

The Evening Herald

Issued Daily, except Sunday, by The Herald Publishing Company Office: 119 N. Eighth Street, Klamath Falls, Oregon.

E. J. MURRAY Publisher
W. H. PERKINS News Editor

Entered as second class matter at the postoffice at Klamath Falls, Oregon, under act of March 3, 1879.

Member of the Associated Press

The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use of republication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this paper and also the local news published therein. All rights of republication of special dispatches herein are also reserved.

The Evening Herald is the official paper of Klamath County

Wednesday, November 18, 1925

COMMISSIONER MEAD'S "SOLICITUDE"

There appeared in the columns of this morning's issue of the Copco mouthpiece, The Klamath News, a letter from Elwood Mead, commissioner of reclamation, in answer to a news story published in the Evening Herald on October 29. Notwithstanding we were not extended the courtesy of a copy of this letter for publication, we reproduce it for the information of the farmers, that they may more fully understand our answer to the commissioner of reclamation.

The commissioner's answer is a belated one. Following the appearance of the statement last October, a demand was made for a denial, but though offer was made to meet the expense of a telegraphic reply, Mr. Mead was silent, preferring, perhaps, to let the poison of the statement get in its work in the election and then disclaim the responsibility afterwards.

No one will seriously accept his excuse that "the reporter made a mistake regarding some of the facts." It is a cowardly trick resorted to by political tricksters and we are surprised that the commissioner makes use of such an instrument.

In the third paragraph of his statement the commissioner intimates that the widest publicity was not given to the action of the board in excluding the Enterprise land. The dishonest statement issued from the bureau was not necessary to acquaint the farmers with what was going on. Ample publicity was given to the proceedings and we doubt if there were any farmers who did not know the facts. At least none interested enough to seek knowledge were ignorant of what was being done.

In the fourth paragraph of his statement one will find an inkling of the malice that actuates the bureau in its attitude towards the directors, of the district and Charles Wood Eberlein. No one ever denied that the taxes were remitted and recommendation made that the land be excluded from the district. This was done because the directors recognized that the government had failed in its obligation to the Enterprise company and if Mr. Mead were honest in his protestations of fairness, he would have been the first one to have recommended that the land be excluded. When he and Mr. Work were here, both refused to make an honest investigation, they refused to hear evidence that would justify the action taken by the board of directors. They preferred to listen to the dishonest statements of the sycophants that surround them, even though the rights of individuals are trampled under foot.

If Commissioner Mead secured any "legal advice" to the effect that the Enterprise land should not have been excluded, then there should be no place in the reclamation service for the individual giving it and even a cursory investigation will prove this to be true. But it seems that it is not the policy of the service to do justice, where anyone who has ever opposed the service is affected. The commissioner's statement that the board is trying to do indirectly what it could not do directly, is offered as proof of our charge. He should know better, and if he does not, then he is the wrong man for the place he occupies. It is our observation that it is the policy of the bureau to do "by indirection something which cannot be done by directors." The issuance of the October statement was a clear effort to influence the election for directors of the Klamath Irrigation district. The commissioner or his subordinates did not dare to come out directly for those who would do their bidding if elected, so by indirection it was sought, through the issuance of a lying statement, to prejudice the landowners of the district against the men who had striven by every possible means to protect the district against the reclamation plunderbund, hoping thereby to bring about their defeat and reestablish the service in the control of the district.

But the deep solicitude of the commissioner is tearfully expressed in paragraph six of his letter. The cancellation in question, and which was justified by every law of justice and honesty, cost the farmers of the district slightly over two cents an acre, provided the classification made under the fact finders' report is not recognized by the government. If it is recognized, then the government will have to stand the loss. But how does the commissioner square his solicitude for the farmers in this instance, where two cents an acre is involved, with the increase of the cost of reclamation from \$18.50 an acre to \$42.50 and on up to \$90 an acre? Is this not grasping at the mote and overlooking the beam? If the commissioner will look around him, if he will remove the smoked glasses of bureaucracy and replace them with the crystal lenses of honest investigation and business administration, he will find that the bureau of which he thinks he is the head, is dominated and run by a coterie of drones, drones so incompetent that they

could not find employment in any business organization in the world.

The commissioner shows very bad taste in undertaking to defend the October statement. In his letter he admits that several misstatements were made. If he were as sincere as he wants the people to believe, he would frankly have disavowed the whole statement as a tissue of falsehoods and publicly reprimanded and removed from the service the person responsible for the publication. Then we would have hopes as to the future. As it is now, we cannot but feel that he is just a link in the chain of official incompetency—incompetency that has cost the farmers of the west tens of millions of dollars and made an absolute failure of the entire system of reclamation.

In paragraph seven, the commissioner again injects the venom characteristic of the reclamation service, when he intimates that the names of delinquents are withheld from publication and that failure to exercise the right of foreclosure may jeopardize the interests of the district. He failed to point out that when the present board gained control, the delinquencies amounted to some \$98,000; that the present board has collected \$43,000 of these; that it evolved one of the most constructive plans for the liquidation of the remaining payments that has been brought forth in the history of reclamation, a plan that has the approval of the president of the federal land bank; that in all of this his bureau refused to lend any aid or cooperation, but by its attitude sought to handicap the work of the board in every way. The lamentable financial condition of the district is due entirely to the reclamation service board of directors that was in control for seven years, and whose subserviency to the service and special interests brought the district to the verge of bankruptcy, a bankruptcy that was only avoided by the present board.

As to his charge about the contract, it is of like character to the others made in his letter. The board of directors has done everything in its power to secure an equitable contract, but the reclamation service has withheld action, hoping that it could again secure control of the board of directors and thus be able to consummate its plans to surrender to the California Oregon Power company the water rights that belong to the farmers. It was only after the commissioner's man Friday, Dent, put his finger in the election pie that any telegrams or letters were published by the directors, and then only to gain show that the reclamation service was lying and seeking to deceive the farmers into defeating the men who had the honesty and courage to stand up and fight for the rights of the farmers.

We want Commissioner Mead to know that he never can secure tranquility on the Klamath project by following the course he has mapped out. He must meet the farmers on an equal footing. He must learn now and for all time that he is not their master and never will be. He must clearly understand that the farmers are not working for him, nor for the government; that they are under no obligations to the government, except to pay back what they justly owe; and that they never will consider any contract that fails to recognize these principles and that does not give to them absolute home rule in the management of their affairs, consistent with perfect security to the government, so far as payments are concerned. When the commissioner of reclamation and secretary of the interior get these facts solidly embedded in their heads and govern themselves accordingly, then, and not till then, will the people of the Klamath project meet with them on terms of mutual good will.

And since the commissioner has graciously permitted the superintendent of the Klamath project to give publicity to his letter, we also condescend to permit of his transmitting to his superior our answer to his explanation of the charges made in our article of October 29.

And in the meantime, and while all negotiations are pending, the reclamation service must not forget that "the water is ours and we will keep it."

Letters From The People

Following is a letter written by Dr. Elwood Mead, commissioner of reclamation, to Herbert D. Newell, superintendent of the Klamath Irrigation district:

Washington, D. C.
November 7, 1925

From: Commissioner
To: Superintendent, Klamath Falls, Ore.

"I thank you for your letter of October 29, transmitting clipping from the Evening Herald of October 29, relating to the remission of taxes by the Klamath Irrigation district against lands of the Enterprise Land & Investment company, and to the other action which has been the subject of considerable discussion."

"I have sent you a copy of my letter of November 3 to Mr. Sinnott, in which I explain that there was no interview given by me, and that the reporter in his attempt to restate some of the facts culled from the records, made a mistake regarding some of them."

"I did, however, sanction publication of the facts as shown by the record, believing that the action of the board was unfair to the small land owners of the district who have paid their taxes. I then believed, and I adhere to the belief, that the landowners are entitled to know what has been done, and to determine for themselves whether such action meets with their approval."

"The reporter stated, or implied that all of the assessments against lands of the Enterprise Land & Investment company had been remitted, whereas this statement applies only to some 85 acres. Presumably the officials of the district do not deny that the sheriff was directed to cancel taxes on this area."

"I opposed the exclusion from the district boundaries of the 85 acres of the Enterprise lands in the belief that such action violated the law and provisions of contract with the United States. This belief is shared by my legal advisers. The proposed exclusion of the lands in question was abandoned, presumably as a result of protest interposed by the bureau. The action of the board in directing the cancellation of assessments against the 85 acres of the Enterprise lands is an obvious attempt to do by indirection something which cannot be legally done directly."

"I am advised that the United States is without effective legal remedy to prevent cancellation of the particular assessments in question, since the charges due the United States for those years have been paid by the other land owners, whose assessments were necessarily increased to make up the deficit. I conceive that an injustice has been done to the landowners of the district at large. If such landowners themselves, after being apprised of the action taken and of its effect, do not share with me the belief that an injustice has been wrought, I feel at least that my duty has been discharged in calling attention to the situation."

"The article heretofore published to which exception has been taken

by officials of the district, erroneously stated that some 100 landowners were delinquent in their payments to the government. The fact is that it is their payments to the district that such landowners are delinquent. While the statement was technically incorrect, the effect is the same upon the landowners of the district who have paid their proportionate shares of the charges, and who in addition must make up for the delinquencies of others. It might be of interest to the landowners to ascertain from the records the identity of the most flagrant delinquents, and inquire into the reasons for such delinquency, particularly with reference to whether the necessary action has been, and is being taken by the proper officials, to enforce collection and to prevent the assessments being barred by limitation.

"The district board in its telegrams relating to the delay in execution of new contract applying the terms of the so-called fact finders' law, is magnanimous enough to attribute the blame entirely to this office, despite the record which clearly shows that the delay is to be attributed mainly to the failure of the board to carry out the understanding had in presenting the matter to this office and to the department. This is discussed in the acting commissioner's letter of October 24. The telegrams are so out of harmony with the facts, and so delinquent in tone as to suggest the possibility that they may have been intended primarily for broadcasting purposes. Their publication in the local papers lends color to this view."

"To the end that those interested may be fully informed, you are authorized to give publicity to this letter."

(Signed) ELWOOD MEAD.

Seek New Head At Deaf School

SALEM, Ore., Nov. 18.—Over a dozen deaf school experts are being considered by the state board of control for the superintendency of the Oregon school for the deaf when the resignation of O. L. McIntyre becomes effective the last of this month. Most of the applications are not voluntary, however, the board having found it necessary to solicit applications, and most of them are willing to come to Oregon only on the condition that a higher salary be paid.

The salary is only \$1500 a year, but residence and living expenses are furnished. Among those willing to come if the salary is increased is E. S. Tillinghast, who for many years was superintendent of the Oregon school. He is now head of the South Dakota school at Sioux Falls.

GET AT THE CAUSE!

The Advice of a Resident of This Locality Shows a Way

There's nothing more annoying than kidney weakness or inability to properly control the kidney secretions. Night and day aches, the sufferer is tormented and what with the burning and scalding, the attendant backache, headache and dizziness, life is indeed a burden. Doan's Pills—a stimulant diuretic to the kidneys—have brought peace and comfort to many Klamath Falls people. Profit by this Medford resident's experience:

"I have taken Doan's Pills on different occasions when suffering from backache and kidney weakness and they have always given me splendid relief."

FOUR YEARS LATER, Mr. Atwell said: "I gladly confirm all I said in my former statement, as

If

when you have tire trouble you want your tires repaired as good as new—have them vulcanized in the best equipped shop in Klamath Falls. Our Heintz Electric Steam Vulcanizers and expert repair men insure you of the best possible results."

Reed Auto Supply Co.

S. 11th Near Main
Phone 298

BRONCHITIS
At bedtime rub the throat and chest thoroughly with—
VICKS VAPORUB
Over 17 Million Jars Used Yearly

The Better BUICK surpasses every previous Buick in performance—in quality—in beauty—in value and in sales

no other motor car provides all these advantages

75 Horsepower ~ Air Cleaner
Controllable Beam Headlights
Mechanical 4 Wheel Brakes
Automatic Heat Control
Sedans at Coach Prices
Duotone Duco Colors
Sealed Chassis
Gas Filter ~ Oil Filter

Today ~ as for 21 years ~ Buick is the acknowledged Standard of Comparison among motor cars

BUICK MOTOR CO., FLINT, MICH.
Division of General Motors Corporation

WHEN BETTER AUTOMOBILES ARE BUILT, BUICK WILL BUILD THEM

Buick and Star Garage
Opposite White Pelican Hotel

For Years The Medical Profession

has advised people to take proper care of their teeth and prevent many body ailments that are incidental to neglect. See us for free examination of your teeth.

R. D. COE, DENTISTS

(Painless of course)

202-204 Hopkins Bldg. 8th and Main Phone 836

SAYS KLAMATH POTATO CENTER

(Continued From Page One)

the most effective way to create a market and continuous demand for the high grade potatoes that can be grown in this state. To this end he markets all U. S. No. 1 spuds in new branded bags. A special Klamath county brand identifies every sack marketed from here.

Mr. Grafton has chosen Klamath as an important unit in his wholesale potato operations in the state, believing that with thorough transportation, Klamath will establish a national reputation as a potato center. He lists among its many advantages, its nearness to large consuming markets.

"The quality of potatoes grown here is unsurpassed in the west, except by Deschutes tubers, which have more brightness of color," asserts Mr. Grafton. "One drawback found in marketing local potatoes—chlorosis, or 'black scurf'—detracts from the appearance and reduces the yield; this disease is easily checked by treating the seed with hot formalin or corrosive sublimate."

Wonderful Opportunity
"A wonderful opportunity exists in Klamath for the production of Burbank type seed potatoes for the California market. More experimental data are needed, however, before any large acreage is planted to other than the Netted Gem variety."

"Much valuable service in developing the potato industry here has been rendered by county agents and O. A. C. extension workers." Mr. Grafton expresses it as his belief that one of Klamath county's principal handicaps at present is a lack of proper storage facilities. He feels, however, that with the prospective development in the potato industry, the storage problem will be adjusted.

GENEVA.—Employees of League of Nations at Geneva are going to have golf links and tennis courts. For this purpose, Viscount Cecil has given one fifth of a \$25,000 prize he received from the Woodrow Wilson foundation.

NEW YORK.—Having resigned as senior major of artillery in Japan, Tokuzo Fukuba has been peeling potatoes and doing other menial things in the Waldorf for 14 months. Now he's going home to Americanize Japan hotels.



NEGLECT
EYE-ANXIETY is the price of eye-neglect. You can depend upon our optometrist. You can have perfect confidence in regard to his examination and his prescription. We make the glasses

Dr. H. J. Winters
Eyeglass Specialist
Klamath Falls, Ore.
We grind our own glasses.

NORMANDY BELL RINGERS
Elk's Temple
Tomorrow Night
Starting 8 p. m.
Dancing Follows Program

FRIENDS SAY SHE IS PICTURE OF HEALTH

"I cannot give thanks for many thanks, for it brought back my health and strength after being ill for a long time, and nearly all signs of getting well had left me." is the grateful statement of Mrs. Sarah Duckett. "I had been ill for a long time and had been gradually weakening down for 20 years. A friend I met at a party, could not walk without limping, and felt too weak to get out of my chair. They was almost out of the question and I was nervous, discouraged and despondent."
"When I began taking Tanlac I was down to 120 lbs. but I now weigh 160 and haven't an ailment in the world. It was what Tanlac did for me four years ago and since then I have never been without it in the house. I take a bottle now and then and everyone says I am the picture of health."
"What Tanlac has done for others, it has also done for you. For sale by all good druggists. Accept no substitute."
Tanlac Vegetable Pills for constipation, made and recommended by the manufacturer of Tanlac.
TANLAC FOR YOUR HEALTH