

THE FARMERS' ASSOCIATION.

An Organization Made Up of the Farmers of the North Side Tract. Its Aims and Objects.

As organization is the keynote of success in all branches of industry, it is only in the past few years, however, that the farmers have found the need of a centralized organization to combat the trusts and combinations in other lines, and as a result, farmers throughout all sections of the United States are forming associations for mutual benefit.

It was not long after the opening of the tract here that the need of such an organization among the farmers became evident, as, in order to ship the products successfully, it was necessary to follow a uniform plan in the selection of seeds, etc., instead of each individual planting a different variety.

Several meetings of the farmers were held, which were addressed by Alex. McPherson, agriculturist for the Twin Falls North Side Land & Water Co., Major Fred R. Reed, Hon. E. H. Grub and other noted men, who urged the organization and pointed out the various benefits to be derived from the same.

Accordingly, in September, 1909, an organization was perfected to be known as the Twin Falls North Side Canal Users' Association, and the same was incorporated in October of the same year with the following officers:

President, H. E. Barrett, Wendell.

Vice Pres't, A. F. Bruner, Jerome.

Sec'y and Treas, J. M. Hale, Jerome.

Messrs. Barrett and Bruner still retain their offices, A. T. Aiken of Wendell succeeding Mr. Hale as secretary and G. R. Hogshire of Jerome being chosen as treasurer.

It at once became evident that the field was too large to be handled satisfactorily by one organization, so it was divided into three branches, to be known as Jerome, Wendell, and Shoestring branch.

The prime objects of these organizations were for mutual protection and to better the condition of the members along educational lines as it relates to farming under the irrigation system, and also the transportation question.

These meetings at once became interesting and instructive, and we are pleased to state have so continued until the present time, new members being added weekly until now the organization numbers over 500 members, divided about as follows: Jerome, 250 members; Wendell, 250 members; the Shoestring district, 50 members.

Another very interesting problem that has recently confronted the organization, is the turning over of the canal system to the settlers by the Twin Falls North Side Water Co., and herein lies the question that is the most vital of any to every settler on the tract.

In accordance with the contract between the company and the state, the canal system is turned over to the settlers after being completed, and all the land being sold, and in accepting the system it is very important that the plans and specifications should be gone over carefully and an inspection of the system thoroughly made, in order that the settlers may act intelligently. It would be utterly impossible for any one individual to accomplish this, so it has become imperative upon the association to make this investigation, which they are now doing. True, it is incumbent upon the state to perform this labor, but the history of some irrigated projects is so unsatisfactory that the association preferred to rely upon their own resources, and time will, we believe, justify them in this step.

We feel that the association should be supported by every settler

on the tract, and while perhaps their actions may be criticised by some, it should be the duty of every farmer to become a member of the organization and assist in framing its policy instead of standing back and criticising those who, as they feel, are laboring for the best interests of all. Attend some of the meetings and learn what is being done, instead of forming your opinion from the reports of disinterested parties.

ALL GOOD ONES.

Ex-Gov. Brady is quoted as suggesting the following reforms which he would have added to the Carey act:

"Providing that irrigation companies file with the state a 20 per cent bond instead of a five percent bond.

That all literature issued by the promoting companies on Idaho Carey act projects be first inspected by the state land board and other officials of many duties.

That laws be enacted giving the state land board full power over constructing companies and authorizing the state engineer to inspect the works or stop work.

That funds raised from projects be so restricted as to be audited by the state auditor or some other officials and that every precaution be taken to protect the settler.

That a law be enacted by which it is possible for the state to take over incomplete Carey act projects and finish them so that settlers' interests are not jeopardized."

We would add another clause providing that a certain acreage of sage brush should be removed each year. As it now stands, the actual settler goes ahead and clears his land at considerable expense, thus increasing the value of adjoining land, which is possibly held by a foreign speculator, who makes no effort to remove the brush, leaving it a rendezvous for rabbits, which feed on his neighbor's crops.

The suggestions of the ex-Gov., however, are practical and had they been enacted into the original bill, thousands of dollars would have been saved to settlers on Carey act lands in the west.

The county attorney of Lincoln county has been instructed by the board of county commissioners to proceed to collect the sum of \$9832.70 from the Twin Falls North Side Land and Water Co., which amount, it is alleged, is due the county for the recording of water contracts. As we understand the matter, the old board of commissioners entered into a contract with the Co. to record these contracts at a price less than is prescribed by law, which contract is now held unlawful, the amount claimed being the balance due the county, at the rates prescribed by law. The outcome will be watched with interest by all.

Several good roads bills were passed by the recent legislature and have been signed by the governor. The county commissioners are empowered to impose a poll tax not to exceed \$1.00, which must be paid in cash. It is also made the duty of the commissioners to appoint a road overseer for each district, who is under their instructions at all times and subject to removal by them at any time. A financial report must be filed by the commissioners each year in regard to highways, and their appropriations and expenditures for the same.

The appropriation bills passed by the last legislature for the expense of running the state for the coming two years, foot up a little over \$5,000,000, and are divided as follows:

Direct appropriations	\$2,232,312.78
Bond issues	1,138,171.16
Continuing appropriations	1,629,748.95
Totals	\$5,000,232.89

This is an increase of \$1,715,442.31 over the preceding two years, but is not surprising when it is considered the rapid growth of the population of the state.

It is said that, in view of the large number of new orchards which will begin bearing this year, the output in fruit from this state should exceed that of any other year by about 25 per cent.

STATE LAND INFORMATION.

To facilitate the efforts of homeseekers in their quests for information regarding Idaho lands, extra draughtsmen will be put to work preparing maps and other information of interest to the homeseeker, which will be furnished at actual cost.

We take the following from the Idaho Statesman of Tuesday:

"Idaho is to be the only state in the union, where the eastern farmer, who inquires after lands in this state and who desires maps of the lands, may obtain them at cost from the state.

It has been decided to allow another draughtsman in the office of Register N. Jenness whose duty it shall be primarily to supply Land Commissioner George Day and Mr. Jenness with numerous maps showing land reservations which are needed in these offices.

His spare time will be spent in drawing maps, showing lands owned by the state and the government, the various streams and other points of interest to the prospective settler in Idaho.

For these maps a small fee will be charged. It is said that there is not a state in the union where these maps may be obtained. When, upon orders from a prospective settler, a map is drawn of a certain section, a number of these will be struck off and kept on file.

N. Jenness, register of the state land board, in speaking of the additional draughtsman who is to be added to the land department, yesterday said: "The fee which will be charged for the maps will simply cover the cost of making them and will go toward defraying the expenses of the draughtsman.

"It would be my idea to have a brief statement, say in statistical form as far as possible, of the salient facts of interest to the settler in this state, placed along the margin of the map.

"Requests come into this office daily for such maps and we are unable to supply them.

"Concerning communications which are received at the land board, it might be said that there is an ever increasing number inquiring about the chances for the dry farmer in the state and the lands which are available for this purpose.

"And every inquiry usually represents more than one farmer, for the statement is usually made that four or five neighbors are thinking of coming to this state with the writer of the letter. We are getting these letters in this office at the rate of five or six a day, and the indications are that there will be a heavy immigration this year.

"The need of an extra draughtsman in the department has been urgent for some time past and will probably be a valuable aid in increasing the population of this state."

For 1911.

The pleasant weather, and the prospects of spring opening, has also brought about a pleasant and smiling countenance on the faces of the farmers of the tract, and all seem to be looking forward to a successful season this year. While the past two years have been somewhat discouraging to most of us on the tract, partially through ignorance, and also the lack of water at times when it was most needed, we all feel that the latter trouble will be overcome this season with the completion of the Jerome reservoir, which has been put in at a large outlay by the company, and which it is claimed will insure sufficient water for the entire tract during the irrigating season.

While the scarcity of water has proven disastrous to many on the tract in a financial way, the fact that they will enter the fields with renewed vigor this spring, indicates the true metal that is in their makeup, and, though they have sat around and swapped yarns and exchanged grievances during the winter, they will soon be in the fields again, and the past will be forgotten, and in its place will come only bright and rosy dreams of a bountiful harvest this fall. That those dreams may be realized is the wish and desire of all.

A 250,000 Plant.

The survey for Box Canyon power plant was completed this week and the contract will be let in ten days.

Work is scheduled to begin by May first.

The plant will be a big one and its construction cost will be a quarter of a million dollars.

This plant is being constructed by independent capital being affiliated with neither the Kuhn or Telluride interests. The main purpose of the plant is to furnish power for a big pumping irrigation system down Snake river.—Irrigationist.

That the recommendations which were made by the state horticultural inspector regarding spraying of fruit trees are being carried out generally over the state, is the information of Horticulturist John T. McPherson.

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES.

Gooding is now pretty well assured of an electric line between that place and Hagerman, as grading has already commenced.

The local police throughout the state have been asked to watch for three young boys who have run away from Nampa. Dime novel literature it is asserted has made would-be bandits of them.

Two former Twin Falls boys, Nimrod Urie and Frank Trammer, are on trial for their lives for the murder of Mr. and Mrs. Quillies near Imley, Nev. recently. It is stated that one of the boys has confessed to the deed.

John McPherson came in from Boise Sunday night. He has had a busy time of it lately getting his appropriations through the legislature but he is very well satisfied and now has money enough in sight to take very good care of the state horticultural department of which he is the secretary.—Gooding Leader.

The town of Hailey, a few miles north of here is heretofore to be a health resort and have an up-to-date sanitarium. A deal has just been closed whereby the hot springs and 800 acres of land passes into a syndicate known as the Hiawatha Land Co., who will commence at once the erection of the proper buildings.

The Oregon Short Line has offered to furnish alfalfa seed to the settlers on the south side Minidoka tract, and after a conference with the President, Senator Borah expresses the opinion that the offer will be accepted and that payments due from these settlers will not be demanded in advance, but will be waived until after the crop season of 1911.

F. O. McGill is contemplating the establishment of a fireless brick plant at Wendell, and is putting up his proposition to the local people. His plant would be one of 50,000 capacity. The brick have in them a combination of minerals found in this vicinity in abundance. The brick can be sold for \$8.50 a thousand and this price would mean a great deal to the community. The brick would be made for fine finished fronts as well as for inside work.—Irrigationist.

THE COMMERCIAL CLUB.

A business meeting of the Commercial Club was called for Tuesday evening for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year and transacting other business that might come before the meeting.

President Nims presided, and after the adoption of the minutes of the previous meeting the election of officers was held with the following result:

President, Paul R. Kartzke.
Secretary, J. H. Josephson.
Treasurer, F. E. Eichelberger.
Member of Executive Board, Robt. Pence and W. A. Heiss.

Upon taking the chair President Kartzke thanked the members for the honor conferred, and urged upon them to give hearty support as a body to the new officers, as it was through the united efforts of all that much good could be accomplished. He also suggested that an effort be made to secure new members, which was heartily approved of by all.

The matter of the forthcoming election coming before the meeting, it seemed to be the sentiment of all, that a list of names be suggested as proper candidates to put before the citizens of the town for their approval. In order that it might not be construed as a strictly business men's ticket, the club meeting was adjourned and an open meeting inaugurated. After some preliminary remarks, an informal ballot was taken in order to bring the various names before the meeting, which resulted in bringing out 33 names of suitable men.

While only five trustees are to be elected, it was then decided to take another ballot, with the understanding that the eight gentlemen having the largest number of votes should be declared the choice of the meeting, thus giving the voters an opportunity to elect five members from this number. The result of the ballot showed the following as having the highest number of votes: B. S. Frazer, C. W. Gerboth, E. G. Gaus, J. D. Nims, F. E. Eichelberger, A. J. Armstrong, Geo. F. Kissling and R. L. Pence. Mr. Nims here raised the point of order that as none of the gentlemen had received a majority of the votes cast, it could not be construed as the voice of the meeting, and after considerable discussion the whole matter was withdrawn and the meeting adjourned without making any suggestions.

While we believe the action taken by this meeting was appropriate and would meet the approval of the citizens at large, being unfamiliar with the conditions here, we refrain from further comments on the same, trusting that for the welfare of the town due prevention will be taken in selecting a ticket to be voted upon.

That the recommendations which were made by the state horticultural inspector regarding spraying of fruit trees are being carried out generally over the state, is the information of Horticulturist John T. McPherson.

Sunny Southern Idaho TAKES THE LEAD

Now is the time. And the Twin Falls North Side Tract is the Place to secure some of the best bargains in real estate in the famous Snake River Valley.

Jerome, the largest and best town for its age, is situated in the centre of this wonderful valley; surrounded by the best fruit and alfalfa land that has ever been offered for sale in any state in the West.

Business lots in this little city can be purchased now at a price on which you can double your money in the next two years. Irrigated lands in any size tracts tributary to Jerome, can be purchased at this time for less than one third what is asked for Oregon and Washington Fruit Lands, and if there is any difference we have the advantage as to climate, soil, drainage and water right.

We have these bargains in first class lands, and A-No. 1 business lots to offer at this time. You can handle this property for less money now than at any later date.

See or write us at once as the best goes first.

BURKHEAD-HEISS REALTY CO.

JEROME,

IDAHO.

Nibley=Channel L'br Co.

One of the old land marks on the tract, still continue to handle all kinds of

BUILDING MATERIAL

Lumber, Sash, Doors, Cement, Roofing, Etc.

SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO MILLWORK

Would be pleased to give you estimates on your materials and assure you courteous treatment at all times.

A Car Load of Fence Posts Just Received

And none better on the Tract. Come in and see them

V. K. SKADDEN, M'gr, Jerome, Idaho

GEO. J. ARCHER

Tin and Sheet Metal Worker

After Monday March 13, will be located in Amusement Hall,

Opposite the City Hall.

JEROME

IDAHO

Jerome Blacksmith Shop

JAMES KERSEY, Proprietor

General Blacksmithing and Horseshoeing

A Specialty of Diseased or Crippled Feet

ALSO CARRY A FULL LINE OF

Farm Implements,

BUGGIES, WAGONS, ETC.

JEROME,

IDAHO

If you have friends in the east who are interested in this section, send them a copy of the Lincoln County Times.