

ASKING FARMERS FOR BIDS.

laborers May Contribute Labor Instead of Cash to Apply on the Payment for Water Right.

Notice is given out today by the board of the Klamath Water Users' Association that sealed bids will be received at the office of the Association at Klamath Falls, until 2 o'clock P. M., October 6, 1908, for the construction of a portion of the main branch canal laterals, involving the excavation and embankment of approximately 25,000 cubic yards of material. The specifications and general conditions can be secured from the office.

This is the last opportunity that farmers under the project have of doing a part of their own work. The land owners will have to pay for the work and this gives a chance of doing some of the work themselves instead of hiring men to do it for them. No cash will be given in payment but a certificate will issue certifying that the work can be used to apply on the payment of water rights. The certificates are negotiable and can be sold or converted into cash at a small discount at payments for water rights. The first unit will complete about 1000 feet.

As these small contracts are an important part of the Klamath project, the results will be watched with interest, and upon its success will depend the adoption of this plan throughout the project.

MERRILL RECORD ITEMS.

H. H. Burnham and H. Patterson were in Tuesday from Langell Valley. They came in for flour which they say is \$4 per thousand cheaper than at Klamath Falls.

J. Frank Adams started 20 head of walrus horses for the railroad Monday. These horses are to go to the Philippine Islands. In a few days E. Stewart, the government buyer, will be here again to look at some polo mules and artillery horses.

A. J. Morry, of El Centro, Cal., has purchased the Joe Dewey property northwest of town from Dan Van Eimer. The sale was made by E. E. Ditch. Mr. Morry likes the country and contemplating making other purchases here in the immediate future.

E. S. Terwilliger last Tuesday placed 49 acres of his farm adjoining town under option to a Mr. Crosby of Oakland, Cal. Dame Rumor has it that Mr. Crosby is a representative

of the S. P. Co., and has secured the option for a depot site if the railroad move now under contemplation is effected. There is lots of good hunting on Tule Lake now. Every day sees some of our local hunters bringing in a fine string of Mallards. At this time of the year there is no place that can beat the Merrill country for good bird shooting. It is one of our natural assets that makes us feel proud of our country and thankful to the Almighty for his bounteousness in supplying us with so many good things.

Edward Hilder, a creamery man from Edgewood, Cal., has been here the past few days looking up the matter of starting the Merrill creamery. We sincerely hope he will find it possible to do so, but have been misled so many times in this matter that we will lay low and see what will come of it. Mr. Hilder seems to be a capable and careful business man, and will no doubt succeed.

F. M. Miller of Lake county has bought in the neighborhood of 2000 tons of hay in this vicinity at \$7 per ton. This purchase establishes beyond all question the fact that hay will not be cheaper than \$7 this year, and assures this section of the usual large number of cattle on its rards during the winter months.

LEE JOHNSTONE'S BODY FLOYS IN UNIMAK PASS.

Man, Believed to Have Been Former Klamath Resident cannot be Found When Vessel Reaches Nome.

A cablegram from Nome says that Federal authorities there are convinced that the body of Lee A. Johnstone, accused of the murder of his wife, who disappeared while in charge of a Marshal on his way back to Nome from Seattle, is floating somewhere in the waters of Unimak Pass. Every barrel and box and other piece of freight taken from the steamship Victoria, on which Johnstone was a passenger, was searched thoroughly, and not the least trace of the missing man has been found. A careful examination of every corner and cranny of the ship failed to give the slightest indication of recent occupancy. It is believed at Nome that when Johnstone stepped across the body of the sleeping guard he plunged directly over the rail into the water.

FOR SALE: Household goods, furniture, etc. Must be sold by the first of the month. Enquire at the Herald office. 224r

FOR BETTER SCHOOLS

Convention of Superintendents Recommends Changes

Favors More Funds for Country Districts, County Board to Look After All the Schools Instead of Separate District Boards and Other Important Changes

J. G. Swan, who returned last evening from the state convention of county school superintendents, is very enthusiastic over the work accomplished. He states that twenty-nine of the thirty-four county superintendents were present. State Superintendent Ackerman acted as chairman and he and his assistant, Mr. Carlton, had everything planned to facilitate the work and make the convention a profitable one. The convention was one of the most successful school meetings ever held. The old idea that school men are an old foggy, dreaming lot, must be revised. The county superintendents were a representative business lot of men, and used every bit of the two days session, hard at work on school problems. Oregon is going ahead by leaps and bounds and it is determined that school development shall keep pace with all other lines. One of the most important subjects discussed was a change in the plan of apportioning school money. At present the money is apportioned according to the school census, with the result that many schools in the country can have not more than three months school annually, and are not able to pay a salary sufficient to obtain trained teachers, while the town and city children enjoy nine months of school and well paid teachers. The country child should have as good an opportunity to secure an education as the city child and six months of school should be the minimum. To secure greater equality, it was resolved that at least one-half of the school money be distributed according to the number of rooms and the other half according to the attendance.

Another important resolution was to change the method of school administration from district to county system. The county shall elect a school board, consisting of five mem-

bers, who shall employ teachers, build schools houses and have full control of all of the schools of the county. The county superintendent shall be for the county what the principal or city superintendent is now for the city schools. This plan is claimed as working very satisfactorily in California. The State Grange and many legislators have expressed themselves in favor of these two changes.

Another important recommendation is that the county supply the County School Superintendent with clerical aid, so that he may spend most of his time visiting and supervising, and still have some one in the office to attend to present county schools, receive very little supervision, while the towns employ their city superintendents.

It was also resolved that more school money be raised by indirect taxation instead of direct taxation; that at least one-half of the corporation and inheritance taxes be placed in the school fund, and that the state possession of all unappropriated water power, and lease it, placing the revenue in the school fund. It is hoped that people will discuss these matters and talk to their legislators regarding them. A committee was appointed to work with similar committees from the State Teachers Association and the State Grange, to formulate the resolutions and present them to legislatures. The following is a list of recommendations made by the convention:

That all revenues for the support of the public schools be raised by indirect, rather than by direct taxation.

School funds should be apportioned upon the basis of the number of teachers employed and the daily attendance rather than the present per capita basis of pupils in the district.

The irreducible school fund should be increased sufficiently so that it, together with the county school fund, would insure not less than six months of school in each district in the state.

Provisions should be made for the breaking of deadlocks in the election of good officers in districts of the first class.

County school superintendents should be required to devote all their time to superintending actual work in their respective districts and they should be provided with clerical help.

The Legislature should make provisions for the state department to get out pamphlets on heating, ventilating, lighting, and architectural work in schools for the benefit of rural districts.

Superintendents should use influence in having the teachers take up the correspondence work of the state university as a part of the reading circle work.

County treasurers should be ex-officio school district treasurers except in districts of the first class.

County superintendents should appoint district examiners for the eighth grade examinations instead of the chairman of the school board being required to serve in that capacity.

THINGS LIVELY AT BONANZA.

Bulletin Tells of General Revival of Activity in Upper Country.

Every day laborers pass through Bonanza on their way to the government works at Clear Lake. A government surveying party is camped near town, locating the canal lines. Two soil experts of the Agricultural Department are making a soil survey of the several valleys. Moore Bros. have a gang of men at work completing the power and light system. The Gates company have another gang rebuilding its telephone line and converting it into a metallic circuit system. The Reclamation Service has a party building a telephone from Clear Lake to Klamath Falls. Within a few days Frank Nichols begins hauling on his freight contract with the government. A force of masons

and carpenters are completing the Pattee building. The Kilgore flour mill begins operating on the first of the month.

These things are indicative of the interest manifested in this section of the county, and are prophetic of the lively times that will fall upon Bonanza next year. When the government actually begins work on the Clear Lake dam, after hope that it would do so this year had fled, every prospect took on a roseate tinge and business men and farmers felt a new courage and confidence. There was an immediate demand for realty, both farm and business properties. Several transfers have been made and a number of deals are under way of which no public mention has been made.

Crops have, as a rule, been poor, but the high prices of grain and hay have been compensation for those who have anything to sell. Several sales of beef cattle are reported, at fair prices. Next year this section will doubtless discover how it feels to be really prosperous, and knowing ones predict that Bonanza will treble its population in the next twelve months.

GETTING VIEWS OF STATE.

Photographer With Pack Horses and Camp Outfit Will Visit Klamath.

Bent on a walking tour of Oregon that will yield several hundred fine photographs of the scenery of the state, B. A. Gifford of The Dalles, who has made many of the most famous photographs of Oregon and Columbia River scenery, will start for Seaside to commence his task of covering picturesque Oregon.

Mr. Gifford and his son will have a pack horses to carry cameras and a camping outfit and will tramp the most of the way so as to see everything that is worth while. They have made arrangements so they can camp at certain points for a week if need be in order to secure the right atmospheric conditions. They intend walking down the coast to Newport from Seaside and later, after the rain has put out the forest fires and cleared the atmosphere, to go to the Rogue river valley and the Crater Lake National Park.

From Crater Lake they will go to Klamath Lake and then up the Deschutes river valley, through Central Oregon and the Columbia river and Willamette valley. They will be out until after the first of the year.

The photographs are to be used by W. D. Harney in a book of Oregon views to be published by him, the history for the work being now under way by Judge George H. Williams.

MRS. MICHAEL STILL LIVING.

Mrs. Thomas Michael, who was injured at Bonanza, was removed to her home in Yonna Valley yesterday. It is reported that she regained consciousness but it is feared she will lose her mind. The full extent of her injuries are not known although it is said that she received internal injuries from the effects of which it is doubtful if she will recover.

STICKELS IS CAPTURED.

Deputy Deisenroth Runs Down Man Indicted for Horse Stealing by Grand Jury.

Jay Stickels, who was indicted by the last grand jury for stealing some of the Shook horses, has been captured and is now in the county jail. Sheriff Barnes has been hunting the man ever since he first went into office. He got trace of him in Modoc county and deputized Chas. Deisenroth to go after him. Deisenroth went to Alturas and with the assistance of Sheriff Coldwell succeeded in running down the man.

Stickels was found in Nevada, where he was working for a cattle company at Deepnolds, about 125 miles south of Alturas. He was going by the name of Dick Simpson. Sheriff Coldwell accompanied Deisenroth and his prisoner to the Oregon state line near Merrill, where they arrived yesterday. Stickels was brought to Klamath Falls today by the deputy and is now in the county jail where he will await trial.

H. M. COSS FOUND GUILTY.

A verdict of guilty was returned by the jury in the H. M. Coss case at Medford, after the jury had been out for nearly three hours. Sentence will be passed upon Coss after the return of Circuit Court Judge Hanna from Josephine county next month. In the meantime Coss will be allowed to go free upon furnishing a \$3000 bail bond.

The case went to the jury at 11 o'clock Thursday morning. It was 1:45 p. m. when they fled back into the courtroom and tendered to the court their verdict of guilty.

Coss was charged with a statutory crime by Carrie Stagg, a 14-year old girl. Much interest has been displayed in the case owing to the prominence of the Coss family in Medford. Miss Stagg was employed as a domestic in the Coss family, and she testified that Coss visited her room late at night and assaulted her.


Coss was tried first in the justice's court in Jacksonville and was bound over to the grand jury. An indictment was returned, which was found to be faulty. It was returned to the jury and a second indictment brought in.

Coss was defended by W.M. Colvig and Clarence Reames. He was prosecuted by R. G. Smith, E. E. Kelly and District Attorney Mulkey.

PASTURE FOR RENT.

I will pasture horses at my place two and a half miles south of town, for any length of time at reasonable prices. For terms apply to. 24-6t H. B. WAKEFIELD.

A. T. Sweet, who has charge of the soil survey for the Department of Agriculture, and who has been sick with typhoid fever at Bonanza, is reported to be improving. His assistant, I. G. McBeth, has now taken the fever and is under the doctor's care. Mrs. Sweet is with her husband at Bonanza.



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