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THE EVENING HERALD

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KLAMATH FALLS, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1909.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE RECLAMATION SERVICE

A Brief Description of the Work Being Done in Oregon.

The annual report of the Reclamation service for the past fiscal year describes briefly the work in Oregon up to June 30, 1909.

From the report it appears that the Umatilla project, as a whole, was 25 per cent completed at the close of the fiscal year; the Hermiston unit completed in its entirety. The Klamath project on that date was 28 per cent completed. During the past season 1,700 acres were under irrigation on the Umatilla project, while 21,000 acres of Klamath land, practically all in private ownership, was opened to irrigation.

The irrigable area of the Umatilla project, when completed according to present plans, will be 20,440 acres, of which 6,523 acres is embodied in the completed Hermiston unit. Out of the entire land project, 9,852 acres is public land, 1,800 acres are held by the railroad company, and 6,788 acres are in private ownership. The government agrees to furnish 2.5-acre feet of water per annum to all land owners, the water right costing \$60 per acre, with an additional charge of \$1.20 per acre per annum maintenance charge.

Over the greater portion of the Hermiston unit water service was regularly maintained during the season of 1908 except for a day or two during and just after violent dust storms. Thirty miles of main laterals were in use, and 15,000-acre feet of water had been turned into the distributing system when service of water was discontinued September 17.

Settlement on the Umatilla project is somewhat delayed, says the report, on account of the comparatively large area held by desert land entrymen, who, under the present rulings, cannot obtain patent to their lands until after full payment of the building charges. Under these conditions the subdivision and sale of land is difficult, and the difficulty is greatly in-

creased because of the high price at which unimproved land is held.

Homesteads are in great demand and are promptly filed upon. The common price for a relinquishment seems to be from \$25 to \$30 an acre for new land. Excluding town lots and acre tracts near Hermiston, water right applications have been made for 165 holdings, aggregating 5,600 acres.

Hermiston is located in the middle of the irrigable lands, is a well-built town of 800 or 900 inhabitants. Between 1,100 and 1,200 people are living on the project.

The report shows that the total cost of the Umatilla project, to June 30 last, was \$1,046,085. Of this total, \$398,550 was spent on storage works, \$268,236 on the storage feed canal, \$193,323 for the distributing system and the balance for minor purposes.

The Klamath project, when completed will irrigate a total of 172,000 acres; 135,000 acres in the lower project, 27,000 in the upper. Of the lands under this project, 42,000 acres are in the land of the government and 130,000 acres in private ownership. It is intended to furnish 1.8-acre feet per acre to the lands of this project. Although only 21,000 acres were under irrigation last season, 30,000 acres were ready for water, practically all in private ownership. The building charge of this project is now fixed at \$30 per acre, with an additional 75 cents per acre per annum for maintenance charge.

Work on the Clear lake dam was begun by force account in October, 1908, and by June 30 last this structure was 18 per cent completed. Delay was occasioned by getting supplies and equipment to the dam site. The dam, together with the Olene channel and the outlets at the south end of Tule lake, will effect the uncovering of a large portion of the bed of Tule lake.

It is planned ultimately to irrigate with pumped water approximately 15,000 acres of uplands near Klamath Falls, and about 2,000 horsepower developed from the Keno



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springs, but mainly because Dan Griffith is making it too hot to freeze.

For over a month no big wild or dangerous things have been reported from the environments of Howard bay, and it is just possible the circus has moved on. Either that or the reporter has been swallowed up by a big wollipus.

Preparations are being made for the Christmas tree, which will be an event in the life of Shippington.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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KLAMATH FALLS, ORE.

power canal will be utilized for this purpose.

A location of two main canals serving the upper valley of Lost river was made in 1908. The east side canal is 50 miles long, and will furnish water to irrigate 27,000 acres of land; the west side canal is 30 miles long and will water 10,000 acres.

The area of the Klamath project thus far opened for irrigation lies between Klamath Falls and Merrill, and is irrigated by about 35 miles of main canals and 85 miles of main laterals. There are 9,300 acres of land, largely in excess of holdings, that are not irrigated and are offered for sale. The total value of crops and livestock on the irrigated lands last season is estimated at \$376,600, an average for each farmer for the season of \$3,424.

The Klamath project, to June 30, 1909, cost \$1,697,695. Of this amount \$875,797 had been spent on the canal system, \$17,499 on storage works, \$10,991 for drainage, \$12,945 for buildings and camp maintenance, \$539,839 for purchase of canals, right of way and lands, \$59,107 for examinations, surveys, etc.; \$117,524 for administration, and \$48,480 for operation and maintenance of the completed portion of the project. The balance went for minor purposes, in lesser amounts.

UPPER LAKE NOTES

Some broken surface on the big lake at present.

The California box factory is running.

Skating is getting to be the main occupation on the water—or, rather, the ice—front.

Cutting ice and hauling to town is keeping several men and teams busy.

The new dry house is assuming proportions and machinery for the same is arriving daily.

The dance at St. Cloud hall on Saturday night was well attended, and a good time was had. A club is to be formed some time this coming week, of which we will report later.

Much freight is accumulating at the landing. Tons and tons are piled high in the Mazuma and other warehouses, and when the ice breaks up the boats will sure have a busy time.

While the ice is on three of the lake steamers are at this end of the lake and two at the other end. The Wine ma and Eagle are at Totten's landing, the Hornet at Shippington, while the Hooligan is up at Crystal and the Mazuma on Wood river.

There is one part of Klamath lake which is not frozen, that around Eagle Ridge, partly on account of hot