

VOL. XIV.

KLAMATH FALLS, KLAMATH COUNTY, OREGON, NOVEMBER 21, 1909

NO. 32A

SENATORS ARRIVE

GO EARNESTLY TO WORK TO GET
THE FACTS

HOLD A PUBLIC MEETING

Hear All Complaints and Charges
and Examine Closely Those
Making Them

Tuesday at 8 o'clock a. m. the senate committee on irrigation arrived on a special train. After taking breakfast at the Lakeside Inn they drove to the Upper lake and down around the Lower lake several miles, inspecting the ditches and land. Later they returned to the Lakeside, where they had dinner, thence going to the courthouse, where they held a public meeting with the directors of the Water Users' association.

At 2 o'clock the senators repaired to the courthouse, where a public meeting was held for the purpose, as stated by Senator Carter, of affording the landowners to make known to the committee any charge or complaint they had to make. In closing his remarks Senator Carter said:

"It will fall to you to pay the last farthing for the reclamation of this land. The government expects you to pay, and I do not think that you expect to do otherwise."

He then called upon the secretary of the association to read the answers to the questions submitted by the committee to the association. Following are the questions and answers as prepared by the association:

Question 1.—Is the existing reclamation law satisfactory, and if not, in what respect should it be amended?

Answer 1.—If fairly interpreted, the present law is satisfactory. If we understand Section 4 of the reclamation act, the estimated cost of construction should be announced and considered an official announcement when the Secretary deems a project practical. And no private lands should be asked to subscribe for stock until given a definite price per acre for irrigation. As we understand Section 6 of the said act, the estimated cost mentioned in Section 4 should include operation and maintenance, and it should not be separated as is done by the U. S. R. S. into two charges and the cost deferred until completion of project, because the act distinctly says in Section 4 "the charges shall be determined with a view of returning to the reclamation fund the estimated cost of construction."

Question 2.—Are your local laws governing the appropriation and use of water for irrigation satisfactory in their application to lands being reclaimed by the government or through private enterprise; and if not, what amendments are required?

Answer 2.—As far as ascertainable at the present time the local laws are fairly satisfactory.

Question 3.—Is the administration of the law by the reclamation service satisfactory; and if not, what are the objections, and what remedy is proposed?

Answer 3.—As to the first clause, we answer "No." Our objections, in the main, are these: It has often been unsatisfactory and unfair, as the facts will show. When the first survey was made and landholders were urged to sign up their lands, officials stated publicly that their estimates showed a cost of \$18.60 per acre; and we were assured that the average cost would not exceed \$20.00 an acre, and it was with this understanding that we signed up our lands. Some years later other estimates were made when it was announced that the cost would not be less than \$20.00 an acre. And it is now urged, that shareholders will be compelled to pay this added 50 per cent. This seems unjust, and we solemnly protest against it. As one remedy to meet unsatisfactory conditions, we affirm that Oregon has not had its just apportionment of the funds. If this were given her, the project might be completed at an early date. Also, because the shareholders for four years have been at expense for keeping up the Water Users' association without results to us. As a remedy, complete the project as soon as possible. We ask your committee to investigate all the reasons for the increase of the estimated cost of the project, and we further ask that the officials of the Water Users' association be placed in direct communication with the Secretary of the Interior.

Question 4.—Is your water supply adequate both for irrigation and domestic uses?

Answer 4.—The water supply is adequate. The U. S. R. S. does not

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WORD FROM BALLINGER

HE SAYS THAT HE WILL FOLLOW
THE LAW

HE MAKES NO THREATS

Will Be Governed Entirely by the
Law and Conditions on Question of Increase

The insincerity of the head of the Water Users' association, J. G. Stevenson, and the vice president of the association, John Irwin, is shown in the following communications that have passed between these gentlemen and Messrs. Hopson, Newell and Ballinger. It is evident on the face of it that if it dared be done these gentlemen would endeavor to so influence the stockholders as to prevent the plain compliance with the by-laws of the association. It will be found out when it is too late that Mr. Ballinger is not going around with a stuffed club seeking an opportunity to use it on the head of Mr. Newell. It will be found that he will support that gentleman whenever he is right, and do it just as effectually as he has overruled him when he found him to be wrong.

Mr. Ballinger's telegram plainly states that he "will do what the law and conditions dictate." The law is very plain on the question of the increasing of the capital stock and the par value of the shares, and it will be found that Stevenson and his supporters have gone a step too far in the manner in which they juggled the vote of yesterday on the increase of the par value. The letter and telegram follows:

Klamath Falls, Ore., Oct. 26, 1909.
Hon. Richard Ballinger, Secretary of Interior, Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir: Mr. E. G. Hopson, supervising engineer of the Pacific division U. S. R. S., Portland, Ore., during his visit to the Klamath project in the latter part of July, 1909, informed the board of directors of the Klamath Water Users' association, through a committee appointed by said association for the purpose of meeting Mr. Hopson relative to matters pertaining to the Klamath project, that if the capital stock of the Klamath Water Users' association was not increased from its present capitalization of \$2,000,000 to \$6,000,000, and its par value likewise increased from \$20.00 to \$30.00, that the appropriation for this coming year, which he said was a tentative one, depending entirely upon the action of the stockholders of said association relative to increasing the capital stock of said association, as well as the par value, would be diverted elsewhere, and that the Klamath project would lose its appropriation for 1910, and that the operations would be at a standstill. Mr. Hopson insisted very strongly that the board of directors at once call a meeting of the stockholders for the purpose of voting to increase the capital and par value of the shares. Before calling the stockholders together, the board asked that it might have the estimates of cost per acre of what is called the Upper Klamath project, and which is under the Clear Lake dam, the same now being under construction, and which he assured us we could have in from two to three months, but before leaving insisted that we call a stockholders' meeting, stating that it would be impossible to get the estimates of costs on the Upper project, and it would take about six months for said estimates to be ready for our consideration.

We called the meeting of the stockholders for October 22d, and there not being a majority of the stock subscribed within the one hundred thousand present—the same being the amount for which our association is incorporated—the meeting adjourned until November 8th, at which time another meeting will be held. Before the meeting of October 22d we had no definite information to submit to the stockholders as to diversion of funds in case vote unfavorable, in view of which fact we forwarded Mr. Hopson a telegram of which the following is a copy:

"Klamath Falls, Oct. 20, 1909.
Mr. E. G. Hopson, Reclamation, Portland, Ore., Beck Bldg.

Will 1910 appropriation for Klamath project be diverted in case of adverse vote to increase capital stock? Will such appropriation be diverted in case of adverse vote to increase par value of shares of stock. Answer 'yes' or 'no' to each. (Signed)
J. G. STEVENSON, Pres.
ALBERT E. ELDER, Sec."

The following reply was received from Mr. Hopson under date Port-

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ONE DEMAND DEFEATED

INCREASE OF PAR VALUE OF
STOCK IS DEFEATED

UGLY CHARGES ARE MADE

Alleged That Ballots Were Juggled
to Meet the Desires of Those
Interested.

When the secretary reported to the meeting in the afternoon that there was a sufficient number of shares represented to constitute a quorum, the resolutions providing for the increase of the capital stock and the par value of the shares were introduced. In accordance with the program of the opponents of the wishes of the government a motion was made to segregate the resolutions, the vote thereon to be taken separately. This was done, with the following result:

In favor of increasing the capital stock: Yes, 59,698; no, 3,937. The vote on this question by those holding stock in excess of the original capitalization was as follows: Yes, 28,318; no, 2,212.

In favor of increasing the par value of the shares from \$20 to \$30 the vote stood: Yes, 47,901; no, 7,825. The vote of those holding stock in excess of the original 100,000 was as follows: Yes, 22,647; no, 3,857.

In the counting of the vote on the last proposition, which on the face of the returns was defeated, some serious charges have been made, and they may be a matter of investigation. It was the overwhelming sentiment of those present that both propositions be passed, and it is alleged that when an effort was made by those in favor of the increase of the capital stock and the par value of the shares to have representatives present at the counting of the ballots the doors were locked and admission denied them.

That the matter is not going to be dropped is indicated by the statements made on the streets today, and it is possible that a canvass of the votes will be demanded and the entire vote rechecked. If this plan is followed it will be several weeks before the actual result will be ascertained, as it will be necessary to communicate with everyone who was present and voted.

DIDN'T ALL COME

Owing to different reasons several of the senators who are on the committee on irrigation were unable to be present at their visit to Klamath Falls. Senator Carter of Montana, chairman of the committee; Senator Warren of Wyoming and Senator Jones of Washington, however, are here. Senator Chamberlain, who was unable to come on account of the critical condition of his mother's health, is represented by his secretary, R. A. Caples. Senator Newlands of Nevada and Senator Sutherland of Colorado were with the committee for part of the trip, and Senator Newlands will in all probability join them again in San Francisco Thursday. Other members of the party include Mr. Vosberg, general passenger agent for the Southern Pacific; H. W. Smith, official reporter for the committee, and S. J. Murphy, sergeant-at-arms of the committee. The reclamation service is represented by F. H. Newell, one of the directors, and A. P. Davis, the chief engineer of the reclamation service, whose headquarters are at Washington.

ELECTION AT LAKEVIEW

At the city election over in Lakeview the following officers were elected: Mayor, Harry Bailey; recorder, W. B. Snider; treasurer, A. Beiber; councilmen, V. L. Snelling, J. B. Auten, J. S. Sloan and D. G. Wilcox.

GOAL WAS REACHED

OPPONENTS OF RECLAMATION
SERVICE SECURE ATTENTION

CHARGES HAVE BEEN FILED

Will Be Investigated to the Last iota
and Justice Will Be Done to the
Last Degree.

The session of the senate committee on irrigation was suddenly brought to a close about 4 o'clock Tuesday afternoon by the announcement of Chairman Carter that they had only twenty minutes more to devote to the hearing in order to let them get away in time to make their railroad connections. Very little was brought out aside from what has been ancient history for the past four or five years.

It had been heralded for many weeks that if the senate committee came here that there would be an explosion that would jar loose many persons and things, and bring about a change in the management of affairs in connection with the Klamath project that would be beneficial to everyone concerned. It was, therefore, with considerable satisfaction that it was learned Tuesday morning that the senate committee propose to hold a public session, and that the much-desired opportunity would be afforded to make the charges that had been bandied about for the past several years.

This chance was welcomed by both those who have honestly believed that there was some foundation for all the stories told, as well as by those who have doubted the facts cited. It meant that the accusers would be able to land their charges right at the home plate and secure the investigation they have been demanding.

The statements made by Messrs. Stevenson and Ady, assisted by others, were taken down by the official stenographer; the names and addresses of everyone mentioned were secured, and at the close of the hearing Chairman Carter announced that the statements and charges would be investigated to the last iota and justice done to the last degree.

It seems to be the general opinion that nothing will come of it, for the reason there was a wide discrepancy in many of the charges made and which, when sifted down by the close cross-examination of the chairman, fell to pieces.

Another fact that will have a great deal of weight with the committee as well as with the people of the project at large is the statement filed containing the answers of the board to the questions propounded by the senators. There were several important statements made therein that even the supporters of the board readily admit are wide of the real facts, and it is certain that these will be brought to the attention of the committee.

FAVOR BOND ISSUE

Senator Jones of Washington, when interviewed Tuesday, stated that the committee favored the \$10,000,000 bond issue, and that it was their wish to have as much money as possible appropriated for the projects now under development in order that they might be completed at the earliest possible time. He further stated that the Klamath project compared favorably with other government projects, and that the land so far developed seemed to be giving excellent results.

Court should be immediately convened to look into the mental condition of that American girl who refused a duke's offer of marriage, says one of our exchanges.

ROADS WANT MORE MEN

OREGON TRUNK AND DESCHUTES
LINES HANDICAPPED

NOW NEED 5,000 LABORERS

Stevens States That Contracts Have
Been Let for 109 Miles of Construction Work

Completion of the Oregon Trunk line in Central Oregon is to be hurried just as fast as men can be obtained to do the work, according to a statement made in Monday's Oregonian by John F. Stevens, president of the road. Mr. Stevens does not believe that the line will be built into California, for its purpose, he declares, is the development of a new country, and the resultant increase of commerce with the main Hill lines.

The O. R. & N. is also rushing its line up the Deschutes river, and 2,200 men are at work there. It was said Sunday by J. P. O'Brien, general manager of the Hariman lines in the Pacific Northwest, that by April the road will probably be completed for a distance of 60 or 70 miles. If the work progresses as expected the O. R. & N. line will be completed to Redmond, which will probably be the terminus of the road until the line is extended south to connect with the Oregon-California cut-off near Klamath Falls.

Concerning the work on the Oregon Trunk line, President Stevens said Sunday night:

"If I could go to sleep tonight with the knowledge that we had at least 5,000 men at work on the road on the Deschutes river, I would be more at ease than I have been for a long while, or if I could sign a check in the morning paying for the completion of the road I would be the happiest man in the state. We have only between 1,500 and 2,000 men at work, and we are adding about 400 or 500 a week, or as many as can be obtained. That is our great need at present, labor."

"How far is the road projected?" he was asked.

"We have contracts let for the first 109 miles," he replied, "which is as far as Madras. We shall go at least 50 miles further, which may be to Bend or some other point in that irrigation district. We have several surveys into that locality, but which will be chosen is not determined."

"When that is done will you seek an outlet into California, Idaho, or will you cross the Cascades and go to the coast?" he was asked.

"Just look at the thing logically," he answered, "and you will see that our object should be to develop country for ourselves, and not to make traffic for other roads. The system with which we are connected has spent a large amount of money putting in the North Bank road, and we are building into new territory to develop it, and not make any other outlet."

"As for myself, I don't have California on the brain. Northern California will look like 30 cents compared with the country we are going into. I am somewhat of a booster for Oregon, anyhow."

More men are wanted also for railroad construction by the Southern Pacific on the California-Oregon cut-off. It was said last night by Mr. O'Brien that every available man is being put to work on the cut-off, which it is hoped to rush to completion with all possible speed.

About four months ago the company appropriated money considered necessary for one year's work on the cut-off, and contracts were let for a distance of 25 miles south of Natron

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MORRIS BROS. CHANGE FRONT

ARE WILLING TO TAKE SEWER
BONDS AT ORIGINAL OFFER

PROPOSITION TURNED DOWN

Re-Advertisement Program Will Be
Adhered to, and a Better Price
Is Expected.

Mr. Gilmore, the representative of Morris Brothers of Portland, the bankers who bid on the sewer bonds, was in the city this week, and had several conferences with the mayor and council. When the city rejected the bid of Kean & Co., Morris Brothers shaved their original offer about \$600, expecting that they would get the bonds even at the reduced figure. The mayor and council did not relish this change of front, and decided to reject all offers and re-advertise. This was the last thing expected or desired by the Portland firm, and when the advertisement appeared Mr. Gilmore came here post haste and besought the city officials to withdraw the advertisement and award the bonds at the old figure. While this was \$600 better than the last offer, the council felt that since they had decided to re-advertise they would stand by that decision, feeling that even a better offer would be received than that of Morris Brothers.

For three days Mr. Gilmore pleaded and urged, and at times even threatened, but to no avail, and he had to return to his superior with an empty game bag. There were times during his stay here when the atmosphere in the vicinity of himself and the mayor got pretty warm and some pointed remarks were made by both men.

It was intimated by Mr. Gilmore that the action of the city in deciding to re-advertise the bonds would not save it from Kean & Co., and would finally result in the city not being able to install the system next year. These remarks, however, have not been seriously considered by the council nor the mayor, both feeling confident that the city will have a modern sewer system within the next year.

WHY NOT TRY IT HERE?

Every property owner in the city is expected to improve his residence property by planting trees along his frontage which will be uniform on the different streets, if he carries out the wishes of the ladies of the Greater Medford club, who have started a systematic campaign for beautifying the streets of the city. This sounds like a good plan, and if this city is to have as beautiful a residence district as Portland, Spokane, St. Paul, or any other of the larger cities noted for the beauty of their streets, there must be a system to the work done. The ladies of the city are the ones to take the beautifying of the streets in hand, and it is never too early to begin fixing up for the time when Klamath Falls shall be a railroad center and the metropolis of Southern Oregon.

North Yakima, Wash.—State Senator Samuel J. Cameron died here suddenly at 5 o'clock Monday morning from heart failure, after a week's illness from grip. Mr. Cameron was a native of Scotland, and for twenty-three years had been a resident of North Yakima. He was 44 years old. Mr. Cameron was a prominent Mason and Elk.

San Francisco.—For the fourth time within two months Stanley Ketchel, the champion middle-weight prize-fighter, has been arrested for violating the speed law. This time there is an additional charge of battery—he ran over and injured a Jap, and was released on bail.