

"Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith let us to the end dare to do our duty as we understand it."—Abraham Lincoln.

## "I'm Through"

The System Wears Out the Best Men

Every once in a while men of character and will power who have occupied public positions honestly and ably, give utterance to the expression, "I'm through."

There are such men in Klamath Falls. They will tell you that they have been worn out at the wheel; that the public is unappreciative and deserves what it gets—men whose ear is held to the underworld.

There are such men in Washington. Senator George W. Norris of Nebraska, the man who led the fight to unseat "Uncle Joe" Cannon, announcing his intention to retire after twenty years of service, cried, "I'm through."

In that cry may be sensed a cause of what some people say is the failure of democracy. Democracy shows continual signs of improvement, however, and taken as a whole, is far from being through—and must be improved constantly.

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Cities throughout the country are solving their problems of democracy by giving employment to trained men rather than to petty politicians. They are electing representative men, not to handle the affairs of their city in their spare time, but that the elective men may select public employees to give all their time to the public affairs.

It is the system of government in Klamath Falls that causes the best men to say, "I'm through." Good men are never "through" with a vehicle that makes for progress. And before many months the people may have opportunity to change the system.

## Court Tinkerings

A Decision Carried to the Ultimate

Turbulent waters are apparent in matters of irrigation expenditures of the Imperial valley irrigation district. The board of directors have been enjoined from paying the expenses of a lobbyist to Washington.

This court decision grew out of the suit of a taxpayer against the district. It was held that the district directors have no legal right to spend money in obtaining legislation—a far reaching opinion, if press dispatches are correct.

Carried to its illogical conclusion, the Klamath irrigation board could, for instance, be stopped from sending one of its officers to Salem.

And that might pave the way for the spectacle of Secretary Thomas out soliciting funds from the merchants when President Bradbury was to be sent on a legislative mission. Something of the kind happens each time a delegation of Indians wants to go to Washington and is refused expenses from the tribal funds.



## The Political Gadfly

Following the resignation of J. M. Carnahan, engineer for the Klamath irrigation district, on Saturday, following the regular meeting of the board, speculation has been rife as to what action the board would take in replacing him. It has been generally accepted as a fact that the board would consider Carnahan's services invaluable to the district, as associate counsel at least. In view of pending litigation to abrogate the power company's contract to operate the Link river dam.

It is interesting to note that Carnahan's resignation was handed to A. M. Thomas, secretary of the board. Between Thomas and Carnahan the love lost has been little. Thomas lost no moments in broadcasting the news of the resignation, despite a resolution of the board making for secrecy as to publication of news, particularly news of legal purport. The directors of the district learned of the resignation from the newspapers over their coffee cups on Sunday morning.

To remark that they were surprised says much, very much.

While Carnahan is not precluded from participation in the district's suit against the power company by reason of his resignation, the name of another firm now takes precedence, momentarily at least. This firm is Irwin & O'Neill, the choice of Secretary Thomas. Judge O'Neill has been continually urged on the board as a working partner with Carnahan for the power suit.

Judge O'Neill was the attorney for E. J. Murray, publisher, in his unsuccessful suit to invalidate the contract for city printing held by The News, and has represented the publisher in various legal actions. And O'Neill was, of course, acceptable to Murray, and hence O'Neill's urging from this source through Thomas. Whether or no the board will accept this nomination of O'Neill, and whether or no the board will endeavor to persuade Carnahan to return to the

fold, will be problems for the directors to face at their next meeting.

The water users believe their directors have made a wise move in employing Robert E. Chamberlain, and the directors wish to make an equally salutary choice of trial attorneys. They are moving with great deliberation in the matter, realizing that now or never the power contract is to be broken, and that it is too important a matter with which to trifle.

## Dinner Stories

The old lady from the country and her small son were driving to town when a huge automobile bore down upon them. The horse was badly frightened and began to prance, whereupon the old lady leaped down and waved wildly to the chauffeur, screaming at the top of her voice.

The chauffeur stopped the car and offered to help get the horse past.

"That's all right," said the boy, who remained composedly in the carriage. "I can manage the horse. You just lead horse past."

A motorist stopped at a filling station on the outskirts of a village on his way to visit one of his wife's relatives he had never seen. He had heard that the relative had a flourishing business, and he decided to use the opportunity to learn something about him. "What kind of store does Joab Miller run at Toad Rock?" he asked the service man.

"Well, I don't know exactly how to describe it," was the slow reply. "He has motor car parts for sale; buys butter, eggs and poultry; deals in real estate; paints houses, marries folks as justice of the peace; runs the postoffice, sells stamps, hams and molasses, and takes in boarders. I guess you'd call it a drug store."

Traveler (at ticket office in Los Angeles)—I want to go to Chicago.

Ticket Agent (enslaved by California climate)—You're a liar—you've GOT to go to Chicago.

## NEVER TOO OLD TO LEARN

It is your place to help departing callers with their wraps, not your wife's, although there is no harm in her doing so if you are occupied. It is her place, as hostess, to invite them to come again. It used to be that a woman did not offer her hand when being introduced to a man, but now it is an optional matter. A bow is sufficient, however. When two persons are introduced, they should endeavor to say something pleasant to each other, not just stand and stare.

DESPERATE: Your disagreement should not keep you from writing and telling him how sorry you were to hear about his injury. You might even send him some little gift, like a book, or a print, or something to brighten his sick-room.

## Klamath Adventures

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### EPISODE XVIII

#### Mounting Costs

In a preceding chapter it was indicated that the government might have deliberately misled the farmers as to the ultimate cost of the project. From all available records this appears not to have been the case. On the contrary, it appears that the engineers were honest in their beliefs that the costs of the project could be kept to \$20 an acre.

In March, 1905, the Klamath Water Users' association was organized. It was regularly incorporated under the laws of the state of Oregon, with a capital stock of \$2,000,000. The incorporators were N. S. Merrill, Jacob Rueck, O. A. Stearns, P. L. Fountain, W. F. Hill, H. H. Burnham, Elmer I. Applegate, Thomas D. Prior and W. C. Dalton.

Two months later, in May, Supervising Engineer J. B. Lippincott, in a general report to this association, said that the secretary of the interior had adopted the Klamath project, and authorized its construction under the reclamation act.

Lippincott said further that the cost of construction was estimated at \$20 an acre or less, but that the charge to be made to the landowners would be the actual cost, without interest or profit, and that it was entirely possible that future investigations might modify these estimates, either to lower or increase them. This from the record.

Old timers recall, however, that T. H. Humphreys, sent to investigate conditions by Lippincott in 1904, had said that construction costs would not be over \$18 an acre. And further, that in urging the embracing of the offerings by the reclamation service, he and others had pointed out to the farmers how much more desirable costs under the government would be than under the Adams and Van Brimmer ditches.

The government would charge no interest and payments would be extended over a long number of years, the farmers were assured, and that ultimately they would have a paid-up water right. No rights were assured the farmers under the Adams ditch, for instance, and anyone of them could figure for themselves, on the basis of the data furnished them by the government engineers that over a long period of years they would be much better off. There was the lure, also, of work for men

and teams on the government project.

It is recollections such as that stick in the craws of farmers, and which cause them to gulp every time the reclamation service is mentioned.

In defense of Lippincott should be cited that the total of lands within the project as originally planned, was 490 acres. Of this total there were 140,797 acres in Klamath basin alone. Subsequent investigations into the nature of the soil and data, of materially reducing acreage. This statement, of course, subject to contradiction on several scores, but the remainder that the areas to be irrigated were changed by a change of engineers long before the project was completed.

This board of engineers comprised A. J. Wiley, D. C. Hill, E. G. Hopson and D. W. Murphy. Its sessions were held in October, 1906. It was on the basis of its report that the first change of the contemplated area of the project was made.

But it was on the findings of another board—W. Saunders, O. H. Ensign, J. Jacobs, and Lippincott and reports that preliminary estimates of cost were made. These preliminary estimates were as follows:

Upper valleys, comprising 356 acres at a cost of \$18 an acre.

Klamath basin, comprising 797 acres at a cost of \$17.00 an acre.

Tule lake bed, comprising 245 at a cost of \$22.03 an acre.

And it was the same board, Henry, Hopson and Murphy in 1907 that first began to seriously consider mounting acre costs, because

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## Some Pages from American History

By VICTOR MORGAN

### THE CALL OF ADVENTURE

News did not travel as fast in the fifteenth century as it does in the twentieth. But it traveled just as surely.

As soon as Christopher Columbus returned to the streets of Palos and the court of Spain, after his long absence in search of a water route to India by way of the western seas, people everywhere began talking of his voyage. He had come home with tales of hitherto unknown lands. He had discovered the West Indies—America.

Over in England, John Cabot asked permission to sail in western and northern seas—and was granted dominion over whatever lands he might find. He landed upon the bleak shores of north-eastern Canada, it is thought.

Cabot was accompanied by his daring son, Sebastian, who later made many voyages of his own, and whose services were divided between the courts of Spain and England. He cruised down along the coast of North America as far south as North Carolina, from the Labrador region.

Then that intrepid adventurer, Vasco de Gama, set sail due south from the Cape Verde Islands, and after rounding the Cape of Good Hope, sailed straight to India, delighting the heart of the Portuguese monarch under whose flag he sailed. For a direct water route to India

had been found.

Of sea fights and skirmishes there were a-plenty, even for that battle-loving adventurer, Alonso de Ojeda. His ships coasted along South America for the most part.

A young Italian by the name of Amerigo Vespucci sailed forth and wrote home many letters of such interest that they were translated into many tongues. From the inland country of Germany came the suggestion that the new lands be named for Amerigo: America.

Always on the lookout for a stretch of sea beyond the land of the new world, Balboa was the first to look upon the great Pacific ocean.

Ponce de Leon sailed forth to discover in Florida the fabled fountain of youth. For no story was too hard to believe in those days.

Magellan, the stout-hearted mariner who started to sail around the world, died on the voyage, but a ship of his fleet completed the journey.

Then there were La Casa and Cabeza de Vaca, names not quite so familiar in these days, but names nevertheless of daring and brave explorers who helped to make our country's development and colonization possible.

Let us glance at the stories of these men.  
(Tomorrow: John Cabot of England, sets sail.)