is enlarged to full size there will be 45 men on a shift at each end of the tunnel, making in all 180 men on the job. These with perhaps 120 or more men at the second tunnel will mean a force of 300 men engaged at Dorris for over a year on the tunnel work alone. This is not counting the clerical force in the chief engineer's office, or the engineering corps, or the regular railroad employees. All of these counted will bring the total of men employed on Southern Pacific work at Dorris up to 400 very easily, meaning a neat little payroll for the terminal town for some time to come.

There are 2100 feet of tunnel work in all. 2100 in the first one and 1000 in the second. The hole is to be 23 feet high and 17 feet wide. The por-

EIGHTY FEET OF SOIL

No Bottom to Vegetable Matter on Lower Marsh

EXCAVATE 25 FEET FOR PIERS

The Various Strata for This Distance Can Be Seen, and the Formation Consists of Tule Muck, Volcanic Ash and Deposit of Sand and Rotted Tules

tals will be cemented up and the entire length well timbered. Just now the foundation while hard enough for drills, is very easily broken and good progress is being made. Hard rock is expected to be encountered shortly though and the advance will necessarily be slower. As stated before, air compressors and Burley drills are to be used, with steam shovels and dinky engines and cars taking care of the muck. The Erickson & Peterson company are getting in an immense amount of equipment and preparing for a two years' campaign as it is estimated their work in this vicinity will occupy nearly that length of time.—Dorris Booster.

NEW TONSORIAL FIRM.

F. M. Rolfe and Al Kubers have purchased the Hall Barber Shop in the Withrow-Melchase building and will take charge this week. Mr. Rolfe will remain with the Klamath Shop for a week or so longer. Arrangements are being made for a new location and about the first of the month Messrs. Rolfe and Kubers expect to be occupying a suitable location on Main street. Both these gentlemen are well known as proficient in their line and are assured of success in their venture.

Some of the Councilmen were absent from the city last night and the others wanted to attend the Masonic lodge so the meeting was adjourned until this evening.

T. A. K. Fassett, local agent of the Southern Pacific, has received a supply of the new publication on Crater Lake. The booklet is an excellent advertisement of this county, showing the route and giving a through time table from Portland to Crater Lake. Anyone wishing copies of this beautiful booklet to send to friends can secure same by calling on Mr. Fassett.

MILLINERY OPENING.

The ladies of Klamath Falls and vicinity are invited to attend our showing of Fall Millinery, on Monday and Tuesday, September 21 and 22. All the latest styles on exhibition. RUNK & SCHNEIDER.

A wonderful discovery has been made by the Southern Pacific Company in excavating for a foundation for cement piers for the headgates that are being built on the marsh. An opening has been made twenty-five feet deep and a sounding made of an additional fifty feet, and it has been discovered that the soil for the entire distance is of vegetable nature.

The question has often been raised as to the depth of the tule or marsh soils. For some time a good many thought that there was only a thin deposit of tule muck on top of hard pan. That theory has long since been exploded by the government, railroad and private investigations. The usual method of examining the soil strata is by boring with an auger, which of course gives a person a good idea of the composition of the soil and also of the strata, but does not expose to view the various formations.

In the construction of the immense concrete headgates, an unusual opportunity has been given to visitors to the Lower Lake, in the past few days, to view the lower soils. Sounded piling has been driven all around the outer headgates, which makes a water tight compartment. The dirt has been excavated from the center of the compartment to a depth of about twenty-five feet and in width about forty feet, leaving the hole free from water and the soil exposed to that depth.

The various strata can be distinctly seen. The tule muck runs from four to fifteen feet deep, below that is a strata of volcanic ash mixed with vegetable matter, running from six inches to a foot and a half. Below that comes a deposit of sand heavily charged with vegetable matter.

Soil coming from the bottom of the hole was examined and large quantities of vegetable matter, rotted tules, etc., were discovered. The railroad men have made soundings fifty feet below this and vegetable matter was still discovered to exist.

It would be interesting to ascertain just how far a person would have to go to get to the bottom of the soil, but it is hardly likely it will ever be found out as boring machinery for such depths is not easily obtained.



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