

EL PASO ACTS AS PEACEMAKERS; COMMITTEE LEAVES FOR CRUCES

Chamber of Commerce, Water Users' Association and Business Men to Make Effort to Bring About Harmony Between the Government and the Elephant Butte Water Users' Association; Lawson Explains.

CHAMBER of commerce directors, accompanied by John Wyatt, T. M. Wingo and T. S. Stewart, left El Paso Tuesday morning for Las Cruces. There they will meet officers of the Elephant Butte Water Users' association and attempt to persuade them to sign the irrigation contracts presented by the reclamation service, so that there will be no friction with the government which might endanger the further appropriation of funds for the continuance of work on the big dam and the canal system of the Rio Grande valley.

Ninety-nine percent of the members of the upper valley association have refused to sign the contract, claiming they were unfair, and the government has ordered that no water be given through its canals to the farmers who have not signed.

Joint Meeting Held. The directors of the chamber of commerce and governors of the El Paso Valley Water Users' association met at a joint meeting Monday afternoon and heard L. M. Lawson, project engineer, explain the action of the department in shutting off the water. It was then suggested that the chamber of commerce directors go to Las Cruces and confer with the water users. The congressional appropriation committee is expected to visit El Paso in June and it is feared that members of the committee may refuse further appropriations for the project unless peace is made between the reclamation service and the upper valley farmers.

The secretary of the interior sets certain regulations under which he will operate irrigation projects until the costs of construction are repaid. Mr. Lawson said there are 25 or 30 projects and most of them are operated under uniform regulations. In every case he outlines a policy of reasonable charges for service pending. The formal opening of the project, there were local conditions in New Mexico which required special treatment. I was instructed to bring the Mesilla valley under the same regulations as the valley and a charge of 50 cents per acre for storage water was fixed.

Lacked Confidence of Valley People. "The people of the Mesilla valley are not objecting, I believe, to the amount fixed. They want the use of the dam for nothing until the entire cost is repaid. The reclamation service, for some reason or other, has not enjoyed the confidence of the Mesilla valley people. The secretary of the interior instructed me to deliver water to no one who had not signed the contracts. We have done our best to protect the water users. We will not give water to a man unless he belongs to one of the associations under this project.

30 Cents Not Unfair. "I don't think the Cruces people believe the 50 cents charge is unfair. They simply believe we have no right to make it at all. And yet it has been made on every other project already built. In comparison to the others it is low. Some projects the charge is \$1.50. Under our plan, the Mesilla valley people would pay a total of \$1.20 an acre for water. Now the members of El Paso Valley Water Users' association are paying \$1.90 under the terms of their contract and 94 percent of them have signed up. We have had no complaint from them and the action of the Mesilla valley farmers came as a great surprise. There are 250,000 acre feet of water stored behind the dam now. We are letting enough water come down the river to supply all those who have water rights and there is little danger of a loss of crops. The Mesilla valley people can build a ditch from the river to irrigate their farms if they desire, and no loss will result. But their opposition may have a decidedly bad effect on the congressional committee which comes here in June. This committee handles all appropriations. The Mesilla valley people don't question the value of the water to them; they are just opposing the policy of the secretary."

Millions More to Come. Mr. Lawson said that \$1,000,000 had already been spent for the construction of canals and \$4,000,000 more is needed for the completion of the work. Diversion dams must be built at Palomas, Rincon and Mesilla Park, and a complete system of laterals built. Under the terms of the contract, no money is paid by the farmers until July 1. It was decided at the meeting that the Mesilla water users should be asked to sign the contracts now and settle the dispute afterwards, so as to avoid friction with the government officials who are handling the project. Among the men on the "mediation committee" who left El Paso Tuesday morning were R. E. Ordorff, H. S. Beach, Harry Swain, George R. LeBaron, W. G. Roe, E. E. Neff, H. S. Potter, A. W. Reeves, T. S. Stewart, John M. Wyatt and T. M. Wingo.

Those present at the meeting yesterday afternoon in the chamber of commerce building were J. A. Smith, J. J. Mundy, Dr. S. T. Turner, H. D. Slater, George R. LeBaron, Zach White, Charles N. Bassett, E. E. Neff, H. S. Ordorff, W. G. Roe, Harry Swain, H. S. Potter and A. W. Reeves.

BORDERLAND INN CLUB TO OPERATE AS A SALOON. The temporary injunction recently ordered by Judge Dan M. Jackson in the 24th district court, restraining the Borderland Inn club from operating as a saloon was dissolved Tuesday morning on motion of district attorney W. W. Bricker.

It is represented that the club has ceased to run and that a license is being secured to operate strictly as a saloon.

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WATER USERS TO STOP RECLAMATION SERVICE FROM CUTTING OFF WATER.

Las Cruces, N. M., May 4.—Application for an injunction restraining the reclamation service officials from continuing to shut off the water from the majority of the farms under the Elephant Butte diversion dam, will be filed this afternoon by H. B. Holt, attorney for the Elephant Butte Water Users' association.

A committee of two delegates from the Elephant Butte association will be sent to Washington at once to confer with the reclamation service officials and department of interior officials regarding the critical situation which has developed in the valley. At the meeting of the directors of the association, a committee composed of L. Clapp, James S. Quisenberry and Capt. J. E. Holmberg was named by the council to select the names of the two delegates to Washington.

The application for an injunction will be an ex parte one for an order restraining the government officials from continuing to deprive 94 percent of the Mesilla valley water users of water through the irrigation ditches. The application will be filed in the district court here and will be given an immediate hearing by Judge E. L. Medler who is expected to grant a temporary injunction as soon as the application is filed. Five copies of the bill of the application will be held before Judge Medler at which the representatives of the government will be asked to show cause why the injunction should not be made permanent.

To Bring a Climax. The filing of this application is expected to bring the present dispute between the Water Users' association and the reclamation service to a climax. The water from a majority of the farms in the valley was cut off Saturday morning upon the final refusal of the farmers to sign the contract prepared by the reclamation commission which contained a clause requiring the water users to pay for the use of water stored behind the dam. This and other clauses in the contract were objected to and the majority of the water users refused to sign.

The delegation from the chamber of commerce of El Paso, the El Paso Water Users' association and the Mesilla valley water users, they are anxious to assist in bringing about an understanding between the government and the Elephant Butte association. The delegation from El Paso met with the directors of the Water Users' association in the water office on Main street Tuesday morning. Mark B. Thompson, representing the local water users, made an extended speech for the benefit of the visiting delegation to explain to them the association's side of the controversy.

After his address the meeting adjourned for lunch and resumed again in the afternoon. A number of the El Paso delegation attended speech for the representatives of the association, are expected to speak this afternoon.

CHARGE AND CHALLENGE BY NEW MEXICO WATER USERS. In the Rio Grande Republic of April 20 (Las Cruces) appears a card signed by L. Clapp, chairman of the El Paso Water Users' association of New Mexico, addressed to William Palmer, Jr., and reading in full: "It has been reported to me that you are publicly charging me with being engaged in, or with having been engaged in, negotiating a corrupt deal whereby the hydro-electric power under the Rio Grande project would be disposed of or developed in such manner as more or less to be lost to the farmers and land owners under the project or otherwise seriously jeopardize their interests in the premises, and that I have been in conference with El Paso capitalists, looking to some such corrupt deal. It is also reported that you have said that you 'have the goods on me'."

"I most emphatically deny that I have been engaged in negotiating any such deal, or that I have in any way favored any such disposal of the electric power to be developed under the Rio Grande project. And I deny having had any such conference with any person or persons on the subject of the electric power of the Rio Grande project. I challenge you, Mr. Palmer, or any other person to produce in—such deal, negotiation or conference."

Another chapter in the unfortunate factional and political fight that has colored the doings of the New Mexico water users for some time, Mr. Clapp's four years administration has, on the whole, been wise and conservative, but many of his friends are at a loss to understand his attitude in the matter of the contract with the government in vouching the 50 cents charge for stored water.

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SEVEN PISTOL CASES TRIED; FIVE MAKE PLEAS OF GUILTY. Seven cases of "pistol toting" were disposed of in the county court Tuesday morning. Of this number, two were found not guilty and five entered pleas of guilty and were given from 30 days to 120 and costs.

Those pleading guilty were Pedro Delgado, fined \$150 and costs; Juan Alonzo, fined \$100 and costs; Jose I. Perez, \$100 and costs; Bonifacio Berliana, 30 days and costs; Alberto Thorne, 100 and costs; Santos Chavez and Ursula Soto, found not guilty.

Jose Zarala pleaded guilty of carrying a dirk and was sentenced to 30 days and to pay costs. Marcelo Sosa, charged with theft, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 30 days and to pay costs.

\$25.00 reward for any impurities found in GOLDEN ROD. Walter S. Clayton, Agent.—Advertisement.

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ROOSEVELT RETURNS, OTHERS WILL QUIT REPUBLICAN PARTY

This in Effect Is the Declaration of Vice President Marshall, Democrat, Between Bites of Hot Cakes and Syrup at Union Station in El Paso; Vice President Here Fifteen Minutes Without Glancing at Mexico.

WHAT will happen if Roosevelt returns to the Republican party? "In that case there would be many desertions from the party because of the feeling against him. I do not consider the Progressive party dead by any means. If you had been analyzing the situation closely you would see that it is a matter of men and not of party."

The question was put by a Herald reporter. The answer was made by Thomas R. Marshall, vice president of the United States senate, who was in El Paso at the El Paso union station Tuesday morning, May 4, 1915.

"Do you think Roosevelt will be a candidate against president Wilson in 1916, Mr. Marshall?" he was asked between bites. "For four weeks I have been out on the Arizona desert and I have not seen any paper in all that time. I do not know what has been going on."

This was classified as political staff stuff, a paper was held in his hand. "How about Indiana politics?" "I have just told you that I have not seen any papers for the past four weeks and am not familiar with developments."

Then you do not know about Don Roberts being sent to Leavenworth prison, together with other Terre Haute officials?" "Oh, yes, I knew all about that a long time ago."

Here a Short Time. The vice president was in El Paso for 15 minutes. Tuesday morning, dressed up in a pair of tortoise shell glasses as big as salad dishes. The vice president was on his way back to Indianapolis, where he has been spending four weeks resting up from his strenuous two weeks at the San Francisco exposition. The vice president was accompanied by Mrs. Marshall and Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Kinney, Mrs. Marshall's mother and father, who own a fruit ranch at Scottsdale, and make their summer home in Angola, Ind.

At Hot Cakes Here. The Hoosier statesman, industriously wrapping himself around a double order of hot cakes with maple syrup when the Southern Pacific train arrived at the union station. His tortoise shell glasses were set at an acute angle on his nose to give him a better view of the official breakfast dish of his native state.

Business of eating "flapjacks" was uppermost in the vice presidential mind and he did not glance out the window toward the Mexico of the other side until the train started. Which has been costing his administration so much grief and midnight oil.

Champion Cake Eater. No one not a Hoosier born could eat hot cakes as the vice president consumes them. He spread the golden suite over them like a stone mason troweling his mortar. Then flung a flood of sticky sweetness which almost depleted the supply in the silver container. Then came the gubbin of the meal as he carved the stack.

"Why Can't Tom Lea Go To Juarez?" He Goes To Meet the Mexican Mayor. Mayor Tom Lea and the city council called on mayor Enrique Monfort and Gen. Tomas Ornelas Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Victor Caruso and Hayden Krupp accompanied the El Paso officials to Juarez and introduced them to the Mexican authorities.

The visit was a brief one. Mayor Lea assured mayor Monfort that his administration would cooperate with the Juarez municipal authorities in every possible way and received similar assurances from the Juarez executives.

This matter of a free bridge to Juarez was discussed casually and the El Paso officials told their hosts that everything possible will be done over here to make the proposition materialize.

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WOMAN TELLS OF BATTLE WITH MAN WHO SWORE TO KILL HER AND A PRIEST.

Hannning, Calif., May 4.—A coroner's jury late Monday declared Peter Glennon, a ranch foreman, had accidentally killed himself while trying to kill "Sav" Paul Reinefeld, an invalid priest, and in a lonely desert canyon near Pains Springs. The jury heard testimony of Mrs. Sherrer and a deposition by the priest.

Father Reinefeld admitted having fired one shot, but his revolver and that with which Glennon tried to kill him, and Mrs. Sherrer wore of the same caliber, and the jury concluded that a bullet from Glennon's own weapon, accidentally discharged when Mrs. Sherrer leaped upon him, severed his jugular vein and caused him to bleed to death.

The clergyman, who had gone to the desert last week seeking to benefit his health, was unable to testify. Feared by the wound which one of Glennon's bullets inflicted in his right arm, and in bad physical condition otherwise, he suffered a hemorrhage of the lungs Monday and was taken to Los Angeles Monday night by Mrs. Sherrer to enter a hospital there.

Mrs. Sherrer, a widow with a son eight years old, was the principal witness and declared that Glennon's infatuation with her was responsible for the tragedy.

Threatened to Kill Woman. He proposed marriage to her a week before, she said, and when she refused, threatened to kill her. This statement was corroborated by Mrs. Margaret Shea, owner of the cabin in which the invalid priest and his nurse were installed just a day or two before Glennon disappeared to kill them. He came to the cabin about 2 o'clock Friday night, Mrs. Sherrer continued. "He burst in through the screen door, and, flourishing his revolver, announced that he had come to kill father Reinefeld and myself."

"Don't, Peter, I cried, remembering my little son. It was dark in the cabin at the time, but father Reinefeld, who had been during, turned an electric flashlight on Glennon, who began firing. I don't know which one struck the priest."

She Leaped on Glennon. Glennon was a powerful man, but Mrs. Sherrer leaped on him and with the force of fear, forced him back through the door. Father Reinefeld's revolver got into action then. The

Well Groomed Hoosier. The Indiana vice president is as much like the accepted Hoosier-Abe Martin type of politician as the burlesque stage farmer is to the real article who drives to town in his 1915 model touring car. He looks more like an Indianapolis politician than like an automobile manufacturer to whom property had come rather suddenly. He wore a tailored suit, white shirt, necktie and "Irish men" if a cent. His big glasses were attached to the wide silk ribbon, which he had just slipped on and his iron gray hair was newly cut and carefully combed.

The big goggles gave him an owl's look, but were a slightly bored air as if too much attention had got on his nerves, since he left his home in North Manchester, Ind., where the train to meet the vice president and an impromptu committee composed of red caps, "car wankers" and union station employes welcomed Mr. Marshall.

Lightning Kills 76 Goats; Rain and Hail Then Kill Forty Kids. Alamogordo, N. M., May 4.—Fred M. Bradford, who has a goat ranch on the Sacramento river in the Sacramento mountains, who is in Alamogordo today for supplies, reports that his herds suffered severely in two storms which swept over his ranch last week. In one, a bolt of lightning struck the herd, killing 76 of the goats and plowing a crevice in the ground more than two feet wide and 60 feet in length. The herder was badly stunned. Following this rain and hail killed 40 of the kids.

WRONG MAN REPORTED HELD IN THE JAIL IN C. JUAREZ. F. E. Myers, a brakeman on the T. & P. railway, says somebody in giving out information that he was in the jail in Juarez, but he is the only Myers working on the T. & P. in El Paso, and he was out on his run Sunday and Monday. The name of the man reported in jail was given as C. F. Myers. F. E. Myers says no such man works for the T. & P.

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DON JOHNSON IS CHIEF OF POLICE

Mayor's New Appointee to Take Office Tonight Was Chief of Detectives.

Don Johnson has been appointed chief of police by mayor Tom Lea and will take the oath of office late this afternoon to succeed chief of police I. N. Davis.

The new chief of police has been a police officer in Texas, Arizona and New Mexico. He was chief of detectives in El Paso under mayor Joseph U. Sweeney and chief of police Ben Johnson of the Arizona state rangers. He is a native of Reynolds county, Texas, but his parents afterward moved to Taylor county, where he was reared. He has been a resident of El Paso for more than six years and was one of the charter members of the County and City Democratic club and was active in the anti-ringer organization work in the recent city election. He is the manager of the Texas Grand hotel over the Texas Grand theater, is married and has one daughter.

Retiring chief I. N. Davis has not yet announced what he will do after his retirement this evening from the position which he has held for the past three years. He tendered his resignation to the mayor and it was accepted Monday afternoon by mayor Lea.

One bullet he fired tore through the front wall of the cabin. "I did not hear the shot fired by father Reinefeld," Mrs. Sherrer continued. "But Glennon's own revolver was discharged again as we fought outside. Then he suddenly collapsed and crumpled up. He was too heavy to drag out of the water, but I felt his pulse. He crawled out of the pool and then lay still. I felt his pulse and he was dead."

Priest and Nurse Friendly. Quincy, Ill., May 4.—The Rev. Paul Reinefeld had known his nurse, Mrs. Sherrer, for several years. He met her at London, Ill., a town a few miles from here where he had charge of the Catholic church.

Father Reinefeld had been on friendly terms with her family and was a guest at the Sherrer home eight years ago when Frank Sherrer, husband of the nurse, was hospitalized in a well. She went to California shortly after the death of her husband, and took up nursing.

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