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THE EVENING HERALD

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KLAMATH FALLS, FRIDAY, JULY 23, 1909.

THE CRITIC CRITICISED.

A Gem of Poetic Prose Erupted From the Depths of Editorial Emotion Stirred Up in Medford.

It does one's soul good at times to loosen up the restraining strings of conventionalism and get away from the all-prevailing commercialism of affairs in general. The Medford Tribune editor recently indulged himself in a simon-pure burst of almost feeling that is worthy a place among the gems of English literature.

An anonymous communication is ever an object of contempt. Rarely indeed are they of interest. Yet one has come to our desk which is of passing interest owing to its subject-matter. Its writer says:

"Your readers would be far better satisfied if you would cut the sentimental gush which occasionally fills your editorial column. I refer to your issue of July 2, and there are many other instances, and confine yourself to topics and problems of the day. I speak not alone for myself, but for many of your readers."

The writer signs himself "An Observer."

The editorial in question is one having to do with the value of a vacation. Doubtless the "many other instances" refer to similar editorials which have appeared from time to time in this column.

Evidently "the topics and problems of the day" so far as "An Observer" is concerned, have nothing to do with the ripple of running water, the hum of bees, the songs of birds. Rather they have only to do with the struggle and strife of the modern active business career, with its continual quest for power and gold. May heaven pity the man who goes on year after year piling up a fortune, missing opportunities to add to his happiness, allowing competitive business to dry up his sympathies and tighten the bands round the heart until he recognizes not that a day in the woods is of benefit as a restorative; that the topics and problems of the day are not all of life; that an anonymous letter is a thing of contempt!

So long as a man lives he should hope to preserve that spirit which leads him to commune with nature—the source of all that is beautiful and

best. A sequestered nook where the tall trees shake shimmering shadows down, where the perfume of flowers steals in upon the senses, where the songs of the birds and the hum of insects creep through the tangled wild-wood, and the glint and gleam of the sun on the back of the trout as he leaps to catch the careless fly—these have as much to do with life as the topics and problems of the work-a-day world. Probably "An Observer" knows nothing of the glorious peace and joy of the flower-clad slopes, across whose undulating bosom sweep the summer winds, perfumed with the honeyed breath of many flowers, rich in the tonic that soothes the tired nerves and roasts the dust-clogged brain. There is no time for such nonsense while there is trade to be acquired and competition to be conquered. "An Observer" needs our sympathy. We are far more fortunate who see about us the fields, the streams and the forests, and there find freedom from the dirt, the grime and grind of the modern business field.

Umatilla Indians are rounding up a big band of horses for shipment to Montana. A generation ago there was not much on the Umatilla reservation to be rounded up except horses and Indians, but in the change that has taken place it is somewhat surprising to learn that there are enough ponies left to demand the services of one hundred Indian cowboys for the roundup. The Indian cayuse is one of the hardiest members of the horse family, and for his weight is hard to beat for any kind of work. His value, however, is not sufficiently great to permit \$100-per-acre wheat land being used exclusively for grazing purposes, and the Indian pony is disappearing because the land from which his sustenance is gained is more valuable for other uses.

Seven-room cottage, three coats best paint; 6 lots, 50x110 ft., making a whole block, the entire block fenced poultry netting; one barn, 14x22, well finished and painted; one woodshed; one hen house; at a bargain if sold soon. Wm. Pitts.

Cement—Imported cement just received; carload Alisen cement in iron barrels. Baldwin Hardware Company.

HOPI'S ANSWER RECEIVED.

(Concluded From First Page.)

tors of the Association. Several of these have not been satisfactorily re-subscribed. Other subscriptions containing a condition were made. All of these matters so far as the lands affected are within the limits proposed to be irrigated should be attended to and valid subscriptions made and approved by the directors. At this time it is not deemed necessary to go into these matters in detail, but if the general outline of the government's requests are favorably viewed by the Association, a list of these miscellaneous matters can readily be prepared with the help of the secretary of the Association.

(b) I am unable to state at this time what the estimated cost per acre for the reclamation of the Upper Project will be. Surveys are in progress, and estimates of cost will probably be completed within a few months. We will probably consider the reclamation of the lands in question upon two cost bases, (1) with the Beckman, Ralston and conditionally subscribed areas omitted, and (2) with these lands included. It is my desire when these estimates shall have been completed to submit them to the consideration of the Association and the settlers. It is plain that the cost of water rights in the Upper Project will be much more per acre if the Beckman, Ralston and other lands now unsubscribed remain out, than if all irrigable lands should come into the project. I would like the settlers themselves to decide by a vote whether they want to go ahead on the Upper Project or not. For my own part I will frankly state that I will recommend that all plans for development of the Upper Project be given up if the settlers desire, and would further recommend that in such a case all stock subscriptions under the Upper Project be canceled and the lands released from obligation. It should be distinctly understood, however, that I am voicing my own opinion only and cannot commit the Director or the Secretary of the Interior on a matter of general policy of this nature. It is my own belief that the unsubscribed lands in the Upper Project will become subscribed shortly after the estimated cost of the work shall have been announced. I base this belief on the necessities of the Upper Project lands for water at any reasonable cost, and the fact that no land owner can afford to withhold from large areas of prospectively valuable property its only practicable betterment. Economic reasons will, I trust, constrain all lands to become subscribed or induce purchasers prepared to subscribe the lands to secure possession of such as still may remain out.

In the event, however, that the estimates of cost prove reasonable and the settlers declare themselves satisfied to bear the prospective building charges I would be prepared to recommend construction of the Upper Project even with the unsubscribed lands out.

(c) My belief at present is that the cost under the East branch will be about \$30 per acre. Conditions fixing the cost of water rights for these lands are supposed to be identical with those of the first unit, and unless the unforeseen occurs and the East branch canal construction develops unexpected difficulties this cost should obtain. You will understand, however, that this is only a general opinion based upon approximate estimates. The cost that will be fixed by the Secretary of the Interior will be based only on actual cost as ascertained at the time.

(d) I cannot make any statement in regard to the cost of water rights under the West Side branch, leading from the Upper Lake to Keno. We have met many unforeseen difficulties in obtaining rights-of-way and the necessary franchise; moreover, it is possible we may have to radically alter our plans for this canal. The area under it is small, however, and I would especially like to see the work begun, as it is so close to Klamath Falls. I would like your Association to aid us in securing rights-of-way and a franchise at an early date.

(e) I cannot state how soon the Upper Project will be completed, largely on account of the contingencies above enumerated. The Clear Lake dam will, in all probability, be completed this year. The plan I have in mind, however, is to recommend for early development a unit in this locality as soon as the settlers shall have declared in favor of such action, provided funds are available and the work proves feasible.

Q.—Third.—(a) How soon does the Government propose the closing of the straits at Ady?

(b) Does the Government propose the removal of the obstructions in the Klamath river at Keno?

(c) What is your proposed policy of reclamation of the marsh lands southerly of the California and Northwestern Railway embankment?

(d) What do you require to assist in consummation of such policy?

(e) I do not believe it will be

necessary to remove any of the present obstructions from the Klamath river at Keno on account of marsh lands bordering on the Klamath river. Careful studies based on measurements of water in the marshes, however, show that the closing of the Klamath Straits will have little influence in raising the water level on marsh lands along the river. It is to be hoped, moreover, that all these lands will be diked and drained in conformity with general plans of marsh reclamation.

(c) When full compliance with the Government's request for the increase of the capital stock, the par value of the shares and execution of new instruments has been accomplished, it is my purpose to recommend the commencement of the reclamation of the Lower Klamath Lake marsh lands. It is the opinion of experienced agriculturists and engineers who have studied the proposed reclamation of these marshes that it will be necessary to irrigate the marsh lands after drainage has been accomplished, not only for the purpose of supplying moisture, but to prevent surface accumulation of alkali on account of capillarity of soil and incidental evaporation of ground waters—dangers which are believed to particularly pertain to this class of lands. The complete reclamation and irrigation of these lands will necessarily be a slow process, and the Reclamation Service will feel its way as it goes, and all development will be proceeded by careful experimental effort. It may be assumed with confidence that the Service will not build any irrigation plant that is unnecessary, nor burden the lands with charges that could have been avoided. Should the tests now being made and which will be made later show that certain lands do not need irrigation, this part of the work will be omitted.

(d) Private land owners within the area of the Lower Klamath

marshes should execute the new form of stock subscription contract, together with the proper instrument for the donation of rights-of-way, etc., to the Government. It is believed that the greater part of the excess lands have been covered by the excess lands in favor of the Klamath Water Users' association. If not, however, it will be necessary to secure the execution of additional trust deeds.

Q.—Fourth.—What is the policy of the Government in relation to lowering of Tule Lake, or at least preventing the waters from rising?

A.—When the dam now under construction at Clear Lake is completed an important source of the water supply of Tule Lake will be cut off. The Service has recently opened an artificial outlet to Tule Lake on the south shore which it is hoped to considerably enlarge this summer.

A.—(a) It is the intention to supply the land owners under the Adams Canal system with fresh water from the South branch canal during the latter part of the season of 1909. Construction work will be begun immediately upon connecting the South branch canal with the Adams canal. It will require approximately three weeks to complete this work. As soon as the South branch canal has been fully primed all water used by lands under the Adams canal will be supplied from

(Continued on Third Page.)

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