

IRRIGATION FOR CITY

Plan Proposed to Utilize Ankeny Canal

MEETING HELD SATURDAY

Government Would Partially Control Though Put Through by City

A municipal water system! And added to this will be a municipal electric light plant! This is the program mapped out by the promoters of the movement for the establishment of the municipal system of irrigation. That it is going to be a popular move is certain, if the manner in which it is being received is a criterion.

Under the act of congress providing for the establishment of the municipal irrigation projects, the provision was made that the government would at all times maintain control of the source of supply. That, in the case of the Ankeny canal would be as follows: The government would install the power plant and would deliver the water at a given point; it could lease the electric power to the city and the municipality could deliver the water itself. It cannot, however, lease or sell the canal to any person or corporation, as was at first supposed possible; but it can lease, sell or dispose of the power generated through the agency of the canal to any person or corporation for a period of not to exceed ten years. This is for the purpose of preventing a monopoly.

It would, therefore, be possible, after the city entered into contract with the government for the irrigating system, to enter into a contract for the supplying of electric energy for the operation of a city water system and electric light plant, this contract to be renewed every ten years.

It will not be necessary to form a municipal water users association as was at first supposed. Under the law it will be possible for the city to enter into a contract direct with the government, this binding every lot owner just the same as if that lot owner had individually signed a contract with the government. This greatly lessens the amount of work connected with the carrying out of the proposition.

Then in quick succession will follow the system of irrigation, which was the prime object that caused this agitation. Then the installation of a city water system; and last the electric light plant. It is maintained that there is sufficient power in the canal to accomplish all of these results, for the reason that when the power is used for the purpose of pumping water for the irrigating system it will be least needed for lights; during the winter when the lights are most in demand, the irrigating system will not be in use, and hence practically all of the power can be devoted to the lighting system.

The first step looking toward the accomplishment of such a result will be

taken Thursday evening, as indicated by the following notice sent out by the Civic Federation:

At the meeting of the Civic Federation on Thursday Night, the following question will be considered and discussed:

Resolved, That the citizens of Klamath Falls should encourage and try to establish an Independent Water System. The Federation desires the attendance and co-operation of all citizens in dealing with this and other important questions soon to come up for consideration, among others being, the advisability of establishing gas works for heating and lighting purposes, the sewerage question and the public indebtedness of Klamath Falls and how best to deal with it.

Harry Caden, Secretary.

Some there are who believe that this move is an untimely one, for the reason that it will arouse antagonism that would lie dormant until the proposition was successfully launched, while on the other hand there are those who contend that the best and surest way to accomplish the results sought is to take the people into the affair and thus enlist practically the entire population, for it is a well recognized fact that municipal ownership of public utilities is a question that meets the unqualified and hearty support of the people generally.

That this question is going to be an important one at the municipal election in May is certain. It will undoubtedly overshadow all other issues and will be the one on which the campaign will be fought out.

Leasing Oil Lands

F. J. Bowne, who returned to Bonanza Monday, stated while here that he is seriously considering the proposition to give an oil lease to a syndicate of California oil men who have a representative now in Bonanza. These gentlemen desire to secure a lease on a large body of land and prefer securing such from one individual where it is possible. This expert came here with grave doubts as to the possibility of finding any indications of oil, but after spending several days in the vicinity of Bonanza he changed his mind and opened negotiations with Mr. Bowne for a lease on his land. The deal is simply under consideration, but if Mr. Bowne consents to give the lease it is the intention of the Californians to put down a well 3000 feet and will so bind themselves in the contract. The doubting Thomases are beginning to think that there is more in the oil proposition around Bonanza than at first appeared on the surface and if the Bowne lease goes through and the lessees carry out their program there is apt to be some lively times in the neighborhood of the metropolis of the upper project.

That the Bowne tract is ideally located for an oil proposition is admitted by everyone who knows anything about oil and it is certain that if there is oil near Bonanza the Bowne tract will stand a more than the average show of having its share of it.

Bids Asked for South Branch Canal

NEW YORK, Feb. 12.—Advertisement for bids for the construction of the South Branch Canal, a part of the Klamath Project, appears in the current issue of the Engineering Journal.

Cabbage and Kraut

Jim Straw wants to close out what Cabbage and Kraut he has left and offers Cabbage at 2c per lb. in 50 lb. or over and Kraut at 25c per gallon. Residence, West End Bridge. Telephone 823. 2-12-1wk



LINING UP

Service Getting Worse

The mail service for this city has at last reached the limit. For the past year kaleidoscopic changes have been the order of the day, and no man knew from one day to the next when he would be able to receive and send out mail. Each change seemed to be for the worst, but it remained for the government to make the final dash into the field of error and leave this section where it's mail is in a plight far worse than ever before.

Monday morning a new schedule was inaugurated. When the Klamath Lake railroad changed its schedule so that its trains left Poguegama in the evening at 6 o'clock, the mail contractors asked that their schedule be changed so they might leave here at 7 o'clock in the morning. After sufficient red tape had been unwound the order came from Washington directing that the mail leave here at 10 o'clock in the morning allowing a ten hour schedule to reach Poguegama. It was assumed that a change had been made in the departure of the train from Poguegama, but not so. The hour of leaving that station being 6 o'clock, eight hours after the mail leaves this city. This did not allow of sufficient time for the stage to reach Poguegama and the result is that the mail remained there until Tuesday evening—twenty-four hours after it should have left that point.

For this departure on schedule time the railroad company is not to blame, for the reason if the Klamath Lake railroad company does not make its schedule, whether it carries the mail or not it will be fined by the postoffice department.

After reaching Thrall it remains there ten hours, for the mail going north, and 19 hours for the mail going south. The result will be that over eight days will be consumed in getting an answer to a letter sent to Portland.

This is a matter that the Chamber of Commerce ought to take immediate steps to rectify. It is quite evident that the postoffice department is too busy electing nigger delegates in the southern states to give to the administration of postal business the careful and efficient consideration its importance demands. A telegram to the Oregon delegation would produce results and bring about a change that is imperatively needed in the mail schedule for this county.

Musical Recital

Those so fortunate as to have been present at the Conservatory of Music Tuesday evening enjoyed a treat in the piano recital by Miss Vera Houston. With the modest and simple manner always her own peculiar charm, Miss Vera entertained her hearers for half an hour by her very excellent rendering of selections from Mozart, Beethoven, Schumann, Mendelssohn, Grieg and Heller.

Serious Accident

BONANZA, Feb. 7. A very serious accident occurred to Harold Kilgore last evening. Mr. Kilgore with a number of other men were rounding up horses about 8 miles south of the Grohs ranch in Langell Valley, when they ran upon what is known as the "wild bunch" of horse. In the chase the horse which Kilgore was riding becoming exhausted fell and threw the rider on a pile of rocks, dislocating his wrist, badly lacerating his face and causing internal injuries. One of the largest cuts is an extensive gash over the right eye. He was picked up unconscious and Frank Grohs, securing a wagon from the ranch brought him to Bonanza, arriving all night. Dr. Patterson dressed the wounds, but the extent of the internal injuries have not been ascertained as yet.

Willard Found Guilty

The case of John Willard, charged with stealing chickens from Frank Armstrong was tried in the circuit court Tuesday. The first witness in the case was G. W. Moore, who stated that he was asked by Willard to go out and steal chickens; that he refused; that later Willard returned with chickens in a sack.

He was followed by Charles Messner who stated that he was a bartender in the Owl saloon and that one evening in November he purchased a chicken from Willard giving him therefor a pint of whiskey.

Frank L. Armstrong took the stand and stated that there were eight chickens stolen from his barn on the evening of November 11, and that the feathers he found in the rear of the saloon were those of a high grade plymouth rock chicken which he believed had been stolen from his place.

Following Mr. Armstrong came Dan McNamara, who was also arrested in connection with the case and he stated that he accompanied Willard to a barn on the west side of the river; that Willard entered the same, passed out to him four dead chickens; that Willard had in his possession four chickens when he emerged from the barn.

Willard was found guilty and sentenced to 2 years in the penitentiary.

Celebrate Birthdays

Mrs. N. S. Merrill was the hostess to about forty friends, Saturday evening February 8, at her home near Merrill. She was assisted by the Misses Ritchie and Calhoun, the occasion being the birthday of Mrs. Merrill. Mrs. W. R. Davis and Mrs. E. B. Hall.

Each year the trio meets and appropriately celebrate the occasion. This year they were to have been entertained by Mrs. Davis, but owing to an accident which prevented Mrs. Merrill from leaving home the guests met with her.

Mr. and Mrs. N. S. Merrill undoubtedly have the finest home in Klamath county, and there are many distinguished guests who have visited this section, besides those who live here can vouch for the cordiality of their hostess, while in this neighborhood. This worthy couple, as a result of hard work during the early days, are now classed among our wealthiest citizens, and have settled down to enjoy the fruits of their labor in their old age. Their handsome home and surrounding buildings, occupy over eighty acres in the richest section of the county, and the house has been furnished with the best furniture obtainable and all of the modern conveniences which tend to make home life pleasant. A fine stable of driving horses provides for the convenience of travel.

The evening was pleasantly spent playing whist until 11:30, when one of those suppers, for which Mrs. Merrill is famous, was served. The tables were simply loaded down with good things, and the justice done to the meal would have given plenty of satisfaction to those who had provided a plentiful supply. It was somewhat after midnight when the guests reluctantly departed, and the many good wishes so sincerely spoken, must have made the host and hostess realize the deep respect and honor in which they are held by their friends and neighbors.

Civic Federation Meeting

The Thursday night, February 13, meeting of the Civic Federation promises to be an interesting session, and every member should be present. Citizens, not members, who are in sympathy with us, are cordially invited to attend and become members. With malice toward none we are striving to bring about a better condition of society, uphold and beautify our town, and lend our aid to our officers in the discharge of their duties. You may have something to offer that will help us. Come and let us reason together—no politics—simply good citizenship is what we want. Everybody welcome that favors same.

G. W. WHITE, President.

Wanted to Buy

One Car Load of Work Horses and Mares weighing from 1150 to 1400 pounds, from 4 to 8 years old, fat and sound. Will be at Mammoth Station Saturday and Monday, Feb. 15th and 17th, 1908. SNOWDEN BROS.

Father Feusi returned Thursday from a two week's visit at Portland.

Horse Stealing Case

The case that occupied the attention of the Court Wednesday was that of Lee Johnson, charged with stealing a horse from Henry Jackson. In stating the case to the jury, Mr. Noland, attorney for the defendant, stated that he would attempt to prove that the prisoner, while working for Jackson, had been told that he was accused of giving whiskey to the Indians, resulting in a fight between Ed Copperfield and Matt Skeen, and had been advised to go away for a while and that he had borrowed the horse from Skeen, who is a son-in-law of Jackson, to come to Klamath Falls to escape possible arrest.

The first witness for the State was Henry Jackson. On direct examination by Deputy District Attorney Stone testified that he knew the prisoner, Lee Johnson by the name of Jack Nevell; that he had worked for him as blacksmith for two months during the haying season last year and that he quit work about the first of October; that on Oct. 12 he lost a sorrel horse called Springfield with four white feet. The horse disappeared about 9 o'clock at night. He did not miss the horse until 8 o'clock the next morning when Dave Skeen asked him if he had sold one. He sent two boys to the field to look and then sent him to trace the horse. He came to Bonanza and telephoned Sheriff Obenchain of the loss and was told the horse was here. He came on to the Falls and got his horse.

On cross examination by Attorney Noland the witness swore that he had a good memory but could not remember exactly the prisoner had ever asked him for money to buy a horse; whether he came to Bonanza or Klamath Falls the Sunday before he lost the horse; whether he and his wife left the ranch for the Falls on October 6 and were accompanied by the prisoner as far as the cross road leads to Bonanza. He said that he could not remember the latter case but was sure that the prisoner did not ask him for money at that time. He could not remember what he swore to at the preliminary examination and did not remember saying he had sold the prisoner a horse. He went to Bonanza. He said that the horse was not at his son, Ralph's, place when he died, but admitted that it was kept there and used by Ralph most of the time. He did not know anything about the fight between Matt Skeen and Ed Copperfield. Counsel for the prisoner testified that he must have been while he was in the Falls, but did not remember coming here. He did not warn the prisoner to leave until the whiskey affair was settled. He testified that Matt Skeen was foreman of his ranch for a short time and he ever had a black mare which he Skeen had sold him and was either leading another horse or the horse was following him. Did not recognize the horse as it was nearly dark. He denied any knowledge of Ralph Jackson claiming the horse as his own or of using it for racing.

When court convened after dinner the first witness called was Matt Skeen. He was an admirable witness for the state and parried every question asked on cross examination in a manner that would be creditable to an attorney. He denied giving Johnson permission to take the horse from the reservation, this evidently being the main point on which the defense was building up its case.

W. C. Messner, of the Mammoth livery testified as to Johnson bringing the horse to the stables; that he notified the sheriff that he believed that the horse had been stolen and that he was instructed to hold the horse for further developments. That the feet and face of the horse had been stained yellow. On cross examination he stated that this discoloration was not due to stable stains, but to paint or other material.

He was followed by Sheriff Obenchain who testified as to the arrest of Johnson and the receiving of a message from Jackson that his horse had been stolen. On cross examination he testified that the feet of the horse had been stained, but that the forehead had not been, that witness, when arrested stated that he had borrowed the horse. The state here rested its case.

The first witness called for the defense was Sam Walker, who testified as to the races both in this city and Bonanza, the object of the defense being to prove that Springfield was a race horse belonging to Ralph Jackson, which fact was denied by the prosecution. Mr. Walker's memory was not sufficiently clear on the point sought to be proven to make him a valuable witness for the defense. He was followed by Ben Butler who seemed to have forgotten events that transpired at the time Johnston took the horse, and was a very apt witness at equivocation. It was necessary to call Court Re-

FEDERATION TAKES IT UP

Proposes Discussing Municipal Plant

ALSO FINANCES OF CITY

Plan Contemplates Establishing of Water and Electric Light Plants

The announcement of the meeting to discuss the proposition to secure water for irrigation purposes called out a big gathering of city property owners at the court house Saturday night. From the large attendance and earnest discussion, it would appear that the citizens are wide awake to the advantages that would result from a perpetual supply of water for irrigation.

The meeting was called to order by G. W. White and on motion L. F. Willis was chosen chairman and J. G. Swan secretary. Engineer D. W. Murphy was asked to explain the plan the Reclamation service followed in supplying cities with water. Mr. Murphy stated that the usual procedure of the department was to enter into a contract to deliver water at a stated point from which the association of citizens agreed to distribute it to the property owners. He called attention to the fact that there are some 40 water rights in the city, which are entitled to one inch of water each, and that some arrangements would have to be made to take care of these.

The remainder of the evening was spent in general discussion of the subject, every speaker strongly urging that action be taken in securing water. Major Worden said that he was the owner of over 1200 lots which he was willing to sign up if the government would furnish the water. On motion a committee of three consisting of C. E. Worden, E. I. Applegate and G. W. White was appointed to confer with the government officials and report at a subsequent meeting to be called by the president.

E. I. Applegate, when Secretary of the Water Users Association first undertook to accomplish such a result, but the time was not ripe for the rapid movement of the proposition. The Ankeny canal has now become a nuisance. Project Engineer Murphy has at all times been willing to entertain any proposition from the citizens looking towards the closing up of the canal, but with that proposition must come one that will care for the rights of the owners of water rights. The government takes the position that the land to be recovered by the abutting property is of sufficient value to warrant the demand that the owners take care of the water rights.

The proposition, however, to turn the Ankeny canal into a city irrigation plant would remove many of these obstacles, for all of the water rights can be taken care of, the government reimbursed, an ample supply of water for irrigation purposes secured. Under existing conditions the water company would much prefer such a thing, for the reason that the rapid growth of the city may force them at no distant day to refuse to furnish water for irrigation purposes.

There are those who, in favoring the project advance the argument that there will be a great deal of surplus power, the canal having a capacity of between 250 and 300 horsepower. The excess power, they argue, could be furnished at actual cost for a term of years to factories as a bonus. That such an inducement would be a strong factor in inducing capital to come to this city is sure and the idea is one that should have the serious consideration of the people of this city.

Tax Roll is Ready

The collection of taxes for 1907 has commenced. The tax roll was turned over to the sheriff this morning and he and Deputy Delap are busy making out receipts for those who have sent their taxes in by mail.

The roll this year shows an assessed valuation of \$7,582,950 as against \$6,094,094 for 1906, an increase of nearly one and one half million dollars. The taxes to be collected are \$143,542.16 as against \$104,106.56 for 1906, and are classified as follows: state, county school and other tax, \$108,958.04; city tax, \$8,958.72; road tax, \$10,014.07 and special school tax, \$15,911.34.

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