The Evening Herald

J. MURRAY City Editor

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1920.

PROVISIONS OF THE STORAGE CONTRACT

The Editor of The Herald, Klamath Falls, Oregon.

I notice in the Record for January 30, 1920, what purports to be an in- it would cost it nothing but what it ing "Faces Water Shortage." Our 1917: erstwhile prominent citizen bewails "5. The lowering and raising of lands would be increased \$4 per acre. individuals."

Those opposed to the leases on Here is paragraph seven of the upper Klamath lake do not desire to contract: harm anyone, but they do stand for "7. The company assumes any the proposition that the power com- and all liability for damage to the pany should comply with their con- property or rights of any person or tract with Secretary Lane of the in- corporation or the property or rights terior department, dated February of the state of Oregon due to the 24, 1917. If the company did this operation of said dam by said comit would itself dike these lands and pany or to the regulation and conthere would be no additional cost to trol of the levels of said lake by said

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Chas. J. Cizek

terview given out by one of our contracted to do. Here is paragraph "prominent citizens" under the head- five of the contract of February 24,

the fate of the people of Klamath the waters of the lake below or above county if the California Oregon the normal fluctuations while in a Power company is not permitted to state of nature shall be undertaken complete its program for the assimi- by the company only after making lation of this county. He states that satisfactory adjustment at its own if the dam is not completed by the expense in regard to all interests California Power company we may which may be affected thereby have no water next year and the cost whether of the state for navigation per acre to Tule lake and lower lake or other purposes or of any private

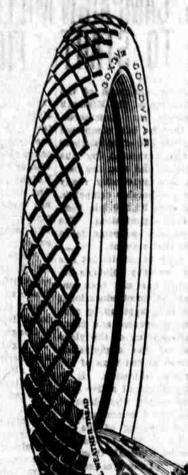
anyone but the power company, and company and hereby undertakes to



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GOOD

any and all liability for damage due to such regulation and control."

As stated, those opposing the 30-year leases of the government marsh lands surrounding upper Klamath lake take the position that self bound to do this diking. If it is made to live up to its agreement it will not cost the Tule lake land broken. The value of the power lower Klamath lake region one cent

partment, in his argument for the Klamath project if the people them-California Power company ,likewise solves retained and developed it. fails to remind the public that if he would only do his duty and make

hold the United States harmless from the power company live up to its contract there would be no extra expense imposed upon the public.

There has been a lot of befogging the issues in this matter and it seems to the writer that it is time for the people to get hold of the under paragraphs five and seven of power company contract and read it the contract of February 24, 1917. themselves. The more they look the California Power company is itwill they become that the stranglehold of the company should be now owners or the laand owners in the privileges this company is getting for a mere pittance would in days to come more than pay the cost of oper-Secretary Lane of the interior de- ation and maintenance of the whole

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The Government Took Over

The Possession and Management

of certain QUASI-public concerns, and, with the assistance of a large part of the previously formed organizations, realized some success in operation, but as a total result the experiment was a failure. Every day that passes furnishes evidence to justify this assertion. The property and businesses taken over have been or will be returned to the owners for the real reason, if not admitted. that the undertakings were too big and complicated for new and unexperienced chiefs to manage. What the results of this experiment will be as to the future value of the properties no one can, with accuracy, predict. It cannot be entirely satisfactory to the owners or, for some years at least, to the general public. . . . There was clearly demonstrated during the war the value and practical benefit of private management as compared with public management. If it be said that government (or municipal) conduct of business has sometimes been successful, the answer is that the same business in the hands of private, responsible individuals, with capital and success at stake, would have resulted more favorably.

California-Oregon Power Co.



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example.

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