

POPULAR MOVEMENT

Municipal Water System Will Be Followed by Lighting System

CIVIC FEDERATION WILL DISCUSS MATTER

Contract Can Be Made With the Government by the City for Water for Irrigation and Power Pur- poses--Association Not Necessary

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 could 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 the first supposed possible; and 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, and 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 also 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, and 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 same object that caused this agitation, and 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 during the season when 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

California Syndicate Negotiating With F. J. Bowne of Bonanza

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.

Our valentines are all new and up to date at Winters'.

THIEF OR NO THIEF

Circuit Court Busy With Criminal Cases--Chicken Case First on Docket

The case of John Willard, charged with stealing chickens from Frank Armstrong was on trial in the circuit court this afternoon. 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 who 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.

The state rested its case at this point when a short recess was taken, and as we go to press the examination of Willard is in progress.

This case will be followed by the trial of Lee N. Johnstone, charged with cattle stealing, and then will come the criminal cases, among which will be the State vs. Corpron and Petersteiner.

Later--Willard was found guilty and will be sentenced in the morning.

HAS REACHED LIMIT

Mail Service Goes From Bad to Worse by Government Change

ORDERS LENGTHEN DELAY AT POKEGAMA

Thrall Also Becomes Temporary Storage Place for United States Mail so That Eight Days Is Required to Communicate With Portland

Attorney E. P. Watson of Portland represented the Chewaucan company, which concern is one of the defendants and appellants, while J. C. Rutenie appeared as attorney for the plaintiffs and respondents. The supreme court will probably decide the case within the next month.

Business steadily increasing

As an indication of the increase in business conditions prevailing in this city, that of G. Heitkemper, Jr., is a fair example. When he rented the store room in the Republican block he believed that he would have ample room for sometime to come, but now he finds that his business has grown to such proportions as to demand larger accommodations. He has therefor made arrangements for the erection of an addition on the rear of his store, which will be used as a work shop and store room. The space at present used for these purposes will be fitted up for optical and music departments and will be in harmony with the rest of his establishment.

First of Series

The first of the series of basket ball games for the "Mong Cup" will be played Saturday evening. The following teams have been entered for the contest:

CRESCENTS	WHITE STAR
Roy Walker	Vernie Clift
Burge Mason	Perry DeLap
Joe Ball	Austin Hayden
D. B. Kendall	Virgil Noland
Alex Shive	H. B. Kirkpatrick
Geo. T. Pratt	Oscar Wright
T. W. Zimmerman	

HIGH SCHOOL	HORNETS
A. C. Yaden	Will North
G. K. Van Riper	Howard Boggs
Will Hum	Roy Fouch
Edwin Rolfe	Geo. DuFault
Chas. F. DeLap	Fred Clift

It is said that the Crescents will represent the athletic team of the Inland Empire Club.

The mail service for this city has at last reached the limit. For the past year kaleidescopic 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 Pokegama 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 Pokegama. It was assumed that a change had been made in the departure of the train from Pokegama, 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 Pokegama and the result is that the mail remained their 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

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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, upbuild 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.

EGG FAMINE'S FINISH YEARS OF LITIGATION

Dairy Merchant Sends in 285 Dozen in Last Saturday's Shipment

W. P. Sedge, of Dairy, who recently purchased the Davies' stock of merchandise, was in the city Tuesday. Mr. Sedge brought in 285 dozen of eggs which he sold to the local merchants. He says the Yonna Valley hens are working overtime these fine days and they are turning out close to three hundred dozen of eggs each week. With such a record as this the people of Yonna ought to feel happy and keep humming the "lay of the hen." Mr. Sedge is offering for sale his entire stock of merchandise at actual cost, also his buildings and lot. His reason for this is the death of Mrs. Sedge to go to California, to care for her father, who was bereft of his wife recently.

Outgoing Passengers

The following were outgoing passengers on the Bray boat this morning: C. S. Chatterton, J. C. Marshall, E. P. Morgan, Charles Walker and E. Buckow. Seven passengers arrived from Pokegama last night and three are on the incoming stage to-day.

Lake County Case of Four Years Standing Before Supreme Court

After four years litigation the fight between the Chewaucan Land & Cattle company, a subsidiary to the firm of Miller and Lux, California cattle kings, and a half hundred settlers of the rich farming and grazing lands along Silver creek in Lake county for water rights, was argued at length before the supreme court at Salem.

The suit for the water rights was originally begun before Judge H. L. Benson in the circuit court of Lake county. After a year and a half of stubborn fighting for the control of the river, Judge Benson rendered a decision in favor of a majority of the settlers and against the Chewaucan company and the remaining settlers. The case was then appealed to the supreme court, before which it has since been pending.

It is the contention of the Chewaucan company, which owns a vast area of land around the Pauline marsh, into which Silver creek empties, that the settlers along the river use up the water before it reaches the marsh, thereby leaving their lands in an arid and unproductive condition.

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