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## IRRIGATION BILL DRAWS FIRE FROM MALHEUR UNITS

REPORT GIVEN AT PORTLAND  
MEETING IS MATTER OF  
DISCUSSION

## OPPOSE RECLAMATION BOARD

Malheur Stands Opposed To Legisla-  
tion Proposed By Oregon Recla-  
mation Congress Committee

The report of the legislative committee of the Oregon Reclamation congress made at the meeting of trustees in Portland Tuesday and Wednesday, has drawn fire from Malheur county. The proposed bill affecting administration affairs in irrigation districts, drawn up by W. Lair Thompson, was not submitted to Malheur county districts until the last of the week, which fact has been censured. As a result a meeting was called in Ontario Saturday to consider it.

### Proposes Board

The measure proposed the creation of a state reclamation board, to have the power to take from local districts control of their affairs in case the districts were in strained financial condition. Malheur irrigationists condemned the bill as impracticable, stating that it would result in additional burden of expense upon involved land owners. It was also the expressed belief that the bill would lead to state assumption of indebtedness, though this is not contained in the measure. The crowd unanimously opposed the bill.

### Want Change

At the meeting Saturday it was also decided to seek a change in the statutes which would allow directors of irrigation districts to collect their own operation and maintenance charges, but to continue the present system of collection of bond and interest payments by county officials, so that these payments may continue to be made through the state's official agencies, thus not impairing the collection of bond money.

Senator George E. Davis and Representative-elect J. D. Billingsley were present. County Commissioner C. H. Oxman presided at the meeting. It was said that the representative districts at the meeting involved 200,000 acres of land or the largest reclamation area in the state.

No delegate was sent to the meeting in Portland, but H. G. Kennard of Vale, a visitor in Salem, attended with State Engineer Rhea Luper and others.

There were representatives from the Vale, Warmsprings, Owyhee, Payette-Oregon Slope, Nyssa and Ontario districts.

## W. G. MORGAN GREAT BOOSTER FOR MALHEUR

"Well here I am" said W. G. Morgan, secretary of the Harper Commercial club of Malheur county, a former Albany resident for a brief period, who arrived in Albany for a few days visit.

Mr. Morgan is interested largely in "Whitearth," a new material used in cement work and for insulation in wiring buildings. The product he is putting on the market is a new discovery of a material found in the Malheur county in recent years that is rapidly coming into demand, says Mr. Morgan. Mr. Morgan is a booster for his county and has much to say about the proposed irrigation projects by the government known as the Owyhee and Vale projects.

Morgan suggested that investors have a great opportunity at this time for making a good buy. He reports that there is 6,000,000 acres of land in the county and not a 100 acres of timber land on the tax roll. The timber all being in the government reserve. He proposes to join with other counties in the state in a concerted action to secure revenues from the government on timber lands which are exempt from taxation.

Mr. Morgan gave a demonstration of the novel earth product at the Willard Electric store last night. Albany Democrat-Herald.

## OWYHEE

Mrs. Ellis Walters was a guest in the Newbill home Saturday.

Dennis Toomes of Nyssa has purchased the ranch known as the J. P. McGinnis ranch on the Owyhee.

Mrs. Rosie Fletcher, an old-time resident of Owyhee and Ontario died Dec. 1st at Portland.

Mrs. Chas. Bradley called on Grandma Harris of Nyssa Saturday. Miss Florence Bach who is teaching near Emmett, Idaho, arrived in the Kolony Saturday to spend the holidays with home folks.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Cantrall were Payette visitors Saturday.

Wade Nichols of Kingman Kolony was quite badly hurt Saturday when the horse he was riding fell on him dislocating some of the bones in his foot. He was taken to a Caldwell sanitarium where it will be necessary for him to remain several days.

Oscar Pinkston was a Homedale visitor last week.

Smiths, Frys, and Klingbacks were to Ontario Friday sending telegrams to the north pole.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Lane and son Donald of the Kolony were Emmett visitors last week returning home Saturday.

Miss Ivers, primary teacher of Oregon Trail had as her guest several days last week her sister Ruby of Vale.

Mrs. Claud Smith and daughters Vivian and Maxine left Saturday for a visit with her parents at the Dalles, Oregon.

John Reece is leaving today (Monday) for California. Frank Morgan will accompany him as far as Eugene to spend the holidays with relatives.

## MONEY FOR HEALTH WISE INVESTMENT

SAYS JAMIESON MARSHALL, IN-  
STITUTIONAL ADVISOR  
NATIONAL T. B. ASS'N.

"Money spent by the state or a county in building adequate sanitarium facilities for tuberculosis patients is money wisely invested," said Jamieson Marshall, institutional advisor for the National Tuberculosis Association, who has accompanied the Oregon Board of Control in quest of a site for the new Eastern Oregon Tuberculosis Hospital.

"Every phase of the anti-tuberculosis campaign is aided by having enough sanitarium beds to accommodate patients who cannot pay for private care," Marshall said Saturday evening when he arrived in Portland in company with Governor Pierce, Secretary of State Kozler, Treasurer of State Kay, and Dr. G. C. Bellinger Superintendent of the State Tuberculosis Hospital at Salem.

"The curative phase of the work is aided directly by the early care of the patient; the preventive phase is served by removing the patient from direct contact with his family; the positive health or education phase is aided by the fact that the patients and their friends lose their dread of tuberculosis by learning that it can be checked, cured and altogether prevented by following the rules of normal, healthy living."

Mr. Marshall's services are furnished free to the State by the National Tuberculosis Association which receives five cents from each dollar's worth of Christmas seals sold in the U. S. each year.

## Does Malheur Want Cow Tests?

The County Agent's office is very anxious to get in communication with dairymen wishing to have regular monthly cow testing service for their herds. J. B. Hallman, one of the official testers of the Weiser-Payette Cow Testing Ass'n., is going to be able to give Malheur County enough time to handle approximately ten herds. Four or five have already been secured but there is still opportunity for others who are interested. It is hoped that with this sort of a start, by spring the county will be able to support a cow testing association of its own.

## SCHOOL DISTRICT 16 IN HANDS BOUNDARY BOARD

A three day hearing on school district No. 16 resulted Tuesday in finding that District No. 16 was an abandoned district and as such is in the hands of the boundary board. Davis & Lyle represented the parties who were claiming that the Cow Valley district was an abandoned one.

## OREGON CONGRESS POSTPONES ACTION ON IRRIGATION BILL

DISAPPROVAL OF PROPOSED  
BILL RESULTS IN POSTPON-  
ED ACTION BY CONGRESS

## MALHEUR SEES EASY REMEDY

Legislative Committee From County  
Will Draw Up Measure Pro-  
viding Single Cure

Probably as the result of disapproval of the measure by the legislative committee of the Oregon Irrigation congress, proposing a new method and the creation of a state board to control reclamation districts no definite action was taken at the recent meeting in Portland. A report in a Portland paper stated that the committee from the state congress postponed any action on the proposed bill. As a result the committee from Malheur county districts, of which Senator George E. Davis is a member, will not take any action objecting to the bill unless further developments take place.

### Want Simple Remedy

However, a meeting will be held in the near future when the committee, consisting of Mr. Davis, Attorneys Bruce R. Kester and R. W. Swagler will draw up a measure, through which it is believed that the affairs of irrigation districts which are in difficulties, can be righted. The simple remedy sought is collection of operation and maintenance charges by the districts themselves, instead of by county collection. To warrant approval of bondholders, the measure will leave the collection of interest and principal on bond payments in the hands of county officers.

## OPPOSE STATE BOARD FOR RECLAMATION

ENGINEER RHEA LUPER POINTS  
OUT PITFALLS IN IRRIGA-  
TION LAWS

Salem.—The proposal of the legislative committee of the Oregon Irrigation congress for the creation of a state reclamation board to take over the affairs of delinquent irrigation districts is unworkable in the opinion of State Engineer Luper, who declares that he will oppose adoption of the law by the legislature. Under the provisions of the proposed law, Mr. Luper states, the state would necessarily take excessive losses in some districts or find itself unable to resell the lands which had been acquired through foreclosure.

As solution to the muddle into which irrigation matters have developed in the state, Luper will propose to the legislature a bill modeled largely after a law which has been in effect in Colorado for a number of years and which is said to have been found entirely satisfactory in that state.

The Colorado law, Mr. Luper explains, provides for the refunding of the indebtedness of irrigation districts by the issuance of refunding bonds, which limit the liability of the settlers to a definite portion of the district's indebtedness. Any settler can then be relieved from taxation for the payment of principal and interest of refunding bonds upon the payment of his proportionate share of the indebtedness plus 15 per cent additional to cover contingencies. This payment may be made in cash or in district bonds at par and enables the settler to take advantage of any drop in the market value of bonds by purchasing them at their low price and turning them in at par on his indebtedness.

Bonds now outstanding, Mr. Luper explains, constitute a contract between the district and the bondholders which cannot be changed by legislation without the consent of both parties.

There are nearly 10,000 automobile camps in this country, of which 66 per cent are in or near a city or town.

What a beautiful winter! Plenty of snow, and mild, pleasant weather. Best of all, the snow assures plenty of water for a good crop next year,

## The Christmas Light That Can Not Fail Us

By Bishop Wm. P. Remington.

The keeping of the anniversary of the birth of Jesus of Nazareth bears witness to an astounding influence in the world, immeasurably greater than any outward expression of the Christian faith. Millions of people all over the earth who never join in a carol nor lift their voices in praise of the newborn King, yet feel the spirit of the season, the grip of the fingers of the Christ Child upon their heart strings, and it brings a new look into hard and selfish faces. The message of the angels is so compelling that it breaks through all discordant notes. Strife, envy, hatred, the sordid pursuit of wealth and the tempting voices of sensual pleasures, are stilled for a season and humanity is carried out of its earth-bound prison into the free air of love, peace and good will. It is as though the greatest "sending station" of all, controlled by the Master hand, had issued a yearly decree—"Clear the air for the angel choir, for the good news of all ages. Behold, I bring you glad tidings of great joy which shall be to all people, for unto you is born this day in the City of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord."

There is just one Light that never fails, and that Light glows brightest when the Star of Bethlehem shines over the hills and irradiates the earth. It is a Light which makes man aware both of his character and his destiny. All the rest of the year he may think of himself as a "go-getter," an active successful business man, but now he must see himself as a child of God, a spiritual creature, one destined to immortality. The message is not simply for the chosen people of God, the elect individual or nation, it is for all, and that means everyone, no matter how worldly or sordid or selfish or unlovable. The point about Christmas is that on that day a message is filtering through which is so universal in content and meaning that it transcends the bounds of race or color, nation or creed. In its universality it satisfies the religious instinct of man because it is based upon the spiritual character and destiny of humanity. The Son of God came to earth in order that man might have authoritative assurance of his inheritance as a child of God.

Of course, it was inevitable that this Good News should be given a variety of interpretations, just as the beauty and truth of the Creator has manifold expression in nature. The Light of that Star of Bethlehem has been broken up into the colors of the spectrum because of the media through which it has been passed. If one really loves the Light, he is not disturbed because it appears in different colors, but he must insist that it takes all the colors to make the clear white light of truth. Perhaps we have reached that tolerance of view which admits that others may be worshipping the Christ Child, even if they do not sing the same hymn nor say the same creed. At least on Christmas the flood gates of love, peace, and good will are unloosened and a person must be a markedly strong swimmer to battle that flood. To hold fast to one's own narrow conception of the truth and of the purposes of God, is indeed difficult on the anniversary of the birth of Jesus.

We should give high praise and unfeigned thanks for the message of Christmas in all ages, but especially in this Twentieth Century. If you don't think the old world is any better than it was, read your history or go and live in some place where Christ is not known. Be a real pagan, a genuine barbarian, and suffer their cruelties and lust.

Thank God for the Good News of Christmas, for there one finds a truth inherent in all religion, and answer to the soul hunger of every child of man. The great question of life is not how God made me, but what sort of a being am I now that I have been made? The problem of existence is not how much can I get out of my three score years and ten, but how can I fit myself for eternity? Before the first Christmas, humanity groped blindly in a region of shadow and great darkness. They wanted to know whence they came and whither they went. Some light had been given, but there wasn't any real certainty for all mankind. Prophets, teachers, philosophers and wrestled with these questions, and

some had offered a solution which satisfied in part. He might assure humanity of His love and lift men up to the place where He dwells. Christmas bears witness to the fact that God cares, and the universal response which the world makes to the Good News, the soul hunger which we find satisfied by the message of the angels, is sufficient proof that all mankind can look unto Him and be saved.

Sometimes we think that the miracle of Christmas is as great as that of the Incarnation, perhaps it is more universal in its acceptance. Many there are who cannot accept the virgin birth and yet find their utmost hopes realized in the love, the peace, and the good will of Christmas Day. For you and me as Christians, the Good News has in it all the cherished memories of Bible and creed, of carols and customs, and blessed joyful traditions. We lift up our hearts in great thankfulness. But let us not forget those who pay tribute to the messenger, but do not yet know the Messenger as we do.

## County Statistics

Real Estate Transfers Recorded.

Pacific Live Stock Co. to Deane Goodman-SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$  and E $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 20; N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$  and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 21-20-37; W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 9; S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$  and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 8; SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 19; E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$  and Lot 4, Sec. 18-21-37. \$10.00.

L. G. Pickell et ux to I. M. Deane-W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 17-15-46. 10-21-26. \$10.00.

U. S. A. to Elmina Vinson-SW $\frac{1}{4}$ -NW $\frac{1}{4}$  and NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 14; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , S $\frac{1}{2}$ -NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 15-23-46. 10-16-26.

Emory Cole et ux to Malheur County-road right of way across Block 25, Brogan. 12-13-26. \$225.00.

J. S. Fischer et ux to Union Central Life Insurance Co.-S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 13; N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 24; S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 14; N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 23; SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 14; and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 23-16-46. 11-11-26. \$1.00. (Q. C. Deed).

Gena G. Kime et vir to A. L. Leet-Lots 5 and 6, and west 75 feet of Lot 4, Block 3, Harper. 12-11-26. \$10.00. (Q. C. Deed).

U. S. A. to Elizabeth Powers-NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$  and N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11; W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$  and NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 12-16-38. 1-21-26.

Joseph Blayne Boydell to J. W. Kygar et al-70 acres in S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 34-20-46. 6-4-25. \$1.00.

Sheriff C. W. Glenn to City of Ontario-Lots 3 to 8, inclusive, Block 24; Lots 1 to 5, inc., and 11 to 15, inc., Block 273; Lots 11 to 15, inc., Block 205; Lots 3, 4, 5, and 11 to 15, inc., Block 29, Ontario. 9-13-26. \$405.00.

Malheur County to Ed Parrish-Lots 37, 38, and 39, Block 4, Riverside Add. to Ontario. 11-23-26. \$86.14.

Edw. Parrish et ux to Nels Rasmussen-Lots 37, 38, and 39, Block 4, Riverside Add. to Ontario. 11-23-26. \$300.00.

Agnes Downs to A. G. Moore-NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11-18-47. 11-3-26. \$1,200.00.

Henry C. Dunagan et ux to U. S. Yerex-N $\frac{1}{2}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 29-28-46. 3-27-26. \$10.00.

Sheriff C. W. Glenn to Paul Brooks-Lots 17 and 20, inclusive, Block 312; Lots 1 to 5, inc., Block 264; and Lots 1 to 20, inc., Block 282, Ontario. 12-18-26. \$165.00.

Marriage Licenses Issued.

Frank L. Hendricks and Elsie Neal. 12-13-26.

Complaints Filed in Circuit Court.

Walter Thompson vs Vera Thompson. 12-13-26. Divorce.

State of Oregon vs Wm. C. Tomlin, Jr., et al. 12-17-26. Foreclosure of Mortgage. \$2,229.44.

Bank of Jordan Valley vs Jordan Valley Hotel Co. 12-17-26. Recovery on note. \$1,700.00.

MARKED MALLARD DUCK  
ENDS FLIGHT NEAR VALE

The flight of a mallard duck that perhaps has seen the sunny south, northern snows and has reached from one corner of this broad country to the other, was stopped by a bullet near Vale last week. The little bird was no different from a thousand others that have been bagged by local nimrods since the season opened, except for the fact that it wore a silver leg band, one containing a number that had been put on by the U. S. Biological department. The bird was shot by D. A. Clor on Bulley Creek. The question is where did this bird hail from and it will be solved by government officials. They use this method to determine the average flight of various game birds. A letter should be received from the government officials by next week.

## HOUSE PASSES ON APPROPRIATIONS OWYHEE AND VALE

HOUSE ADDS \$100,000 FOR CON-  
STRUCTION OF WARMSPRINGS  
DRAINAGE SYSTEM

## VALE PROJECT GETS \$850,000

Appropriations For Vale, Owyhee  
And Baker For Next Fiscal  
Year Go To Senate

Carrying new appropriations for the Vale, Owyhee and Baker projects in eastern Oregon, the annual interior department appropriation bill was passed by the house Wednesday and sent to the senate. The house added one hundred thousand dollars to the appropriation for the Vale project, as interior officials informed the committee that they had underestimated the amount needed for the Vale project and that it should have been \$850,000 instead of \$750,000 as provided for the next fiscal year.

The additional \$100,000 to be employed in construction of a drainage system will be added when the appropriation measure reaches the senate.

### Owyhee Gets \$2,000,000

An appropriation of \$2,000,000 for the Owyhee, a sister project lying in Malheur county and partly in Idaho, was also approved without objection and passed the house.

An item of \$450,000 for the Baker project was included in the bill. This is the sixth time that the Baker project has been approved by the appropriation committee although the secretary of the interior has not yet declared the approval of the feasibility of the project.

## MALHEUR MAN TAKES UP TEXT BOOK FIGHT

DAVID T. GRAHAM HAS FILED  
INJUNCTION RESTRAINING  
CHANGE IN BOOKS

David F. Graham, Jordan Valley business man, whose home is in Vale, is among other prominent educators of the state who have sought injunctions to restrain the state board of education from entering into a contract which calls for new text books for Oregon schools, claiming this change in school books year after year means a useless and uncalled for expenditure of money.

Objections have been made from every part of the state to the action of the text book commission in its change of personnel made in November, which removed R. R. Turner and named a Portland teacher in his place, thus giving control of the commission to Portland without a representative from Eastern Oregon. Mr. Graham says the commission as it is now is not a legal body.

As a result of present resentment it is expected that the legislature will make some change in the text book law to eliminate the present uncalled for waste of money.

## LAGRANDE GETS NORMAL SCHOOL

STATE REGENTS BALLOT ON  
LOCATION FOR EASTERN  
OREGON NORMAL

The state board of normal school regents on Monday afternoon selected LaGrande for the new Eastern Oregon normal school. According to a press report, LaGrande and Pendleton were tied with nine votes each for the site of the eastern Oregon normal, The Dalles in second place with six votes after the first balloting. The preliminary balloting eliminated Arlington, Weston, Redmond and Elgin. All other sites not eliminated received two votes each.

### Flee From Tax Collector

Tax collecting is a difficult task in Melanesia, off the east coast of Australia, for when the collector appears, a tom-tom is beaten to warn the villagers, who go into hiding. The collector finds only cold hearthstones and deserted dwellings.