

## COMMENCE WORK ON SWAMP FARM

### Government Getting Ready to Drain Its 160 Acre Farm Near Railroad On Lower Klamath Marsh

The Reclamation Service is preparing to commence work on their experimental farm near the railroad grade on the marsh. The lumber for the pump building is now on the dock and will be taken down the lake tomorrow. The farm, which consists of about 160 acres, has already been enclosed with an embankment and a pumping system is to be put in to drain the land.

Aside from the experiment to be made later to demonstrate the agricultural value of the swamp lands, the first work to be undertaken will be to determine certain engineering problems. The embankments have been constructed in a most substantial manner, so that with pumping practically all of the water can be drained from the entire tract. It is to be demonstrated whether it will be necessary to completely drain the lands and then irrigate by overflow, or whether part of the water can be removed and sub-irrigation used on the lands. Many other features from an engineering standpoint will be tested.

It is probable that at first all of the water will be pumped off the land so that the tubes will dry up and the roots die. After the engineering problems have been settled, experiments will be made with the soil to determine what crops it will best grow. The work on the experiment farm will be watched with interest, as on the result depends the future of that vast area of Klamath County's lands, known as the marsh lands.

Besides the work on the government farm, which will be carried on this year, other experiments will be

made by private parties, so that by the end of the season the public will have more definite information as to the value of these lands, and the correctness of the assertion, by officials and others, that the marsh lands of Klamath are destined to become the great celery producing section of the United States.

### ARRANGEMENT OF HAINS IS VERY BITTER.

FLORISSING, N. Y., Jan. 14.—Marshalling the evidence in the trial of Thornton J. Hains, the State's Attorney today resumed his closing address, bitterly arraigned the defendant and his brother as two cowards that had followed Mrs. Annis to the boat that they might shoot her husband before he could be warned. Thornton Hains writhed in his chair under the scorching sarcasm, and frequently turned his face away from the jury. Mrs. Annis wept while the State's Attorney told how her husband's character had been besmirched, and she swayed in her chair as Darrin, his voice ringing with emotion, said:

"From now on there will be no more criminal trials where a dead husband's character will be dragged into the mire of unjustified denunciation, and a woman's honor assassinated by two cowards who have done to death her husband. Splendid noble chivalry for these two gentlemen."

The State's Attorney attacked the plea of insanity that had been made with regard to Captain Hains, saying that it was the plan of counsel for the defense to endeavor when the Captain came to trial to show that he had recovered his mental balance within two months after the killing of Annis.

### HOLD PROPERTY TOO HIGH.

Many Citizens Lost on Account of the Impression Received That City Property Values are Excessive.

If the coming summer does not show the greatest business activity in the history of Klamath Falls, it will be the fault alone of the property owners and citizens. From present indications this year is going to be a big one for Klamath Falls and county. Thousands of people are coming here to locate and make their homes and extensive building operations are already planned.

There is one thing, however, that is going to retard development, and that is the price of property in this city. It seems to be the general impression of people coming here with money to invest, that too high a price is put on the property offered for sale. Parties have been known to have left here after making the statement that it was impossible to buy any property in the city at anything like a reasonable price.

A careful investigation, however, has disclosed the fact that only in a few instances has there been any foundation for such an impression. It is true that a great many people here owning good property, are not desirous of selling and, therefore, when asked to put a price on certain property do so at a figure that they do not expect to be accepted. The main foundation for this belief, among strangers, that property is too high, is due to some of the men of the city who are attempting to sell property on commission. Every time a stranger enters one of the hotels of the city he is approached by one of these men who attempts to sell him a certain piece of real estate. If he is interested enough to look at the property and ask the price, the salesman sees a chance to make a good piece of money and names the price accordingly. After the stranger runs up against several men like this, no matter what his original intention, he usually leaves with the belief that property here is out of sight. He leaves without having had an opportunity of fully realizing the value of property or learning what it could be bought for. It is not believed that these conditions are any worse in Klamath Falls than elsewhere, but they certainly do drive away many prospective residents.

There has, however, been a few instances where the excessive price of property has hurt the town. There seems to be any amount of vacant land in the neighborhood of the city, but factories and business institutions which were contemplating locating here, have found it almost impossible to secure a suitable location without paying an outrageous price. In most cities every inducement is offered for the location of factories, but Klamath Falls has not reached that stage yet.

### PLANS CRIMINAL ACTION.

Reliable Authority That Roosevelt Will Bring Suit Against Papers in New York.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—It is learned today upon reliable authority that the Department of Justice has turned over to United States District Attorney Stimson of the Southern District of New York, all the papers connected with the Panama Canal purchase that has been the target for criticism for the last six months. It is believed this transfer is made with the view of bringing criminal action in New York against publishers of newspapers who have been held responsible for the reflections on men connected with the transaction. Attorney Stimson, it is expected, will turn the papers over to District Attorney Jerome for presentation to the Grand Jury that a suit may be brought under the laws of New York.

### HORSE THIEF CAPTURED.

Michigan Fugitive From Justice for Over a Year, Captured at Macdoel, California.

DORRIS, Jan. 14.—Marshal John Hughes was instrumental in the capture of a Michigan horse thief at Macdoel Monday. Harry A. Benjamin was the man, and he is wanted at Ogemaw County, Michigan, on a charge of stealing horses, cows, farm implements, and in fact everything he happened to find loose at one end.

Sheriff Howard's office at Yreka was notified some time ago that Benjamin was thought to be in this section of the country, and it was only a few days after Hughes was notified that he was able to locate his man, who had been holding down a homestead in Butte Valley. Deputies Geney and Lockyear came over from Yreka, and it is said that he made a partial confession of the crime to the officers when he was taken. The Michigan sheriff is on his way here and will take Benjamin to the scene of the crime to stand trial.

Benjamin has been a fugitive from justice for over a year and during that time was traced to Aberdeen, Wash., and later to Butte Valley, California.

No trace has yet been found of Fred Alexander, the man who broke jail at Weed a few nights ago. He was being taken to Yreka to appear before the Grand Jury on a charge of stealing oats.

### WHAT IS IT?

A strange animal has been seen wandering on the ice between Buck Island and Howard Bay. It is reported as of colossal size, of a dark color and very slow of motion. Viewed with a field glass it resembles a grizzly bear but of such monstrous proportions as to make one shudder while looking, as to what the monster is doing out on the ice a mile from shore is puzzling.

Someone said, "There are stranger things in Heaven and earth than in philosophy," and there may be stranger things in the Klamath forest than anyone has yet seen, and it makes one nervous to think of this monstrous thing, whatever it is, wandering on the frozen face of the great Klamath Lake.

The above mystery was again located here yesterday evening on the ice a mile or so off Squaw Point. The boys—who are trappers—first took it to be a large black bull and started out to make a closer inspection, but when they discovered that the marks on the ice were not those of any kind of a cow, but marks of huge claws, they concluded that the high rocky promontory of Squaw Point was near enough to view, from which vantage ground they took long range shots with their Savage rifles, but with no more effect than to elicit, as they thought, a low bellow or roar, nor could their bear dogs be induced to advance a foot towards the mysterious thing.

What is it, an apparition, a mirage, or some monstrous megatherium resurrected by some fate unknown to us?

Commodore Noeler.

### THE BENEFIT OF CHESS.

That the chess tournament of 1909 promises to be quite a success is not only manifested by the unusually large number of players already enrolled, but the conditions of the second tournament will be such that every chess player in the city and county, no matter how busy a man he may be, will be able to take part in a play that is one of the most happiest combinations of diversion, amusement, and instruction, at our present time.

While the most of us look at chess as a mere mental recreation, are we not at the same time laying hold, for-

## INTEREST SHOWN IN WRIGHT TRIAL

### Much Depends on the Result of the First Local Option Case--If Cleared Fight Will Be Complete Failure

The first trial under the local option law in Klamath County was commenced in the Circuit Court this morning, in the case of the State vs. Ike Wright. The State is represented by Harris & Irwin, who were appointed by the Court to assist the Prosecuting Attorney, and the defense is being conducted by Attorneys Thos. Drake and R. S. Smith. At 2:30 this afternoon eight jurors had been selected, the defense excusing five. As the panel had been exhausted, the Court ordered a special venire of six summoned.

The jurors selected are: J. H. VanMeter, J. J. Arant, J. M. Anderson, Fred Loosley, John Forbes, W. Y. Garrett, Ed. Bloomingcamp and John Matney. Exceptional interest is being manifested in this case, as on the result will probably depend future actions in the local option cases. Mr. Wright is the only one against whom an indictment for selling liquor has been returned, and it is believed that the Grand Jury is awaiting the outcome of his case before considering the charges against a number of other men in the city, who were bound over after a preliminary hearing awaiting action of the Grand Jury. If Mr. Wright is cleared by the jury, it is believed that there will be no more local option cases tried at this term of Court, and the fight made by those opposed to the saloons will have been a failure. It is also quite as certain that if Mr. Wright is found guilty by the jury, that other indictments will be brought in.

### TO DEFEAT CHAMBERLAIN.

Believed That Hitchcock Is Taking a Hand in the Oregon Fight.

PORTLAND, Jan. 14.—That a desperate effort is being made to defeat Governor Geo. E. Chamberlain, the people's choice for United States Senator from Oregon to succeed Chas. W. Fulton, becomes more certain as the days pass.

That Frank Hitchcock, Chairman of the National Republican Committee, is taking a hand in the fight is indicated by the fact that Ralph Williams, Republican National Committeeman, is here, as also is Ormsby McHarg of Chicago, said to be the personal representative of Hitchcock in the fight to defeat Chamberlain. This is not McHarg's first visit to Oregon. Last fall he spent some time here endeavoring to harmonize discordant elements within the Republican party.

The anti-Chamberlain forces will map out a line of campaign between now and next Tuesday, when the first ballot in the Senatorial contest is to be taken, is certain. It is expected that Williams, McHarg and others interested will get together in this city and develop some scheme in an attempt to weaken the Statement No. 1 forces.

The people of the city naturally are greatly interested in the outcome, and from the attendance this afternoon, the indications are that the Court House will be crowded to its full capacity during the course of the trial.

### AT THE OPERA HOUSE TONIGHT.

"Woman's Way," a beautiful dramatic picture showing the nature of the feminine sex—that is, some of them. "Rheumatism," comic. "The Bad Man," a tale of the West. "Wonderful Flames," colored transformation. New songs.

## Keep Dry



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