

FORMER LAKE BOTTOM LAND NOW IN CROPS

Nearly 150 Settlers on Lower Klamath

VERY VALUABLE

Land Formerly Covered by the Navigable Waters of the Lower Klamath Lake has Been Uncovered and is Now Valued at Over Four Million Dollars—Belongs to the State of California

When the Reclamation Service consented to the closing of the head-gates near Ady through which operation the marsh lands of the Lower Klamath Lake were to be reclaimed, no one ever thought that it would result in raising a question as to who owned the land under the navigable waters whether it was marsh or overflow land or would be looked upon as lake bottom. To the average person it would seem to make little difference, but to the state and national governments it makes a big difference, and to this fact upwards of one hundred and fifty settlers owe homesteads that they have taken up since the recession of the waters of the Lower Klamath lake.

All of the lands in question are located in California. It seems that the courts in that state, at least the courts outside of the influence of county political machines, really look upon the settler as entitled to some recognition, and as a result the men who have located on the reclaimed land have secured a decision from the supreme court of the State of California which practically insures that they will be able to hold the property for which they have been fighting for the past two years.

When the waters first began to recede and the first settler made his appearance, he was opposed by the Churchill interests. The case was taken into court, and the settler lost before the Siskiyou county tribunal. An appeal was taken to the supreme court of the state, and it was here that a decision was handed down that knocked everyone connected with the case "off his pins", for the decision stated that it was neither marsh nor overflow land, but was lake bottom land, and as such was the exclusive property of the State of California.

This was a big surprise to the settlers, who did not realize what the decision meant. When their attorneys got through with their analysis it was discovered that the decision made it almost a certainty that they could hold the lands, for they did not have to deal with the federal government and could by complying with the state regulations, purchase the property from the state of California.

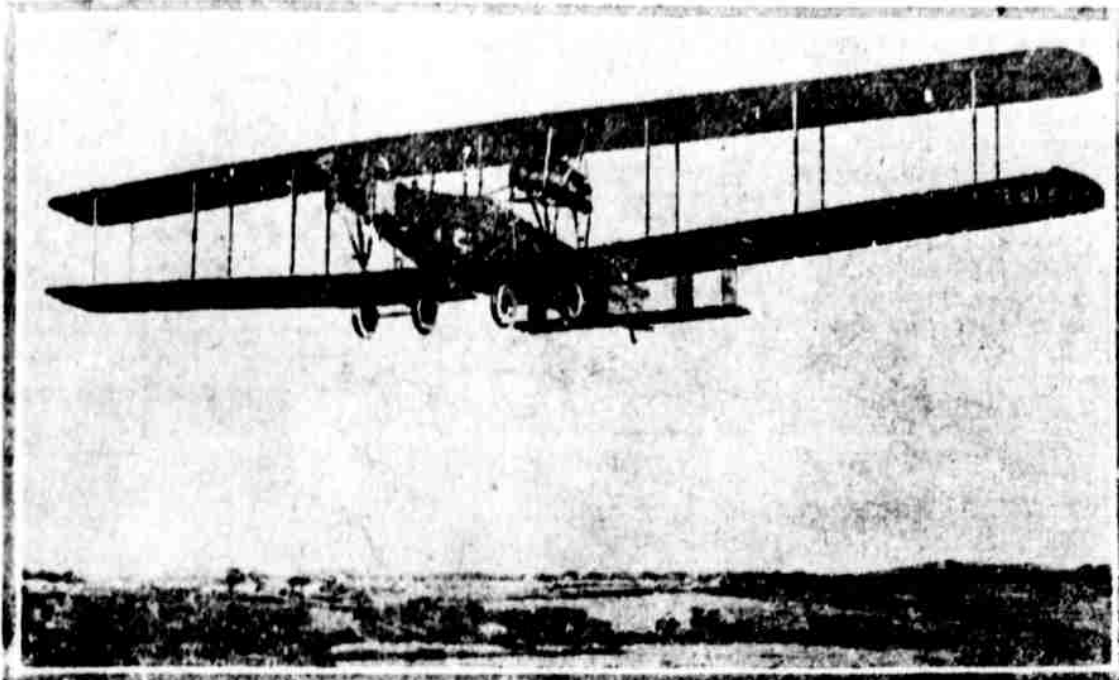
As soon as this was fully understood, the land was quickly settled up and today there are ninety-eight cabins constructed and forty-two in course of erection on homesteads, located where the boats used to plow thru the waters of the Lower Klamath lake. The value of the land is upwards of four million dollars and the crops already on the land will represent a tidy sum.

To look after the interests of those entitled to the land, the Lower Klamath Lake Settlers Association has been formed, with J. W. Wetzel as president and E. E. Jay as secretary. The fight throughout has been led by Mr. Wetzel, who has the support and confidence of the men interested in the land.

A meeting of the association was held in the Rhett lake school house last Sunday, when every detail of the organization was completed. The meeting was largely attended and the most cordial and enthusiastic feeling was manifested. The forest reserve which was recently established in Modoc and Siskiyou county was discussed and accepted as for the best interests of the settlers.

The question of the bird reserve was under discussion, Jack Furber being present in its interest. He pointed out that it was maintained

Giant Bombing Plane That Will Try Transatlantic Flight



This is the giant Handley-Page four-engine bombing plane with which Vice Admiral Kerr and his crew hoped to beat the Vickers-

Vimy machine of Captain John Alcock and Lieutenant Arthur W. Brown in a non-stop flight across the Atlantic. Radiator trouble held up

the Handley-Page flier and the "hop off" on the big adventure had to be delayed. When it will start will depend largely on weather conditions.

not for the purpose of interfering with the farming of the land, but for the purpose of protecting and encouraging the propagation of migratory birds. A committee on resolutions was appointed consisting of J. F. Wetzel, E. E. Jay, Clarence Harris and Jonas P. Denmitz. This committee will have charge of the preparation of all matters relating to the welfare of the association.

One of the interesting facts brought out at the meeting is that the water has not only receded from the land, but that it is now from two to seven feet below the surface, which is a clear enough proof that the reclamation of the lands is of a permanent character.

PRESIDENT ON HIS WAY HOME

VOYAGE CONTINUES UNDER THE MOST FAVORABLE OF CONDITIONS AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE IS SPENDING MUCH TIME IN RESTING

ON S. S. GEORGE WASHINGTON, July 2.—The presidential voyage continues under the most favorable conditions, with calm seas. President Wilson has done some work on his message to congress, but is giving considerable time to rest.

JUDGE CHAPMAN CLEANS DOCKET

Justice Chapman yesterday made a clean sweep of his docket, which has been growing to considerable size during his recent illness when he disposed of the following cases:

State vs. Jack Burk, charged with felony; Case is set for hearing July 7.
State vs. William Davis, assault and battery, tried yesterday and the defendant was found guilty and fined \$25.

State vs. George E. Carroll, charged with having liquor in his possession. He was tried yesterday and found not guilty.

State vs. Wayne Ireland, charged with having liquor in his possession. Defendant was found guilty and fined \$10 and costs.

State vs. Arthur Robertson, charged with having liquor in his possession. Defendant was found not guilty.

A similar verdict was rendered in the case of State vs. Rusty Moore.

State vs. Lloyd Wilson, charged with having liquor in his possession was found guilty and fined \$15, as was also J. H. Stark, who was fined \$75 and C. B. Hall, against whom the Judge levied a fine of \$35.

Joseph A. Flynn and J. M. Sullivan who are being held on the charge of stealing an automobile from Joe Avery, were arraigned and their bail fixed at \$1,000 each. The date for their hearing has not been set.

The case of the State vs. Asa Shepherd, charged with assault was disposed of by holding the defendant to the action of the grand jury of Crook County and fixing his bail at \$2,500. He was turned over to the Sheriff of Crook county and taken to Bend, where he will be held for trial.

MILLION DOLLAR GATE EXPECTED

MAMMOTH PROPORTIONS OF EVERYTHING CONNECTED WITH BIG FIGHT LANDS KNOC-KOUT TO ALL OTHERS

TOLEDO, July 2.—Jess Willard, the Kansas giant, will defend his title of the World's heavyweight fist champion against the challenger, Jack Dempsey, of Utah, here next Friday afternoon. Both Willard and Dempsey have been earnestly training in this vicinity for several weeks past. Neither one has left anything untried or undone in order to get himself into the best possible condition for the encounter, the outcome of which will mean so much for the victor. By winning from Jack Johnson at Havana, Cuba, four years ago, Willard was placed in a position to begin building up an immense fortune and should Dempsey capture the title there is no telling how much wealth he may accumulate in these days of high finance, when sport promoters talk of the "sky" as the limit for big events.

Aside from the actual purse money of \$127,500 signed for by the two pugilists, \$100,000 of which is guaranteed to Willard, win, lose or draw, the enormous amount of cash which will be handled in connection with the coming bout, dwarfs all previous ring contests into financial oblivion. The "gate" from the sale of tickets and concessions is expected to pass the one-million dollar mark which would make the receipts of previous flaic carnivals look very small in comparison.

Tex Rickard, the daring promoter who is bringing the two big men together in this bout, generally does things on a large scale. He secured the Johnson-Jeffries fight for a guarantee of \$100,000 and at Reno his receipts amounted to \$270,000. Of course the promoter was at an enormous outlay in bringing that contest to an issue, having been forced almost at a moment's notice to move from California to another state, in order to secure a battleground. Rickard's outlay for the coming battle including guaranteed purse, cost of arena construction, advertising and other expenses will amount to a vast sum. The casual observer might think that the promoter will still have a big margin of profit out of the charges for admission. At first glance this seems reasonable, but Rickard is going to pay the regular war-tax of ten percent on all tickets purchased and has guaranteed the local authorities a percentage also. The United States government, however, will have a big claim for income tax, so that when everything is deducted from the "gate" Rickard's margin of profit probably will fall far short of the results he attained in some of his previous ventures.

Some changes have been made in the conditions governing the bout since the original articles were signed, the most important being the limiting of the contest to twelve rounds and the reduction of the size of the ring to twenty feet square. Originally the men were to have gone twenty or more rounds and the intention was to have a regulation 24 foot ring. Otherwise the agreement stands as signed by Rickard, Willard and Dempsey each being entitled to a third of the moving picture privileges. Willard is guaranteed \$100,000 and Dempsey \$37,500.

When the men step into the ring on Friday, each will have a big following of partisans. Those who rely on Willard's retaining his title, insist that he is invulnerable to punishment and that Dempsey will fail to reach his hurly opponent with an effective blow. Many of them also

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GERMAN STRIKE IS DANGEROUS

FEAR IS FELT THAT IT IS THE PRELIMINARY STEP TOWARD A POLITICAL INSURRECTION OF RADICALS

BERLIN, July 2.—There are indications that the strike movement here may develop into a political insurrection. The street car strike threatens to involve all the suburban and belt line workers. The frankness with which the radicals are now demanding a dictatorship by the proletariat is now regarded as significant. Gustave V. Noske, minister of defense, is tightening the martial law regulations.

GOMPERS SAYS U. S. WILLING TO FORGIVE.

PHILADELPHIA, July 2.—America will be the first in extending her hand to those nations she fought, now that the war is ended, declared Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, at the launching of the "labor ship" Afol, at Hog Island.

COUNTY COURT OF TO MEDFORD

All members of the County Court, accompanied by their attorneys, left this afternoon for Medford, where they go to be present at the arguments on the motion to strike out the answer filed by the J. M. Dougan company in the case of that concern against Klamath County, brought to collect the balance due for the construction of the courthouse on Block 35. It was thought sometime ago that this case would come up on its merits last week, but this and other legal moves will postpone the final act for sometime yet. The prospects now are that it will be six weeks or two months before the labyrinth of legal technicalities will be cleared away and the actual trial of the case is had.

WEATHER REPORT.

Oregon—tonight and Thursday, fair, gentle westerly winds.

DIRIGIBLE R-4 STARTS FLIGHT

LEFT SCOTLAND THIS MORNING AND WHEN LAST HEARD OF WAS MAKING FORTY KNOTS AN HOUR

LONDON, July 2.—The position of the British Dirigible R-4 which left East Fortune, Scotland, at 1:13 this morning in an attempted flight across the ocean to America, was about 325 miles off the coast of Ireland at 8 o'clock this morning. The airship was then making 40 knots an hour.

FORREST PIEL WEDS SOUTHERN LASSIE

Forrest Piel, one of the best known and popular young men of this city was married to Miss Myrtle W. Williams of Memphis, Tennessee yesterday, thus bringing to a happy climax a wartime romance that had its inception while Mr. Piel was stationed in the South awaiting his transfer to France. The wedding took place in this city at the Piel home, 104 Washington street. Rev. E. P. Lawrence of the First Presbyterian church read the simple ring service.

Mr. Piel is a graduate of the Klamath County high school. He later attended the University of Oregon and spent his summers working on the different papers here, his first experience being with The Northwestern and later he was city editor on the Evening Herald.

Since his return from France, where he served with the American army for several months, he has been employed in the offices of the Pelican Bay Lumber company. The young people expect to make their home in this city.

STATE ENGINEER TO BE HERE NEXT WEEK

R. E. Bradbury, director of the Klamath Irrigation district, is in receipt of a letter from State Engineer Percy A. Cupper, stating that he will be here on July 7th, at which time he will make a personal investigation of all matters in which his office is or may become interested. This means that he will be in a position to make an examination of the big Langell Valley project, the plans for which Engineer Darley is rushing to completion and will undoubtedly have far enough advanced to give Mr. Cupper a comprehensive idea of what is contemplated.

MRS. NICHOLS IS ARRAIGNED

Mrs. T. F. Nicholas was today arraigned before Justice of the Peace Chapman on the charge of shooting Dr. George C. Mitchell. She was bound over to await the action of the grand jury and was released on \$3,000 bail.

"PAT" RETURNS FROM FRANCE.

Pat Parker, one of the popular young men from this county, who joined the 20th Engineers, landed home last evening after doing his "bit" on the other side to show the Allies that Uncle Sam is a world beater, when it comes to doing things on a big scale and in a hurry. Pat comes back bringing with him a record of brilliant achievements and one that will reflect credit on that branch of the 20th that was composed of the brave lads from Klamath County.

GARRETT VAN RIPER IS DISCHARGED FROM ARMY.

Garrett Van Ripper has been discharged from the army after two years spent in trying to get "across". The government went so far as to give him his sailing orders at one time and Garrett got as far as New Orleans when he was ordered back and assigned to the 106th Aero Signal Corps, at Dallas, Texas. He was made a sergeant soon after that and later a Sergeant Major. Mr. Van Ripper was then transferred from the aviation division to light field artillery, with rank, and after several more transfers he was assigned to the 19th Training battalion and received his commission in November 1918. He resigned his commission and was discharged, thence being free he returned to his old home here, where he expects to go into business.

BIG PROJECT FOR LANGELL VALLEY SURE

Upward of Thirty Thousand Acres to be Reclaimed

DARLEY ENGINEER

It is Proposed to Use the Waters Stored in the Clear Lake and Horsefly Reservoirs—Rapid Progress is Being Made and it is Possible That Work Will Start on it This Fall

Under the direction of C. T. Darley, the engineer who has made it possible to irrigate the lands around Bananza and in the Yonna Valley, there is being formed in Langell Valley a project which when completed will place under irrigation upward of thirty thousand acres of land. The progress made has been phenomenal, when the territory and interests involved are taken into consideration, and Engineer Darley is daily demonstrating the immense value there is in the elimination of red tape and the application of the saving to the actual work in hand. With the tireless energy of the man, he has labored day and night to bring the project to the point of actual construction and this will be undertaken this fall, unless some unforeseen obstacle arises to interfere.

Yesterday afternoon a meeting of the landowners was held in the offices of the Reclamation Service, at which were present a large number of the landowners interested in the project. The matter of the application for the waters of the Clear Lake and the Horsefly reservoirs was the purpose of the meeting, and Engineer Darley presented the facts to Project manager Newell, who seemed to be quite familiar with the details of the proposition, and stated that in his judgment it was a perfectly practical and feasible undertaking on which he looked with favor and that he would immediately place the matter before the Service officials in Washington.

There will be another meeting held on the 12th of this month, when Mr. Darley will have the completed plans ready for the approval of the directors. If they are approved, he will immediately take the matter up with the state engineer and secure his approval, which is necessary in order to secure the state's guarantee of the project bonds. When this is secured, the next step will be the holding of the bond election, then the sale of the bonds and the letting of the contract.

Some idea of the size of this project may be gained when it is remembered that last year there were irrigated under the Klamath Project 33,270 acres. With the completion of the Langell Valley project one of the richest sections of the country will be reclaimed and Klamath county will have added to it millions of dollars of wealth. This has been made possible largely thru the passage at the last election of the state guarantee of irrigation bonds, which makes it possible to find a market for such securities and the completion of the undertakings of this kind.

LAWN TENNIS CLUB OF BAY CITY COMING TO FISH AT ROCKY POINT

The Commercial Club has recently received a letter from the Lawn Tennis Club of San Francisco stating that a delegation of its members expect to spend a part of the month of August upon Upper Klamath Lake, with fishing as their main purpose. The Club says, "We will be glad to pass along any information received in regard to Klamath County."

LEAVE FOR ASHLAND.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Frank Arant will leave by auto tomorrow for Ashland, where they will spend the Fourth and a few succeeding days taking in the festivities and visiting friends.