

**The Evening Herald**

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 1920



**OFFFIELD AND THE LEGION**

Characteristic of the man, Mr. G. W. Offield seeks to place the members of the American Legion, as well as The Herald, in a position of unfairness over the matter of his refusal to sign an indorsement of the bill now before Congress providing for the reclamation of the Upper Klamath marsh lands and their settlement by ex-soldiers. He claims to have sent a personal telegram to Congressman Sinnott, which he alleges contained the following:

"I am heartily in favor of the general principles of your bill H. R. 11291 and proposed amendment of American Legion giving ex-service men preferential rights in the homesteading of public lands, and any movement favoring the boys who fought in the war, but would deem it inadvisable to do anything at this time that would interfere with the storage of water in Upper Klamath Lake necessary to irrigate 25,000 or more acres of land to be reclaimed on Tule Lake, which I feel to be the best land available for soldiers' homesteads in the United States."

"GEORGE W. OFFFIELD."

In an article appearing in the Klamath Record, he states: "I think in all fairness to me and to themselves, The Herald should have printed both telegrams."

Since when has the columns of The Herald been closed to Mr. Offfield or anyone else? Mr. Offfield knows that he is as free to use this paper as if he owned it. He knows that if he had stated to The Herald, or if The Herald had, through any other source, information that the telegram had been sent, it would have published it. The trouble with Mr. Offfield is that his one idea in life is to cover up everything except what he thinks the people ought to know, and he is measuring everyone else by the same yardstick. It is a matter of indifference to The Herald whether Mr. Offfield agrees with us or we agree with him, when it comes to a matter of news. The news

columns always carry both sides, whether what is printed is favorable or otherwise to the policy of the paper. Mr. Offfield knows this and he knows that if he wanted to be fair with The Herald, with the Legion, with the people he is trying to mislead, he would have furnished this paper with a copy of his telegram, or even intimated that he took the action he alleges was taken.

He is seeking to hide behind this telegram, in the hopes that the landowners of the project will not see his record as a director of the Klamath irrigation district. He hopes that through this he will divert attention from the fact that he has openly defied the positive instructions of the biggest majority that was ever voted on any question considered by the farmers—the protection of the power rights of the project. He hopes that by talking about this message he will get the landowners to forget that he closed his ears to the vehement demand of the farmer and listened to an act upon the whisper of private judgment.

The Herald has no personal quarrel with Mr. Offfield. As a private citizen he may be all that his friends and associates say he is. We hope their judgment is correct and their statements true. But as a public official we differ with him widely. The Herald believes that a public office is a public trust and that the occupant is a servant, not a master. Klamath county has had too many masters and too few servants. Mr. Offfield has persistently been a master. He has refused to listen to the voice of the men who placed him in the position of trust and honor that he occupies. He promised that if a majority of the landowners voted against the Link river dam he would oppose it tooth and nail. He went to them direct with his side of the case. By an overwhelming majority he was advised that the Link river dam was against the wishes of the landowners; that they were opposed to the contract with the government; that they were opposed to the attempt of the government to steal the power and turn it over to private interests. He had promised to abide by that decision, but immediately after he found out that it was against him, he hedged. He became a welcher on his constituents and his friends.

Now he stands for re-election. Nothing he can say about the Legion, about Mr. Bradbury, Mr. Eberlain, or The Herald will cover up his record. The landowners are again passing upon it. If they choose to reverse their former judgment after months of consideration, they will re-elect Mr. Offfield. If they are of the same opinion next Tuesday as they were when the straw vote was taken, Mr. Dixon will be elected. Their decision will be accepted by The Herald. This paper believes in the rule of the majority, especially when that majority pays the bill. But it must not be forgotten that if Mr. Offfield is returned to office it will mean complete surrender to the domination of the reclamation service; it will be a complete surrender of all right to ditches, dams, water rights, power rights—everything except the privilege of taking water from the canals. It will be an authorization to Mr. Offfield to pass over the plundering of the replacement fund and permission for the levying of an operation and maintenance charge of at least \$1.50 an acre a year to replace the structures that should have been built out of

the \$12.50 already voted. In a word, it will be a message to him and to the reclamation service that things may continue as they are going, with a complete loss to the landowner of everything he thought he owned and was paying for, except the mere privilege of taking water, and for this he must continue to pay an operation and maintenance charge that is one of the largest in the United States.

**BUSINESS MEN HOLD IMPORTANT MEETING**

(Continued from Page 1)

only able to supply Langell Valley and the country near Bonanza. There will be no surplus except such return flow as may take place below Bonanza.

The foregoing has shown the necessity of lake regulation to afford an adequate water supply for the irrigation of lands which clearly are likely to be included within the Klamath Project. Thus far no consideration has been given to the water supply required to furnish power for pumping and the industrial needs of the project itself. The commercial requirements of Klamath Falls, during November, 1919, amounted to substantially 3,600 theoretical horsepower. The probable pumping requirements to satisfy the proposed pumping districts, heretofore referred to, also the various districts which will pump water near Bonanza, will require about 6,000 horse-power, making a total power requirement of 9,600 horse-power—with no provision for future increased industrial needs.

The power right of 205 second feet which is superior to all rights of the United States, will develop a scant 1,100 horse-power at Klamath Falls and about 2,800 horse-power at Copco, or a total of 3,900 horse-power. Allowing 900 horsepower for development at Keno, then the total power which could be developed by the 205 second feet would be only 4,800 horsepower or just about half the local requirements, if provision is made for power for pumping.

Those objecting to the proposed plan of lake regulation may assert that storing the flood run-off, which practically necessitates comprehensive dyking of the lake, is not essential to the development of the project and allege a sufficient supply of water can be secured by merely drawing down the lake. Such an assertion would not be true, as the lake cannot be drawn down much without violating the power right of 205 second feet which is superior to any rights of the Klamath Project. Unless storage is provided, sufficient water to be of any appreciable benefit to the project during years of low run-off cannot be obtained until after a channel has been excavated from the lake proper through a reef to the diversion points of the Keno Canal and the Main Canal of the Klamath Project. Should this channel be excavated, then a considerable, although an inadequate supply, could be obtained without violating the power right by drawing the lake down below ordinary low water, which may be taken as elevation 4140.

If the spring run-off is not held back, there will be a shortage of power for pumping to the various proposed pumping districts which, including those at Bonanza, aggregate fully 30,000 acres. A lack of electric power will also seriously affect various local industries.

Moreover, if the spring run-off is

not held back and the supply for the project is obtained by drawing the water level down below elevation 4140, then the irrigation of the 50,000 acres or more around Lower Klamath Lake is out of the question. A considerable area of this land has been purchased recently by parties in California who allege that they propose to go ahead and promptly develop the land. The development will be out of the question without a dependable water supply.

The main interests to be considered are timber and the marginal marsh lands. The timber interest, while extensive, will only be casually touched upon here for the reason that it seems probable adjustments may be reached through conferences, and by mutual consent.

Considering now the marginal marsh lands below elevation 4148, which is about the probable elevation of the top of the dykes, the area of such lands is not far from 60,000 acres; about 1-6 is supposed to be public land, about 1.5 Indian land and the remainder is privately owned. The public and private lands are so related that it is not feasible to dyke one area apart from another. The different marshes must be considered as units without respect to ownership.

The dyking of the marshes will be expensive, involving many uncertainties both along engineering and agricultural lines. The entire area around Upper Klamath Lake is subject to frosts, this being particularly true with respect to Pelican Bay and Crystal Creek marshes. The best method of handling peaty soils, under our climatic conditions, has not yet been satisfactorily established. The consensus of opinion from those best posted is that for several years after the lands are dyked they should be used for grazing purposes, that in the process of time they will finally grow the tame grasses and, perhaps, be adapted to a somewhat diversified agriculture. As the foregoing opinion may be challenged by some, I wish to state that it is based on the results obtained and views expressed by the owners of Melhase and Hagelstein tracts near Algona, the views of the Stevenson Brothers on a portion of the McCornack lands, personal observation and discussion with those I have been able to meet whose experience is such that they can be presumed to have anything more than a casual knowledge of the question.

It has been shown that the regulation of the lake is essential for the development of the Klamath Project. For several years the Reclamation Service has not had the funds nor any prospect of securing the funds for doing the work itself. Therefore, on February 24, 1917, a contract was entered into between the United States and the California-Oregon Power company whereby the company agrees:

To construct a dam at the outlet of the lake, said dam to be the property of the United States.

To excavate channels from the lake to the intakes of the Keno canal, also the Main Project Canal.

To make satisfactory adjustments with all interests on the Upper Lake. To furnish electric power for pumping within 25 miles of Merrill for 7 mills per Kilowatt hour—the power lines to be constructed at the expense of the Company—to all installations of 100 horse-power or more.

Subject to the foregoing and to the further stipulation that the contract shall not curtail the right of the United States to the waters of Upper Klamath Lake, the Power Company may regulate the lake between certain limits and lease the Keno Canal paying an annual rental therefor of \$1,000.00.

In order to further the plan of lake regulation, in the spring of 1919 the United States called for bids for dyking, draining and placing in cultivation the public lands in Hank's Marsh, Pelican Bay Marsh and Crystal Creek Marsh, totalling an estimated area of about 10,000 acres. In order to obtain all possible competition, advertisements were run for five weeks in Seattle, Tacoma, San Francisco, Los Angeles and the local papers. Bids were opened on June 5th—five parties only submitting bids. The contracts were awarded to Doak and Brown and J. Frank Adams who submitted the best bids.

If the lake is to be regulated, the public lands must be either submerged or dyked. It seems clearly to the public interest that the lands be dyked and improved, if possible. Since the Reclamation Service does not have the funds for doing the work itself, further, since the best evidence indicates that the lands are not adapted to settlement under the conditions of the Reclamation act by men of small resources, it appears to me that the proposed plan is the one most likely to be successful. As I see it, the dyking and reclamation of



**Something New Old Fashioned Gospel Sermons**

Twice Every Day, Till January 25th

DR. S. A. DANFORD

Every Afternoon, at 2:30, and Evening, at 7.30 at Methodist Church

Subject:

"Sin and the Remedy"

What is sin? Who commits sin? Who is a Christian?

(No meeting Saturday evening.)

Sunday morning, at 11 o'clock; Sunday evening, at 7.30.

Arthur H. Johnston, a great song leader from Akron, Ohio, leads all the singing and sings at each service. Don't miss this great singer.

Everybody welcome. Everything free.

S. J. CHANEY, Pastor.

**COULDN'T WORK**

VIENNA, Dec. 22. (By Mail).—Although there are about 90,000 unemployed in the city, when the authorities called for workers to clean the streets from a recent snow fall only about 100 applicants responded. Investigators found it was due to the fact that the fabric shoes worn by the people melt after a few hours of working in slush.

**AIRPLANES SAFE**

LONDON, Dec. 22.—(By Mail).—The report of Major-General F. N. Sykes, controller of Aviation, shows that out of 52,000 passengers carried in 21,000 airplane trips, approximately 303,000 miles, only two deaths have been recorded through accidents.

The 1920 census closes January 15. Are you listed?

Help the census taker.

**PUBLIC SALE**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1920

- |                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 9 Logging Horses | 2 Sleds                |
| 1 Driving Team   | 1 Hack                 |
| 2 Milk Cows      | 5 Sets Logging Harness |
| 3 Log Trucks     | 1 Set Farm Harness     |
| 5 Wagons         | 1 Driving Harness      |

Chains, Blocks, Saws, Tongs, Wedges, Tramways, Building, etc.

**Turner Brothers' Sawmill**

C. G. Merrill, H. Moore, Auctioneers

Lunch Served at Noon Sale Starts at 10 A. M.  
3 1/2 Miles South of Olene

Amounts under \$50 cash. Terms: Over \$50, ten months' time, 8 per cent. 5 per cent off for cash on sums over \$50.

**LIBERTY THEATRE**

"THE PICK OF THE PICTURES"

H. W. POOLE, Owner. HARRY BOREL, Musical Director

TONIGHT

Your Last Chance to See

"CHECKERS"

The Big Racing Drama

Sunday and Monday

"WHEN BEARCAT WENT DRY"

A Smashing Big Special

SPORTSMEN AND NATURE LOVERS: See the wonderful color photography by the Prizma method. The subject is, "Trout."

Extra Shows Sunday

Matinees at 1:30 and 3.30 P. M.  
Evening at 7:30 and 9:00 P. M.

Have Opened Up a  
**Furniture Repair Shop**  
and if you need a hospital for that  
**Chair, Couch or Dresser, call**  
**PERKINS** PHONE 41