

## WORK ON UPPER PROJECT BEGINS NEXT YEAR

### THE EWAUNA GOES DOWN

Breaking of Tow Line Sends Steamer to Bottom of Lake

The Steamer Ewauna went to the bottom in "The Straits" last Saturday evening. It was being towed from Lairds by the Klamath, when one of the tow lines broke, whirled the Ewauna on its side and before Capt. Woodbury could stop, sank. Sunday preparations were made for raising the boat, and this was accomplished Monday. Very little damage was done to the machinery which has been thoroughly overhauled and put in better condition than it was before the accident.

### IN NEW QUARTERS

E. Whitlock has moved into his new building, corner of 8th and Pine Street. Work is still progressing on the Morgan and Chapel, and these will be in readiness for public use in a short time.

When finally completed, Mr. Whitlock will have one of the best appointed undertaking and embalming establishments in the state.

### TO BUILD PHONE LINE

Joseph Hessig, president of the Klamath Telephone and Telegraph company, was in Silver Lake the first of the week, looking out a route for a telephone line from Fort Klamath to Silver Lake via Klamath Marsh.

This company's main line extends from Fort Klamath to Ager, where it connects with the P. S. T. & T. Co., and when the line is completed to Silver Lake it will give direct connection to Portland and all valley points.

Mr. Hessig says the line is a sure go, and that work will be commenced in the spring. His company has substantial financial backing and it is expected that when the line is once started the work will be pushed to completion as rapidly as possible.

Before the line can be built, however, it is necessary for the company to obtain two permits from the government, one to cross the Indian reservation and one to cross the forest reserve. This transaction will consume about six months time, after which work on the line will be commenced at once.

Mr. Hessig believes the line will soon develop into a paying proposition, especially if a line is extended, from Bend to this place.—Silver Lake Oregonian.

### KENO KINKS

Mrs. Skinner has been very sick with gall stone.

Mr. Mills an uncle of L. O. Mills, paid Keno a visit.

Mrs. Chandler has gone to the Willamette valley, on a visit to relatives. Mr. Reader's new house is nearing completion. The Ladd brothers doing the work.

Miss French is teaching the Keno school with good attendance. Mrs. Rose Trask having quit and gone to White Lake City to teach a 7 month school.

Mr. Hitchcock, of Long lake, has moved to the Keno saw mill, having rented the same for four years. He will complete the mill and begin sawing in the near future. Blackey has the reputation of being a good sawyer and we may look for some fine lumber.

The logging business is progressing in good shape. One of the haulers, C. Snowgoose, concluded to weigh a small load of logs drawn by two horses; but when he drove on to the scales he found their capacity too small, being only 10,000 pounds.

Mr. Mapleton is here delivering a fine lot of fruit trees. This shows that people here have faith in the fruit business in this locality; and well they may have, as we have grown as fine fruit as grows any where. Yet some people say we cannot raise anything.

The potato crop is unusually light this year. Henry Chapman brought a few spuds to the store one of which weighed four pounds and had the season been good they would have weighed from 6 to 8 pounds each. Chapman says he will have about 100 sacks of fine potatoes.

### ADDITIONAL BRIEFS.

Mr. Haycock, who recently had his leg broken, was the victim of another fall Saturday morning while on his way to take the boat for home. His crutch

## The Keno Canal Will Also Be Constructed, but the Cut Will Have to Wait Several Years

### THE RECLAMATION OFFICIALS WERE ALL HERE

#### Chief Engineer Newell Outlines the Program for Next Year

#### FORCE ACCOUNT IS EXPLAINED

#### Every Part of the Klamath Project Will Receive the Attention of the Service Next Year. Experiments on Marsh Lands Must Be Conducted Before the Cut Is Made

slipped on the sidewalk causing him to fall, severely wrenching the muscles of the injured leg. He was taken to his room, and Dr. Cartwright summoned.

Lou Pretty, who has been welding the razor and shears in the Klamath for the past several months, left for Portland last Sunday, where he will spend the winter.

Work has commenced on Spring Street, which leads from the Hot Springs to the Southern Pacific Depot, and when completed it will be a very attractive drive.

E. I. Applegate has sold his 100-acre ranch near Pine Grove to Mr. Keiser of Nampa, Idaho, the sale having been made through one of the local real estate agents. Consideration \$2500.

Dr. Ida S. Stone, who has been visiting with her parents near Montreal for the past two months returned home Saturday. She had a delightful trip, marred only by the bidding adieu to her parents.

During the past week a big bunch of cattle belonging to Kittridge Brothers, C. D. Porter, Charles Pitcher, Hayt Brothers and Mr. Egle were delivered at Merrill for S. L. Akins, who purchased them for his firm.

What's the matter with the Hot Springs Addition? Lots are going fast, over thirty lots have been sold in the past few days. Among some of the purchasers are G. W. White, of the First National Bank, Mrs. May Mongold, and Mrs. Hattie Wilson, of near Klamath Falls, and E. J. Murray of Klamath Republican.

The semi-annual statement of the financial condition of Klamath county appears elsewhere in this issue. It shows the outstanding indebtedness of this county to be \$108,454.79, and \$10,286.90 applicable to payment of county warrants. The work of preparing this statement has been exhaustive, and County Clerk Chastain and Treasurer Lewis have gone most thoroughly into the matter. The figures showing the indebtedness is as nearly correct as it is possible to make it, in view of the fact that many of the outstanding warrants have been lost or never been presented for payment.

The dance given by the Twenty-one club was an unqualified success. It was the first of a series to be given semi-monthly by this organization, and invitations to further functions will probably be in great demand. Under the rules governing this club, each member is limited to one invitation and his request must be passed upon by the invitation committee and if acceptable to that body, the card is issued. The list of invited guests, with the name of the sponsor of each, is open for the inspection of the members of the club, and if any member raises a valid objection, the committee will refuse to issue the invitation or withdraw it if one has already been sent.

E. T. Tynan of Roseburg was here during the past week relative to the establishment of a cold storage plant. This is his second visit here, and it is not unlikely that he will take definite steps toward the installation of an up-to-date ice and cold storage plant at this point. No better opening for such an enterprise is to be found on the coast, in view of the fact that the cutting and sale of lake ice will probably be prohibited by the council. This step was considered last year, and has again been given momentum on account of Dr. Yenny's attitude on this question when he was here two weeks ago. Local capital should take up this enterprise, as it is a profitable one.

A 32-foot boat, equipped with a 25-horsepower engine has been added to the fleet on the lower lakes. This boat is the property of J. M. McIntire, who has the contract for transferring the freight from the terminus of the California Northwestern to the boats of the Klamath Navigation Company. It was formerly used on the Rogue river, below Grant's Pass, but the condition of that turbulent stream prevented its being a success. It was hauled overland from Grants Pass, and arrived in perfect condition. It was launched in Lake Ewauna this week. Being of the flat-bottomed type, it is particularly adapted for service on the waters here, and will be engaged in the transportation of freight.

The Reclamation Service can no longer be accused of "going slow," for next year will see every part of the Klamath Project receiving attention.

The program for next year as mapped out by the Reclamation officials, who were here this week includes:

Turning the water into the first unit of Main Canal.

Completion of the second unit and Poe Valley laterals.

Advertising for bids for the Clear Lake dam for Upper Project.

Construction of the Keno Canal.

The bids for the Clear Lake dam will be asked for early in the spring, and work will be begun in the summer, or as soon as low water will permit.

The Reclamation Service was in Klamath Falls this week—that is, all the head officials except the Secretary of the Interior, and no doubt he would have been present if it had been possible for him to do so, for it is a well known fact that Secretary Hitchcock has a warm spot in his heart for the Klamath Project—the largest, cheapest and best of all the government's great irrigation enterprises.

If the secretary was not here, he was ably represented by Charles D. Walcott, director of the Geological Survey and Reclamation Service; F. H. Newell, chief engineer, the man who has devoted practically all of his life to the service; C. E. Grunsky, consulting engineer; W. H. Hedman, scientist in charge of soil surveys; D. C. Henny, supervising engineer, and E. G. Hopson, assistant supervising engineer. They are here on their annual tour of inspection. Most of them have been here before, but this is the first time that the entire Board has been here in a body.

Since the arrival of the officials they, together with Engineers Murphy and Humphrey, have been in consultation on the progress of work on, and the future plans for, the Klamath Project. The work already done has been inspected and the plans snapped out for the future carefully gone over.

Wednesday morning, Chief Engineer Newell was interviewed by a representative of The Republican. He is as plain as an old shoe; one of those men who, though honored and exalted by reason of his worth and ability, yet retains that easy, suave manner that makes those he meets perfectly at ease. It is plain that his one hobby is his labor in the field of irrigation, a labor that has received his undivided attention for over twenty-five years, and a labor so well performed as to place him in the lead among the greatest irrigation engineers of this age. He is the protégé of Major Powell—the father of government irrigation, under whom he worked for years. When the reclamation bill was passed and Mr Walcott was placed at the head of the Reclamation Service, his first selection was Mr. Newell—for he knew of his ability, integrity and fidelity. How well his judgment was proven correct is testified to by the exonerations that have been heaped on him and Mr. Newell, because that bulwark of honesty would not, under his direction, permit the Reclamation Service to be prostituted into being an avenue of political graft or incompetency. Political pulls had no weight with him, it was ability that counted, and his policy has withstood the repeated assaults that have been made on it since the creation of the service. In dis-

ussing the Klamath Project, Mr. Newell said:

"We have been considerably disappointed by the railroad construction. It has not been as rapid as we anticipated. This, of course, is attributable to the same cause that has hampered all large undertakings in the west—labor. Contractors are today doing work at double the cost of two years ago. Wages are so high that it might naturally be supposed it would attract thousands of men; but this is not the case. Even where men are idle they will not work at these high prices offered for their services, and this condition of affairs has resulted in striking panic among contractors and forcing them to bid for work at prices that will meet all emergencies."

"This brings us to a point in which the people of Klamath county are deeply interested—the construction of the second unit under what is known as the force account. What relation does the cost of work done by the government bear towards the cost of the same work if done by contract?" was asked.

"It is cheaper. But don't misunderstand me and jump to the conclusion that the Service contemplates doing this work itself or is desirous of supplanting the contractors. There is not a piece of work now in progress or contemplated by the Service that we do not prefer should be done by contract, but this preference, strong though it is, is not sufficient to cause us to shirk our duty and let out the work at prices that will prove a heavy burden to the land owners. It is the land owners interests we are seeking to protect. We have had this question up with our oldest and best contractors, and they say that under present conditions it is absolutely impossible to figure on work within a reasonable figure. Take for example the construction of the lateral system under the first unit of the Klamath Project. The best prices we could get on this work were 25 and 30 cents. We felt that this was too much and undertook to do it by force account, with the result that it cost very much than this."

"This project has already cost more than one-fourth to one-third more than it would two years ago. It will cost nearly \$25 or \$30 an acre, because of the advance in labor and material, and if we crowd it now, as some want us to do, it would run the cost away up to \$40."

"To recall a little ancient history: Last year when I was here, many of the prominent men of this county were discouraged and thought it was impossible to make this project a success. Apathy was apparent everywhere. I talked to them and explained that success could be attained by doing this work in sections, and on these condi-

tions we decided to go slow. I believe the conditions that prevailed then exist now, and more so, for if the work is crowded it will result, as I have stated, in increasing the cost to almost prohibitive figures."

"Now in regard to the work on the second unit: We propose to interest small contractors in the work. Wherever we find a man who will do a small portion of the canal, he can get the contract. We will give it to him at a figure where we know he will make a fair profit. It is on the same principle as work is done on railroads. The big contractors sublet. We propose to sublet. This work has sometimes been classed as force account work, but is, in reality, contract work, with this difference: It assures the work being done at a less figure than if it were awarded as one contract to one firm. This policy will give the people here an opportunity to get back some of the money the work will cost them and it leaves the cash in this community. But if one firm will give us a reasonable figure for all the work, they can have it this minute. That is the policy of the Service on force account work."

"When do you expect to begin work on the Upper Project?"

"Bids for the construction of the Clear Lake reservoir dam will be asked for early next spring, and work thereon will commence as soon as low water will permit. This may be in the summer or towards fall."

"The dam at this point is easy of construction, and practically all of the material to be used is to be found on the ground."

"How about the Horsefly reservoir?"

"Oh, that part of the Project may not be needed at all. If subsequent investigation proves that it will be essential to the project, it will be built; but that can wait, and thus permit of the funds and labor to be devoted entirely to the other part, thus assuring its earlier completion."

"How soon do you expect work to begin on the Keno cut?"

"That is a hard question to answer. Under present conditions, that piece of work is a very difficult and extremely expensive one. This reason alone is sufficient to cause a postponement until labor conditions so adjust themselves that reasonable bids will be received for its construction. But there is another and equally potent reason. When I was here last year, it was proposed that the marsh land along the west side of Lake Ewauna should be diked and experiments carried on to prove its fertility and value. At present nothing is definitely known regarding its agricultural value. This, of necessity, must be definitely settled before the enormous expense entailed in its drainage is undertaken. On our tour of investigation I observed the cut that is being made for the railroad right of way. This makes a large body of this land available for experimental purposes, and steps ought to be taken to carry out the original purposes of proving their value."

"Then there is another important consideration. The first and second unit, with their laterals, will bring under the main canal over 30,000 acres of land. This land must be settled, developed and made productive. This is primarily important. This is the land that must be cared for first. After this is done, then the marsh land, if its agricultural availability has been fully demonstrated will come into the limelight. All these things take time, and it will be many years before the marsh lands will be in a condition to admit of their cultivation."

"When will be work on the Keno Canal begin?"

"Under our contract, the first mile of this canal must be completed by October, 1907. This is the most difficult part of this canal, the rest of it being practically only excavating, so that when it is begun it will be finished without a stop."

unit to Olene and the lateral into Poe Valley and to connect with the Adams canal, will be constructed through the medium of small contracts, aided by the Reclamation Service in such a manner as to do justice to the contractor and the land owner.

"The construction of the Clear Lake reservoir dam, so as to shut off the waters of Lost river now running into Tule lake and begin the storing of the flood waters for use on the Upper Project canals as soon as they are completed."

"The construction of the Keno canal. This, in a nutshell, is the program mapped out for this Project, and will, I believe, meet with the hearty approval of the people of this basin."

"I want to assure to people of the Klamath Basin that I, as well as every official of the Reclamation Service, have only their best interests at heart. For over twenty-five years I have devoted my time and energy to government irrigation—in the beginning to see it commenced and now to see it consummated. In view of this fact, I will leave no stone unturned, so long as I am connected with the service, to promote the work, hasten its completion and at all times conserve the rights of those who have to pay for its construction."

When asked if he had seen the article in The Oregonian, relative to the attitude of Senator Fulton on force account work, which is published herewith, Mr. Newell said:

"I don't know as I can add anything to what I have already said on the subject. My statement on force account work, I think, covers the ground." Then, generalizing his remarks, he continued: "I think that the idea concerning this force account work is misconceived. Wherever this work has been undertaken by the service, it has been done because no bids were received or those submitted were too high. If any individual, contractor or firm thinks that the work the Service is doing is costing more than he or it can do it for, I wish they would come forward. They can have the work at once. The Service will even do more; it will pay a reasonable advance on what it is doing the work for. The trouble is contractors cannot be had who, owing to labor conditions, will take the work at a price that will allow them only a reasonable margin of profit. The only object the service has in view is to have the work done at a price that is fair and within a period of time that is reasonable. The work already done by the Service has been far below the bids submitted; it has been completed within the time limit set, and in many cases much sooner. I agree with Senator Fulton, that the work should be done at a minimum of expense, and that is why the Service has taken the position it has regarding force account work."

[The Oregonian.]

Unless the Reclamation Service abandons its plans to undertake the construction of the irrigation projects at Umatilla and Klamath Falls, instead of having the work done by contract, Senator Fulton is of the opinion that Oregon settlers will lose thousands of dollars. Yesterday at the Imperial Hotel he declared that if the Government undertakes the work the settlers on the land to be reclaimed will have to stand an expense of several dollars an acre over and above that which would be incurred if the projects were carried out by contract. He believes that the commercial organization of the state should unite and demand of the Government that the work be done by contracts let to the lowest bidder. When he goes to Washington next month he will use all his influence to this end.

Senator Fulton says that it is a notorious fact that the work done by the Government is much more expensive than when contracts are let. He declares that it has been proved that there is a great difference in the cost under the two systems and considers the matter one of grave importance. He says that the needless waste of money by the Government, if it does the work, will fall on the settlers who have to pay for the construction of the projects undertaken by the Reclamation Service.

He believes that the work should be done at a minimum of expense and that there should be no extra burden imposed on the settlers who will buy the land reclaimed. He does not try to disguise or conceal his alarm and apprehension and hopes to arouse the people of Oregon to concerted action to avoid extravagance by the Reclamation Service.

Imposed Many Restrictions.—Bids for the construction of the main ditches of the Klamath project were recently

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