

NO FIGURES AT THIS TIME

Chief Engineer Newell Says They Go To Congress First

THE LAW PLAIN ON THIS POINT

Rules of Service Forbids Field Officials Making Public Information Be- fore Submission of Same

Some time ago Secretary E. I. Applegate of the Klamath Water Users Association wrote Project Engineer Murphy asking for information regarding the cost of force account as compared with contract work. Before making reply, Mr. Murphy, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Service, referred Mr. Applegate's letter to the Secretary of the Interior, asking for instructions and likewise suggesting that if not incompatible with the business of the Service that the figures be furnished from Washington, where, as will be seen by reference to the letter printed below, accurate accounts are kept, each item being properly charged to the division it belongs to.

In reply to this inquiry, Mr. Applegate last Thursday received the following letter from Chief Engineer Newell: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, UNITED STATES RECLAMATION SERVICE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 5, 1907.

ELMER I. APPLIGATE,

Secretary Klamath Water Users Association, Klamath Falls, Oregon.

DEAR SIR:—A copy of your letter of January 23rd, addressed to Mr. D. W. Murphy, has been forwarded to this office for consideration. In it you ask Mr. Murphy to furnish such information as is available as to costs, etc. Reply was sent on February 21st to Mr. Henny to the effect that:

"It is not regarded as proper to give out any details of cost until they have been duly reported to the Secretary of the Interior for transmission to Congress."

I think, however, it is due to you to make a little further explanation on this point, so that you may not misunderstand our action in the matter.

In carrying out the terms of the Reclamation Act, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized and instructed to do certain things, and all operations of the Reclamation Service are practically works done by the Secretary himself, and all questions of policy are in effect expressions of the wish of the Secretary. The determination of all points of law must also be made by the Secretary, these being, in accordance with precedents, passed upon by the Assistant-Attorney General for the Interior Department.

Referring to the Reclamation Act, in Section 2, you will note that the Secretary is authorized and directed to report to Congress at the beginning of each regular session the results of examinations and surveys, giving estimates of costs of all contemplated work and similar matters. The construction that has been placed upon this law is that it is mandatory as to how general information shall be given out, and it is further believed that no information should be given officially except that which is transmitted by the Secretary to Congress, or is announced by him in accordance with established regulations.

The giving of information directly by local men in the field is not looked upon with approval by the Department, because of the fact that in so doing the Secretary, who is the responsible officer, does not have opportunity to obtain first information and, to a certain extent, he may be committed to policies and to expressions which do not meet his best judgment. It is, therefore, deemed wisest to follow literally the law as understood and bring together for Congress the essential facts, publishing these as soon as possible, and thus giving them the widest publicity.

In future copies of the annual reports of the Reclamation Service it is proposed to go more and more extensively into the questions of cost and to cover the points which I think are desired by your Association, so that you will be able to obtain what I understand you desire.

There is another detail which I think

might be explained to you at this time, namely, that Government accounts and claims are settled, as you are probably aware, not only by fiscal agents in the field, but also by the Auditor for the Interior Department and the books of the Reclamation Service can not be made complete as to charges, refunds, etc., until a final accounting is had with the Treasury Department.

The Comptroller of the Treasury also has the right of review from time to time revising the accounts and may make notable changes. There are also a great many pending accounts for transportation of freight, particularly over bond-aided lines, which may not be settled for months after the freight is transported. There continually come in claims, large and small, which must be distributed to the various projects.

All of these claims are cleared up as far as practicable at the end of the fiscal year on June 30th, and after that time the books are posted and totals obtained as soon as practicable. The statements of cost which might be prepared, for example, in the Klamath office, are thus subject to continual correction by insertion of additional charges or of credits on account of refunds or repayments, so that any figure prepared in the Klamath office is subject to correction. Experience has shown that giving out preliminary figures is unwise because as these are taken and revised from time to time there is apt to arise in the minds of men who know nothing of the complicated situation, a tendency to discredit the figures because those at first given can not be adhered to. They do not bear in mind the fact that in a highly complicated organization like that of the Government it is impossible to arrive at definite figures with the same speed that can be reached by a book-keeper for a private concern. For this reason also it is better to adhere to the final official report made annually to Congress, covering all of these matters.

Very truly yours,

F. H. NEWELL, Chief Engineer.

It will be seen from the foregoing that all information relative to the affairs of the Reclamation Service must perforce come directly from Washington and that the local representatives are prohibited from giving for publication any information inconsistent with the rules of the department, an outline of which are indicated in the letter here reproduced. During the last session of Congress a report was submitted containing figures along the lines desired by the Klamath Water Users Association, but how extensive they were it is impossible to ascertain at this time. This report is now in the hands of the government printer, and as soon as it issues the same it will be available for the information of those interested in the matter.

It is to be regretted that the figures desired by water users under the Klamath project cannot be secured at this time, but it is evident that no matter how willing the local representatives of the government may be to furnish it, it will not be made public until Congress meets next December.

Additional Briefs

Get in the M. W. A. band wagon if you want to be there on the 29th inst.

Only nine days more remain before the great contest closes. Have you voted yet.

Emil Egert moved his household effects from this city to his ranch at Dairy, Friday.

L. H. Brown of Portland is in the city on business connected with his interests in this county.

Now is the time for you to get votes for your favorite candidate in the Jamestown Exposition contest.

Mrs. E. R. Reames returned Saturday evening from San Francisco, where she has been for the past several weeks.

Mrs. Ed. Williamson, returned to her home in Chico Friday, her sister, Miss Marie McMillan, having recovered sufficiently to permit of her leaving.

Your friend may not be a subscriber to The Republican. If he is not, get him to subscribe and he can cast three

votes for your choice of the most popular girl in the county, the winner to be sent to the Jamestown Exposition.

At the bond election held last Saturday bonds to the amount of \$7,250 were voted for the use of this school district. The vote was unanimous.

C. F. Stone has resigned as secretary of the Chamber of Commerce. This will be a hard blow to the Chamber, as Mr. Stone has done much to promote the welfare of that organization.

To every new subscriber who pays one year in advance we will allow three votes in the contest for the most popular girl in the county, the winner to be sent to the Jamestown Exposition.

Last Friday was the last day on which taxes could be paid to get the benefit of the rebate, and as Sheriff Obenchain left his office that evening he was heard to remark to himself that he was "glad that it came but once a year."

FORSALE—Seed oats, barley and wheat; also hay of all which will be delivered in this city. Inquire of J. D. Carroll, Henley.

The civil service examination will be held in this city on April 10 for junior clerk in the office of the Reclamation Service. Application blanks can be procured from Project Engineer Murphy on request.

WANTED—A good girl to assist with general housework. Apply Box 245, Klamath Falls, Ore.

J. M. Robin, who has invented the new lifting power machine, was in the city yesterday for the purpose of conferring with the committee of the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Robin is very sanguine as to the worth of his invention and if it comes any where near his expectations he will realize an immense fortune from it.

The City Council met in regular session last Monday evening and but little business demanded the attention of the members. Bills to the amount of \$150 were allowed and a light was ordered placed at Lewis and Bridge streets. The ordinance providing for a license for draymen was introduced. It calls for a semi-annual license of \$8 for one horse and \$12 for two horse rigs.

One of the locomotives of the Klamath Lake railroad broke down in the yards at Thrall Sunday. It was fortunate the accident occurred before the departure of the train, for if it had happened while the train was under full speed a disastrous wreck would have been the result. In consequence of the breakdown, passengers did not reach this city until 4 o'clock Monday morning.

J. Frank Adams, who has the contract for the construction of a telephone line for the use of the Reclamation Service, is having the poles brought here. For the past several months he has had a force of men employed in cutting poles and has been able to secure a lot of unusually fine juniper timber. The line will follow the main canal and principal laterals, and will connect the office of Project Engineer Murphy with all points along the works.

At a recent meeting of the newly organized Oregon Forestry Association, held in Portland, Elmer I. Applegate was elected second vice president of that organization. The objects of the association are the protection and preservation of the forests of Oregon for the use and benefit of the public in general, the acquirement and dissemination of knowledge and information in general pertaining to forestry and to economic value and importance of our forests.

Latest advices from Salem are to the effect that Secretary of State Benson is in a critical condition. It was expected that the change to Newport would have a beneficial effect, but in this his physician was disappointed. He has been transferred to California, where a change is expected for the better. Mr. Benson is suffering from Purpura. There have been but four cases of this peculiar malady known in the United States, and in each case the patient died. Inasmuch as Mr. Benson is afflicted with a mild form of the disease, hopes are entertained that he will be able to overcome its ravages.

DRAMATIC CLUB'S LAST PERFORMANCE

An Appreciative Audience Enjoys
"Only a Country Girl."

The last performance of the season to be presented by the Home Dramatic Club, entitled "Only a Country Girl," was fully up to the standard set by Professor Lowe. Almost every seat in the opera house was occupied and the audience was unsparring in its plaudits.

There was not as much opportunity for each member of the caste to win individual praise as in the preceding play, "Princess of Patches," but, nevertheless, there was sufficient opportunity to show the effect of Prof. Lowe's labors and the ability of each participant.

Prof. Lowe possesses a particular adaptability to parts where he can assume the character of an aged and infirm man. His impersonations in this line are almost true to nature, and consequently in the character of Jethrow Baxter he was certainly ideal.

Mrs. Lowe has made many friends in the community since her residence here, both socially and from the standpoint of her profession. The latter is particularly evidenced by the plaudits of the audience whenever she appears. As Mercy Baxter, the country girl, she had an opportunity to show her full powers.

Miss Beismour has also made many friends since her coming here to assist the Club in its efforts. Her ease and grace upon the stage always lends effect to whatever part she assumes. As Edith Henderson, the city girl, very little opportunity was presented to display her talent, but as Mrs. Henderson, the aristocrat, she arose to all the dignity of the art.

May Gale made a decided hit as the old maid. There is always a certain zest and snap to her acting that brings out her lines so that an audience immediately becomes aware of the importance of whatever part she assumes. She also enters well into the spirit of her character, thereby making it as nearly realistic as possible.

Wm. Wagner, as Jack Henderson, the artist, carried through his part in a manner that won him much applause. We believe that Mr. Wagner was nearer his element in the part he assumed than in the previous play. However, this must be judged from an unbiased standpoint for no player who assumes the part of a villain ever receives his just dues from an audience, because if he acts true to nature he is more likely to be discredited on account of the nature of the part.

Earl Whitlock, as Philander Potts, the professor, was strictly in his element Saturday night, and he displayed a decided ability for the character assumed. On previous occasions in the parts assigned to him he was seemingly a little stiff, but as Philander Potts nothing but praise could be said and he was pretty near the whole show in himself.

Fred C. Bamber had little opportunity Saturday night to display his ability, except for a few moments as Jake Baxter, the farmers son. However, those who have attended previous performances of the Home Dramatic Club know full well that he is equal to any emergency that comes within his line, and that too, very closely bordering upon the professional.

A new candidate for histrionic honors appeared upon the program in Mr. Robert Curran, as Harry Winthrop, Edith's best fellow. Mr. Curran did his part very well.

The song by Miss Edith Humphreys, which was illustrated, was very much appreciated by the audience.

Mr. Lowe announced that he intended shortly to leave for the city, where he would organize a stock company and return here about May 1st, when the people of this vicinity will have an opportunity of being entertained by very pleasing programs.

THE CONTEST

The vote to date is as follows:
Miss Louise Sargeant.....119
Miss Stella Campbell.....120

INVESTIGATION SHOWS NO GRAFT

Tempest in the Idaho Teapot Falls Flat

The furore that was raised by telegraphic reports from Boise, Idaho, to the effect that there was unlimited graft connected with the Boise-Payette project, and that it was traced into nearly every western State, has fallen flat. A rigid investigation into the matter has developed the fact that it was simply a deplorable political plot, superinduced by the refusal of the reclamation officials to bend to the machinations of the political bosses of Idaho. The Idaho politicians thought they saw rich picking in the construction of the irrigation project, but when they found that they were barred from having a finger in the pie they set up a howl of "graft" and began to lay plans for the decapitation of the offending engineers. Their efforts, however, have proven futile and only confirms the wisdom of the policy of the government to keep the Reclamation Service out of politics.

The Spoon Club Entertains

One of the pretty and unique socials of the season was held at the home of Mrs. Hargus Saturday evening, when the members of the Spoon Club, their husbands and a few invited guests were entertained. It was a St. Patrick's party, where the shamrock and the green predominated. The entertainment com-

NEW STAGE COMPANY

Oregon & California Transportation Company Occupies Field

THE OLD COMPANY SELLS OUT

mittee consisted of Mesdames Hargus, Gates and Murray.

A musical program was a part of the entertainment, and was as follows: "Alleen Aroon" and "When Love Is Kind," Mrs. Don Zumwalt; "Kathleen Mavourneen," Mrs. W. E. Travis; "Killarney" and "Irish Folk Song," Mrs. Don Zumwalt, Mrs. Gates, accompanied. This program was printed with green ink on a larp-shaped card. The luncheon menu was likewise printed in green, on a shamrock-shaped card, and was as follows: Coad Mille Falthe! Shamrock sandwiches, Blarney stones, Kilkenny buns, Erin Go Bragh ice cream, St. Patrick's cake, Pratie cakes, Potheen and Duldin stout.

Five Hundred was played and Mrs. Joseph Pierce won the lady's and Richard Smith the gentleman's prize.

REMAINS OF J. L. JONES FOUND

Was Drowned in Shoalwater Bay Last February

The remains of J. L. Jones, the logger who was drowned in Shoalwater bay on February 4th, were found about a mile east of the point where the accident occurred, last Thursday evening, by Mr. Rainey. The body was taken to Eagle Point and the officials notified. Coroner Martin took action in the premises and the remains were turned over to a committee of the local lodge of Odd Fellows, of which Mr. Jones was a member.

The funeral was held Saturday afternoon, the services being conducted by the Odd Fellows, interment being made in the city cemetery.

The accident that caused the death of Mr. Jones occurred while he was engaged in repairing a broken boom. A heavy storm was prevailing and the boat he was using overturned. He called for help, but before assistance could reach him he was overcome by the cold, and sank.

Many People Coming Here

J. A. Beckwith, of Portland, who was here this week, states that this city is attracting a great deal of attention in Portland. "Many young men in Portland are investigating Klamath Falls with the intention of coming here," said Mr. Beckwith Monday. "Until recently we heard a great deal about Coos Bay, but Klamath Falls and Klamath County is the main topic with us now. One of the plans being followed is to hunt up the 'knockers' and find out all they have to kick about and why they are sore. This, with what the friends have to say, give a fair idea of what may be expected. The result of this policy is that many are coming and when they do come know what to expect. Klamath Falls is all right and anyone who has no axe to grind must admit it."

W. O. W. Ball

One of the prettiest and most successful dances of the season was given in Houston's opera house Friday evening by the Women of Woodcraft. The feature of the evening was the drill, led by Mrs. White and Miss Nickerson, assisted by ten young lady guards. The work was perfect and elicited much applause by the large number present. So great was the demand for souvenir tickets that the supply was exhausted before the doors were opened. The ladies who managed the enterprise are deserving of much praise.

Baptist Church Notes

Preaching services next Sunday at 11 o'clock a. m. and 7:30 o'clock p. m. by Rev. A. N. Jacquemin.

Sunday school at 10 o'clock a. m. and B. Y. P. U. at 6:45 p. m. Leader of young people's meeting, Miss Odalite Horning.

For choice farming and see Mark L. Burns.

For bargains in city property see Mark L. Burns.

For information of Klamath county, address Mark L. Burns, Klamath Falls, Oregon.

New Company Assumes Control Today and Is Making Preparations to Give Unequaled Service

Transportation matters are gradually reaching a basis where it is possible to figure out a program for the future. This week the Oregon Stage company succumbed to the wiles of W. R. Davis and disposed of its business to the Oregon & California Transportation company. This sale precludes the possibility of competition for the passenger business between this city and the railroad terminal. When Mr. Davis decided to enter this field he did so with the same grim determination that has characterized him all of his life. It did not take him and Mr. Travis long to reach an agreement and the sale was consummated Monday of this week.

Immediately after negotiations were closed, Mr. Davis began preparations for giving this city a service that it has never had before. He was not satisfied with one stage each way but has decided to place four wagons on the run. Two are to be used for baggage and last freight, one for mail and one for passengers. The mail stage will leave this city every evening at 10 o'clock. It was first proposed to take the mail to Keno by launch, but the Ewauna is not ready for use just now and until it is the mail will go by stage to Keno. The steamer Klamath will remain on the run for the present. No definite arrangements have been made for its permanent retention. The passenger schedule will remain unchanged for the present, the boat leaving at 5:30 in the morning. It is expected to change this time to a later hour, but when this will occur has not been decided on.

The new company, in addition to the Mammoth livery, has purchased the D. A. Kenyon lease on the O. K. stables and with the Oregon Stage company's purchase it acquires the West Side stables. Thus it will be ready for all emergencies. A new station is to be established at Haden creek, four miles beyond Spencer's, work thereon having already commenced. Mr. Davis stated, when asked about future plans:

"We are only beginning, and many things remain to be done. But you can say for me that we are going to give the best service in the West, irrespective of whether it pays us a cent or not. All we want is to get people in and out with the greatest possible comfort to them, and we are going to do it."

Conditions are not so smooth in the freight business. Mr. McIntire is going ahead preparing for the first of May. The teamsters are getting ready to do business via Ager. At a meeting held Tuesday evening plans were discussed to carry out such a program, but on account of the weather the meeting was not as largely attended as it would otherwise have been. The teamsters insist that McIntire will put them out of business so far as Pockegama is concerned, and he says that he will be glad to have them haul freight from that point. Neither side has gotten together in an effort to reach an agreement and the prospects are not bright for their doing so. Capt. McIntire, in regard to this matter says:

"I would be glad to have the teamsters haul from Pockegama. If they have an order for freight they can get it. The rate to Pockegama will be no higher than it is now, if as high. It will probably average 33 cents, so there is no freeze-out game on that score. If freight is delivered on an order, then my responsibility ceases. If a merchant wants me to look after the matter and give the freight to the teamsters, I will do so, and for such services will charge five cents per hundred forwarding charges. If the merchant wants me to haul the freight for them, I will do so. All charges will be under the western classification, and everyone will get a square deal. I am seeking no monopoly nor trying to play a freeze out game, and if the teamsters want to haul from Pockegama I see no reason why they should not do so."

Those of the teamsters who were seen, stated that no proposition has been submitted to nor asked from Mr. McIntire officially. Whether one would be made could not be learned, but the feeling seemed to prevail that one would not be and that the teamsters would take the bit in their teeth and haul from Ager. In this move they have the backing of a number of merchants who have assured them that they will stay with Ager irrespective of what rate is made via Pockegama. With this assurance the teamsters feel safe in making the change.

Curtis E. Widdow was last evening elected secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, vice C. F. Stone, resigned. Mr. Widdow is at present employed by the Reclamation Service, but expects to resign April first. Mr. Widdow is a hustler and will make a good man for the work before him.