

## THE FAMOUS VINDICATION

### The Whitewash Will Not Cover Up the Marshland Muck

#### ASKED "WHY DID YOU DO IT?"

##### O. A. Stearns Tells a Few Facts That Show Why Dark Lantern Methods Were Adopted in Framing and Forwarding the Famous Methods

Water Users association, as a secret and malignant enemy of the engineers of the Reclamation Service, and a considerable number of the directors of the board. That he has sent to the Interior Department letters containing implied charges of misconduct on the part of its engineers and reflecting on the honesty and competency, not only of the engineers, but also members of the Board of Directors. Copies of these letters were in the hands of the Board of Directors and while Engineer Lippincott and other of the government officials were here, the author of those letters was finally brought before the Board of Directors and asked to specify his charges and to disclose any wrong doing of which he had knowledge of authentic information. In reply the gentleman denied his having any such knowledge, or that he intended in any manner to cast reflections upon the Reclamation Service or its engineers, or the Directors of Water Users' association. As it was evident that the author of the letters was irresponsible, that his chief desire was notoriety as an advertisement to his swamp land speculations, it was deemed the part of wisdom, to drop the matter as not worthy of the attention it had received.

But the resourceful letter writer did not drop his efforts to attract attention and throw discredit on the Reclamation Service. He has told many good reliable citizens that he forced the resignation of Engineer Lippincott, by threatening to disclose something of which he possessed knowledge. In fact he has labored hard to convince all who came within reach of his tongue or pen, that he is the only man of prominence connected with the irrigation system here, that is possessed of real ability or common honesty.

Now, then, for the real animus of the resolution introduced by the gentleman at the Chamber of Commerce meeting of October 17th last. Having been discovered at Washington by his insidious attempts to bring into disrepute the engineers of the Reclamation Service, and seeing the stand of Senator Fulton against so-called "force account," it dawned upon his fertile brain that if he could get the backing and indorsement of such a respectable body as the Chamber of Commerce, he could renew his attacks upon the Reclamation Service under the cloak of this indorsement and secure revenge for past wounds to his pride, and boom swamp lands with the promise of speedy reclamation thereof. But he must have allies, and the real object of his attack must be disguised.

The pronounced opposition of the "Express" to the government account book, pointed out one ally who had shown his ability at "scrapping" and was out of a job of that kind at the time. Another real estate man, with a desire for notoriety, was easily picked upon as another. The other two were selected with the evident intent to close all avenues of public exposure of the plans until fully launched. Then the torpedo was launched.

Departing from the expressed purpose of the resolution, the committee injected into their recommendations an assertion that the force account work under government was costing far in excess of what it could be done for under contract. They fail to produce any figures or cite any authority in their view. The "wish is father to the thought," and they presume our representatives in Washington will receive their statement as backed by the positive knowledge of the Chamber of Commerce.

They demand a liberal time limit to contractors, asserting that were such given there would be no trouble to get contractors to undertake the work. Whence did they derive that information? Are the common people fools enough to believe that if the Reclamation Service was debarred from undertaking construction work, in the absence of bids, or where in their judgment such bids were excessive, that the obliging contractors would kindly step in and do the work for less than it could be done by the government? There may have been times when a scarcity of public contracts existed competitive bidding would so result; but with the vast amount of government reclamation work on hand, the rush of railroad con-

struction and building, such a condition would be unprecedented, if not impossible. In fact it would place all reclamation work at the mercy of contractors who could hold up the prices to suit themselves. This has been done in every such contingency as exists at the present time. Fortunes have been made by contractors out of the necessities of the public service, and would be out of the reclamation of our lands if these knockers could have their way.

In the 4th clause of this remarkable production, they claim that "it is an injustice to the entire project that one part should be pushed to completion with a short time limit that renders it unsafe for contractors to undertake the work and the same being done by the Reclamation Service under force account, making the time of the completion of such unit the essence of the effort, and at a cost far in excess of the average cost of such work by contract under a liberal time limit, (another unsupported and unwarranted assertion) and placing the burden of this excess cost equal upon all other parts of the project." This shows ignorance of the cost adjustment of each separate part of the project: "while the reclamation of other parts is placed at some indefinite future time, thereby depreciating the price of the lands of that portion of the project where construction work is postponed."

This is another assumption not borne by experience. They do not cite any depreciation of land values in any part of the project as the result of not being under construction for the simple reason that none such exist. In fact there is no part of this entire project where the price of land has not advanced, and it may be very fortunate for some of us who do not expect our little holdings to be irrigated first, that we are of necessity compelled to wait until these lands already irrigated or assured of early irrigation are sold for every added acre to the irrigated area, adds to the value and desirability of every other acre to be irrigated under the project.

In the 5th and last clause of their recommendations, a great plea is entered for the making of a "special feature of the immediate construction of drainage and irrigation of the lakes and swamps of Lower Klamath and Rhett Lakes." That the same may be placed in possession of the American home-steader at the earliest possible date.

This last contains the kernel of the nut, and explains the enthusiasm with which the report is approved by those interested in exploiting swamp lands, being Adv. Sandlapper et al. Now why this committee having at their command one daily and two weekly newspapers, kept the substance and object of this report from becoming known to the people most interested, i. e. the stockholders of the Water Users' Association, is one of the mysteries the novice cannot fathom. And why did it not submit it to E. J. Murray, a member of the committee, for his signature? Was it because they knew he would not be a party to their scheme and would expose their treachery? Inadvertently, however, one member of the committee admitted that they "did not deem it advisable to make it public." The reason is obvious. Every member of that committee realized that they were taking an unwarranted step, that if their intent was made public such a storm of indignation and protest would be aroused as would defeat their bush whacking scheme. Well may they rejoice and proudly claim indorsement of the Chamber of Commerce. Fourteen out of a membership of nearly one hundred and twenty-five voted to exonerate them, virtually indorsing and approving their acts. But that indorsement has brought contempt and shame to the Chamber of Commerce and its disinterested and self-respecting member are leaving it as rats would leave a sinking ship.

Criticism, as the Editor of the Express says, "is the privilege of free Americans," but when that criticism is based upon mere assumption and has no truth or justice for its foundation it becomes aspersion, misrepresentation and abuse, and its author is very properly styled a knocker and kicker.

It is true, as he says, The Express in the past has been an enthusiastic, and powerful ally of the people in this county in securing the government acceptance of this project and its loud and persistent fight against the Klamath Canal company endeared it to many, though its excess of zeal sometimes led it to extremes in its attacks. But his former loyalty hardly excuses his later tactics nor proves his present loyalty.

Benedict Arnold was at one time an earnest and consistent Patriot, but through pique at ungratified ambition, he turned against his country and sought to destroy what he had hoped to establish. I do not quote this as an exact parallel, but to show that in greater or less degree, "history repeats itself."

As a director of the Water Users

Association, having interests in common with every other member of the Association, I protest against these attempts to stir up strife, to create discontent and dissatisfaction. What possible good can such unseemly and unjust criticisms accomplish. We have enlisted for the war, we have signed up our lands in full confidence in the ability, the integrity and sincerity of our Reclamation Service to construct for and turn over to us a system of irrigation that will be a credit to them and an inestimable blessing to us and others to come after us. Its speedy success depends as much upon the efficiency of the Reclamation Service. They are working to our interests as they from their better equipment and experience see it. They have no other object than to do their work honestly, accurately and economically, so as to reflect credit upon themselves and elicit approval from the people they serve and the government in whose employ they are.

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## PEOPLE TURNED BACK AT THRALL

### Dismal Reports Carried by Passengers Discourage Those Coming in

The Republican is in receipt of reliable information to the effect that eight people were bound for Klamath Falls and had reached Thrall decided to go no further. This decision was due to the reports carried out by passengers who had just reached there from this city and who reported the road between Klamath Falls and Pokokegan in such a condition that it would be too great a hardship to make the trip. On receipt of this news, The Republican called up General Manager Abbott, and asked if it were true and he said it was. When asked if he were willing to put into effect his offer to the county to assist in the repairing of the road referred to, he replied that he was and whenever the county saw fit to act he would be on hand to carry out his part of the contract.

The bad season is just commencing and if the County Board wants to do something it will be remembered for and something that will redound to the welfare of the county as a whole, it will take immediate steps to remedy this evil and maintain a highway that will be at least partially free from the trouble usually experienced at this season of each year.

## BONANZA CREAMERY

As we have previously asserted that the location at this place was one of the best for a creamery has now fully developed. Last week there was incorporated by the following well known business men of this city, a capital stock of \$5000 for the purchase of erecting and maintaining a creamery at this place, the incorporators being O. T. and Fred McKendree, Chas. Horton and The Driscoll Mercantile Co., each subscribing ten shares at \$50 per share, fully paid up, thus making a sum of \$2300 in the treasury. The capital stock is divided into 100 shares.

It is the intention of the company that when 20 more shares have been taken to subscribe the balance of the stock so as to have a certain amount of money in reserve for the purpose of enlarging the business, in case their arrangements prove inadequate to the demands of the county.

Fred McKendree, who will be business manager of the concern, will go to Corvallis and take a short course in dairying to better acquaint himself with the work. He will endeavor on his return to put to practical use all the knowledge he obtained during the course of study.

The company will, as soon as the conditions of the road will permit in the spring to have the machinery shipped and placed on the ground. There are two sites, either of which are ideal for the erection of the plant, but the company has not, as yet, decided on the exact location, but that is only a matter of small concern, as they can soon come to an agreement upon that point. Now you, who are skeptical on this subject, come and see us next June and see if the thing did not materialize.

## AMUSEMENTS

A Mountain Daisy will be presented at the opera house next Saturday night, December 29th, by local talent assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Lowe who have been especially engaged to direct a series of entertainments to be

## H. E. ANKENY PASSES AWAY

### Succumbs to Brights Disease in the Portland Sanitarium

#### ONE OF OREGON'S PIONEERS

given here this winter for the benefit of the fraternal lodges of Klamath Falls. A Mountain Daisy is a southern comedy-drama intermingled with strong dramatic climaxes and an abundant vein of comedy which gives a plot of more than usual interest. Mr. Lowe has had the play in rehearsal for the past two weeks and a first class performance is assured. The cast includes some of the best talent in this city including Mrs. Henrietta Galarnear, Mrs. Sophia Krause, Mr. Fred C. Bamber, Mr. Earl Whitlock, Mr. Bert Bamber, Mr. C. T. Oliver and Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Lowe. The play has never been presented here before under any name. Remember the date, Saturday night, Dec. 29th. Reserve seats are now on sale at the Perfection Confectionery Store, next to the opera house. Popular prices of admission.

## WILL RESUME NEXT SPRING

### The Lakeshore Stage Company are Getting Ready for Next Year

W. R. Davis of the Lakeshore Stage company was in the city Monday on business connected with his company, and when questioned as to what he proposed doing, replied:

"The Lakeshore Stage company has temporarily been forced to go out of business. Old Jack Frost was too much for this end of the run and the boat could not make the trip on account of the ice. Consequently it was useless for us to try and do business just between Grass Lake and Lairds for the passengers wanted to go further on. Next spring, however, we will be on hand better equipped and better able to care for the freight and passenger business, and there will be no let up. Had we had a little more experience this tie up would not have occurred, and the people of Klamath county may rest assured that it will not occur again."

"I want to take this opportunity, on behalf of our company, to thank the people of this city and county for the liberal support and patronage given us while in operation. We appreciated it thoroughly, and hope to show our appreciation in a substantial manner next spring."

## ARTHUR CRAWFORD'S REMAINS FOUND

What is supposed to be the remains of all that was mortal of Arthur Crawford were found in the Lava bed country by Jimmie Branton recently. The history of Crawford's disappearance is fresh in the minds of readers of the Record. The big storm which began on Sunday morning, March 10, is also one long to be remembered by the residents of Klamath county. This day opened one of the most severe snow storms in the history of the county.

It was also on this day that young Crawford was last seen alive. In company with "Doc" Crippie he had been herding sheep on Grass mountain and Sunday morning, March 10, he started from his cabin to another sheep camp about 15 miles distant. He was afoot and his path lay through the lava beds. Soon after starting the storm began and it is supposed he became confused in the blinding snow and losing his way froze to death.—Merrill Record.

## Annual Mask Ball

PRIZES, ADMISSION, RULES, ETC.

There will be three cash prizes of \$5 each given at the Annual Mask Ball, New Years night as follows viz: To the most comical character, the best sustained, and the most original character. Tickets admitting gent and one lady \$1 spectators, gallery only, 25c, lady spectators, any part of house 25c. Ladies en-masque free.

Only those who purchase dance tickets will be allowed on the dancing floor. None but the maskers allowed to take part in the dancing until after unmasking.

### Was Known Throughout the State For His Enterprise. Klamath County Owes Much To Him For Its Material Progress

Henry E. Ankeny, one of Oregon's great pioneers, is dead. Though for several months Mr. Ankeny had been under treatment for Brights disease, his death came as a surprise, for his many friends refused to believe that this man, who had so valiantly fought and won so many battles, would eventually succumb to this disease. But death stepped in and claimed another, and Oregon once more bows her head in sorrow over the demise of a man who has been such a powerful factor in the upbuilding of its material and moral welfare.

To Klamath county, Mr. Ankeny was more than a great citizen of the State. He was one of its benefactors, having invested heavily in its lands and was one of the principal owners of the Ankeny-Henley ditch. Had the government not stepped in, this community would have been further benefitted by the enterprise of this man. It is deeply grateful for what he has done and joins in the general sorrow over the death of a worthy citizen and a great man.

Henry E. Ankeny was born in Virginia, May 18, 1844. He crossed the plains with his father, the late Captain A. P. Ankeny, in 1850, and settled in Yamhill county. He removed to Portland in the early '60's, where he became agent of Wells, Fargo & Co.'s express. He was also engaged in the mercantile business here.

With his father and step-brother, Levi Ankeny, he moved to Lewiston, Idaho, in 1866, and operated an express line on the Upper Snake river, and also engaged in mining on his own initiative. He managed a pack train to the mining centers, and later ventured into the Fraser river country also.

Mr. Ankeny moved to Marion county, Oregon, in the early '70's. There he operated a large farm near Jefferson. He also mined near Galice Creek, Josephine county. He moved to Jackson county in 1889 and operated the Sterling mine with his brother-in-law, Vin Cooke, until 1905, when the mine was sold. The mine was regarded as one of the best properties in Southern Oregon. He owned a large alfalfa and stock ranch in Klamath county, as well as an irrigation ditch.

He was president of the Medford National bank and vice-president of the Chambers-Bristow Banking Company, of Eugene, and his home was in that city.

He was married in 1880 to Miss Cordelia Striker, of Vancouver, Wash. The children are: Frank E. Ankeny, of Klamath Falls; Mrs. John S. Orth and Frank Krump, of Jacksonville; Mrs. Roscoe Cantrell, of Klamath Falls; Mrs. Alfred H. Miller, of Nestford, and Miss Gladys Ankeny of Eugene.

He was a member of Eugene Lodge No. 11, A. F. & A. M., being a 32d degree Mason, a Knight Templar and a Mystic Shriner.

Funeral services were held at the Scottish Rite Temple, in Portland, at 1:30 o'clock Monday afternoon. They were conducted by the Christain Science Church, of which the deceased was a member. The interment took place at Riverview Cemetery and in charge of Willamette Lodge, A. F. & A. M.

## NOTICE

The person bringing in the most tickets at Winters' Jewelry store, by Jan. 1st 1907, 12 M. will get a \$25 gold watch free.

The Hot Springs Co., has just received ten thousand folders, to be used in advertising their beautiful addition. They are of the size to go into an ordinary envelope. Call and get one, and send in your letters, east to your friends.

We have a small amount of money for farm loans. MASON & SLOTON, 11