

Irrigation

Judge Rudkin last week declared the new irrigation law unconstitutional.

The question came up in a case at Ellensburg in Kittitas county. The law was passed last winter and delegated powers to a sheriff, where an irrigation district had been formed, to regulate the supply of water settlers in the district should use.

J. L. ^UBurton of Kittitas county appealed from \$25 fine imposed on him for turning water into a ditch after the sheriff has turned it off. The case came on before a jury, but the judge took it out of their hands and rendered the above decision.

The law, in the judge's opinion, conferred too much power on the sheriff. The decision will not affect any one in Yakima county because the law only applies where irrigation districts are formed--Yakima Republic, Nov. 26, 1901.

Kennewick canal

C.B. B^Urlingame who has the contract for rebuilding the Kennewick canal sent his machinery and a force of men to that place on Monday and commenced work on the enterprise today.

After the work is started a force of 150 men will be put to work so as to complete the canal and have it ready for use in time for spring planting. In speaking about the work to be done Mr. Burlingame said:

"We will build the best canal in the state of Washington at a cost of about \$40,000. This seems cheap for a canal 40 miles long but as it was built once, the old excavations will be a great benefit in facilitating the work. We will start at the old intake in the Yakima river and as the work progresses water will be turned in.

The object in doing this is to have the banks well packed by the time it is completed. This obviates the possibility of the banks giving away when water is finally turned in for use.

We will push matters with all possible speed. With regard to moving Kennewick from its present site I don't think this will be done. No better site could be selected for a town in that end of the county and I think the talk of a move is all talk, nothing else-" Yakima Herald, Feb. 2, 1902.

Kennewick Canal

Kennewick

On last Thursday a deed was filed with Auditor Kelso conveying all the land of the Northwestern Improvement company in the Kennewick country to the Northern Pacific Irrigation company.

The consideration is mentioned at \$126,000 and the revenue stamps placed on the instrument amount to \$61.75. The new company was recently incorporated to take over the land under the Kennewick canal which is owned by the officials of the Northern Pacific Railway company with President Mellen at the head of both concerns.

Together with the filing of this deed was a plat of the "First Addition to Kennewick." This embraces nine blocks with 230 lots altogether and lies on the south side of the railway tracks from the site of old Kennewick. It is the opinion of some that it is the intention of the company to abandon Kennewick as it is now known and sell lots only in the new park.

Work on the canal by E.C. Burlingame is progressing. He now has a big force of men and horses at work. About six miles of the canal is completed and it is thought that it will be October before the whole canal is finished--Yakima Herald, April 29, 1902.

Irrigation..Kittitas

High Line

Articles of incorporation have been filed with the county auditor whereby a company has been formed looking to the feasibility of constructing a big high line canal.

The present company is organized for the purpose of ascertaining by actual surveys and reports of water measurements, whether or not the scheme will prove a feasible one.

The chief investigation will be to find out definitely the water supply and whether a sufficient supply will be obtained to warrant construction of an immense undertaking.

In the beginning of this description of the company, its intended projects and what has already been accomplished, it might be well to state that they have secured all of the Northern Pacific lands in Yakima and Kittitas counties, totalling some 250,000 acres, together with the Northern Pacific rights in the shore line of the lakes, Cle Elum, Kichelos and Kaches. The system of canals however, will cover approximately 500,000 acres. Whether they are built or not depends upon the verification of preliminary surveys and reports that have already been made and unless some unforeseen complication should arise with relation to water rights and storage privileges it is almost an assured undertaking.

Upon this project will depend the organizing and incorporating of a much larger company backed by unlimited capital which will operate the machinery. Three corps of engineers will be put into the field at once.

The course of the canal line is in an unirrigated though rich section of country. It will follow along the foothills in east Kittitas valley, having its intake from one of the big lakes. It is to be hoped that it can then be brought through the Squaw creek district,

Page brush around Pasco is beginning to boom. Land that three months ago would not bring the price of its delinquent taxes is now selling for \$12 per thousand and hard to buy at that.

The Seattle syndicate headed by J.A. Moore proposes to run a ditch from the Yakima river to the Columbia across the Columbia in a steel tube and thence run across southern Franklin has established headquarters in North Yakima and is about to let contracts for construction work.

The syndicate is not in possession of any land of consequence under the proposed ditch with the possible exception of the Northern Pacific railroad lands of which there are about 45,000 acres and which it is claimed the Moore people have an option on, providing they carry out within a specified time the elaborate enterprise they figure on. Briefly they propose damming up the narrow entrance to three unused lakes at the head of the Yakima, running this reservoir supply down the Yakima in dry season and diverting it at a point suitable for transmission in a large ditch over northeastern Yakima and southern Franklin.

Several hundred thousand acres would thus be covered. Mr. Moore's intention is to make Pasco the metropolis which would inevitably result from fulfillment of this project, is signified by an extract from a letter from him which reads: "I expect soon to see Pasco as great if not a greater city than North Yakima."

The old proverb which gained greater notoriety many years ago when the town was first laid out, that of "Keep Your Eye on Pasco," has again been brought into use. The Spokesman review-- August, 1903.

Reclamation--Okanogan

Wenatchee, April 10, 1905--The engineers of the government reclamation service will meet in Wenatchee April 22 to decide the fate of the Okanogan project.

The settlers of the Okanogan will meet here on that date and present to them data in reference to the reclamation of Pogue's prairie, the flat under consideration.

The project was shelved some time ago because of the smallness of the tract to be benefitted- April 10, 1905.

Burbank, on the Snake river where 15,000 acres are to be brought by irrigation from a waste condition into cultivation is soon to be placed on the market by Messrs F.K. Strube and James Hoag of Seattle who are the leaders in the corporation undertaking the development of that undertaking.

Burbank is ideally situated on navigable water, has an admirable drainage and is otherwise adapted for fruit culture and diversified farming.

To make the section more attractive to new settlers the promoters have offered a prize or award aggregating in value \$1000 to be given to the first baby born in a home on land under the project.

Part of the gift will be cash and part will be land having a value sufficient to make up the prize.

Mr. Strube is a son-in-law of Jacob Furth and Mr. Hoag is a member of the Union Trust & Savings association. Both men are well known in financial circles, are prominent in business and their names are a guarantee of the solidity of anything they are behind. The Yakima Herald, March 10, 1909.

Pasco, May 10- A mass meeting will be held at the courthouse Wednesday to undertake to get government aid for irrigation for Pasco. A committee of businessmen has discovered that power is to be generated at the falls in the Wapato canal in the Yakima Indian reservation and water is to be pumped by this power to high reservation lands.

Captain W.P. Gray for the committee has received a letter from Secretary Ballinger at Washington promising a careful investigation.

The Pasco committee wants a transmission line built from the canal power plant to this city and the power used for pumping water for irrigation here from the Snake or Columbia river and wrote Secretary Ballinger to this effect.

Every effort will be made to have this plan adopted and a committee will call on Christian Anderson in charge of the reclamation work at Toppenish. In the meantime the aid of the entire state delegation at Washington will be invoked--The Yakima Herald, May 12, 1909.

Engineers in charge of the Washington irrigation projects have been busy preparing for the season's work, cleaning canals, repairing banks and putting the structures in shape.

On the Okanogan project sluicing operations have been carried on at Conconnally dam since March 29. Practically all of the lands in the second unit, which was recently opened, have been covered by water right application.

In the Yakima valley work has been pushed vigorously. Distribution of flood waters on the Piletton project commenced May 2 and it is expected that by the end of the month all those who have applied for water will receive their first irrigation.

A camp has been established near Cowiche and work commenced on the second unit. Five hundred men and 250 horses are now at work on the distribution system.

The secretary of the interior has announced that water will be furnished during the irrigation season of 1910 to about 345 additional acres under the Sunnyside project.

The first installment of the charges for building, operation and maintenance will be due and payable May 18, 1910, and on March 1, each subsequent year, until fully paid.

Work at Bumping lake has been resumed at some difficulty because of snow. A camp has been installed for purpose of starting construction work at Lake Kachess.

Work on the Strawberry tunnel, Strawberry irrigation project, Utah is being carried on with three shifts.

On April 11, three second feet of water were encountered which delayed work considerably. Three hundred and eighty nine feet were excavated during April, a total excavation

Pasco

Reclamation project

Mayor Henry H. Schott of this city today received a telegram from the mayor, president of the commercial club and Pasco Reclamation company all of the Pasco, in which greetings and best wishes were conveyed to the people of North Yakima and a cordial invitation extended to all of them to be present at the opening of the Pasco reclamation project on the 13th. The telegram follows:

" Pasco sends cordial greetings to the mayor and council and other officers of North Yakima and invites them to be its guests on the 13th instant while it celebrates the successful consummation of the efforts to make the desert drink." Yakima Republic, Oct. 10, 14, 1910.

President W.I. Steinweg of the First National bank of this city who made the trip with the North Yakima party last week gave a very interesting account of the celebration in the Columbia river city of the opening of the Pasco Irrigation company's project, an epoch in the history of that enterprising section.

Leaving here on the early morning train the North Yakima delegation as well as those from other cities were met by the city officials, a band and a crowd of 200 singing school children who were in themselves excellent evidence of the growth of Pasco where a little over two years ago there were scarcely a quarter of a hundred pupils.

Taking the trains of the Spokane, Portland & Seattle railroad which runs directly to the Pasco company's plant and using the carriages for the two-mile trip, most of the visitors made an inspection of the pumping plant which will furnish the water for 3,000 acres in the project.

But the most interesting sign of progress to me was their new \$65,000 public school building built on one-half of a city block which the district purchased a long time ago for \$5, half of which recently sold for \$30,000.. The Yakima Daily Republic , Oct 21, 1910.

Irrigation

Coyote

Ninety-six million gallons of water every twenty-four hours will be the delivery of the pumps at Coyote when the irrigation season opens next April says the Columbian of Hanford.

This will be an increase of forty-eight million gallons over previous years. Next week a new pump with a capacity of 48,250,000 gallons per day will be delivered to the pumping station at Coyote Rapids and installed and ready for work when water is needed for irrigation in the spring. Yakima Herald, February 21, 1912.

Kittitas High line

Surveys of the south branch of the \$5,000,000 Kittitas High Line canal were finished Friday and the big party of engineers which has been encamped several miles south of town came in preparatory to changing their camp to Horlick where additional surveys will be made for the big syphon and bridge across the Yakima river.

Final locations takes will be set on the route of the canal between Easton and the syphon and in all about six weeks of work remains to be done preparatory to letting contracts.

As soon as the contract with the government for storage water is signed up the district will proceed to sell the bonds and let contracts for the construction work. The contract for the water is expected to be signed within 30 days and it is generally believed

that actual construction work on the ditch will be started this fall--Willensburg Record, July 30, 1912.

reclamation-Sunnyside canal
Benton county

- Without a dissenting vote the people of Benton county on Saturday voted their Benton irrigation district which means that an acreage approximately 5,000 acres in size will be given irrigation water by the extension of the Sunnyside canal.

This will require the construction of sixteen miles of main canal and some sub-canals.

Messrs A.E. Whan , L.L. Todd and H.H. Andrews were elected trustees of the new district. A canvass of the votes for the office of county commissioner will be held next week

The reclamation authorities have been authorized by the department at Washington to contract with the district for the storage water essential for the irrigation of the acreage to be added and also for the extension of the canal for the purpose.

The tract to be put under water fronts on the Yakima river and runs back to the hills and surrounds on three sides the town of Benton City. Those who have been raw land go under development in the valley say that under this extension it will be as good as the best. The Yakima Herald, Oct 2, 1912.

Reclamation

F.T. Crowe, who has been engineer in charge of construction of the great earth-fill dam at Rimrock will on July 1 move to Denver and become general superintendent of construction for the reclamation service. Mr. Crowe is receiving a substantial promotion in recognition of his successful construction work for the service with which he has been connected since April, 1905 or 1904. During this time he has been engineer in charge of the construction of six dams and has been connected in a supervisory capacity with the work on two others.

Mr. Crowe succeeds to the position now held by James Munn who has resigned to become connected with A.P. Davis, former chief of the reclamation service at Oakland, it is understood. Mr. Davis has been engaged in engineering work at the California city since he left the service and recently asked Mr. Munn to become associated with him.

When F.E. Weymouth, chief engineer of the service asked Mr. Crowe to become general superintendent of construction which is considered next to the highest engineering position in the reclamation service the Yakima man wanted permission to finish the dirt work at Rimrock first. That will be done in June according to the schedule worked out.

When R.K. Tiffany and Guy Finley and the rest of the reclamation engineers bragged about Yakima I used to laugh at them, Crowe confesses. I told them they were foolish to get so anchored to a place. Now I feel just as they do. I tell you after having lived in construction camps and little towns for some years, Yakima certainly does look mighty good and I would like to make my home here.

In his new position Crowe will spend about half of his time at the Denver headquarters and for the rest will be on the road examining the various construction jobs being done for Uncle Sam.

Development of the Kittitas high line reclamation unit and the appropriation of \$1,500,000 for beginning this work as soon as congress meets in December are deemed certain as a result of the report of the reclamation service investigation committee which was made public today.

The Kittitas unit is one of six new western reclamation projects totaling over 400,000 acres provided as feasible from an engineering, economic and land development standpoint after thorough study by committees including professors of agricultural colleges, state agricultural officers, bankers and engineers.

Projects recommended for development in addition to the Kittitas unit are the Vale and Baker in Oregon, the Owyhee in Oregon and Idaho, Salt Lake in Utah and Spanish Springs in Nevada. In their development it is recommended that the policies and methods proposed by the fact finders commission of the reclamation service be followed. Dr. Elwood Mead, commissioner of reclamation, is in thorough sympathy with these policies many of which he formulated and is personally acquainted with the Kittitas project and the present development in that district.

A summary of the report covering the Kittitas unit is: 90,389 acres of irrigable land including 48,392 acres of agricultural nature; 21,900 of pasture and 20,071 of waste land. It is recommended that farm units should not be less than 80 acres on the best grade soil and about 160 acres on the poorer grades in order to yield and income for a family. The better land should return a gross annual income of from \$30 to \$35 an acre after development. Settlement should result in an annual production of \$1,267,000 and make farm homes for between 450 and 500 families.

Members of the investigating committee for the Kittitas unit are C.F. Shaw, professor of soils at the University of California; B.F. Hayden,

Irrigation

Irrigation - General

The Lummerfelt-Clemon irrigation bill, generally known as the Wright bill, has passed both houses of the legislature and will, without doubt, be signed by the governor. The Herald will publish a full synopsis of the features of this measure in Yakima is so greatly interested--Yakima Herald, Feb. 26, 1890.

from Wenas - Kennewick file

Kennewick Ditch Co.

Stockholders of the Kennewick Ditch Co. held a meeting on Saturday last and elected Ed Stone president, Jss. Bartholet, Sr. , treasurer and W.E. Thornton secretary. The ditch is now 20 miles in extent and the mileage is soon to be increased and a meeting for the purpose swelled the capital stock to ~~000,000~~ \$15,000 has been called for May 25. April 4, 1889.

Irrigation:

Irrigation, as applied to the arid lands of Washington, was the subject of a paper prepared by C.R. Smith, engineer in charge of the Yakima Irrigating and Improvement company's works at Kiona and read at the monthly meeting of the Engineers and Architects recently at the society's rooms in the Northern Pacific headquarters building at Tacoma.

The paper deals with bunch grass plains or table lands which form the wheat belts known as the Big Bend, Palouse and Walla Walla district which Mr. Smith says have an elevation of 2,000 feet above sea and produce from 30 to 60 bushels of wheat and 75 bushels of oats to the acre and corresponding amounts of flax and barley.

The low lying sage brush regions contiguous to the streams and which in the state of nature become barren wastes of arid deserts each year during the summer, are treated to great length.

The Columbia and Snake rivers in Washington, he says, have no alluvial bottom lands such as are found along the Mississippi, Missouri and other rivers.

These latter, at their junction with the larger streams, have formed little deltas of made lands composed of a light sandy loam, having a disintegrated volcanic ash base, overlying bars of washed gravel. Such bars being sometimes cemented with clay or hard pan. These are the only irrigating tracts along the smaller streams and larger rivers proper, but each of these has its own tributary, valleys and feeders....Of this class of lands Kititas county has probably some 400,000 acres, over three fourths of which lie in one body in the valley of the same name.

Yakima valley has 700,000 acres though at least half of it is yet unavailable being within the boundaries of the Simcoe Indian reservation. Walla Walla county, along the river of the same name, has 3000 acres that it is necessary to irrigate while along the Snake river in Walla Walla, Columbia, Asotin and Garfield counties there is

On the Columbia at Columbus, Klickitat county, about the same elevation and products as on the Snake, but with considerably less acreage.

Should the various irrigation schemes under way or in various stages of development materialize into actual ditches, Mr. Smith says the great bulk of the 1,250,000 acres enumerated could be redeemed inside of five years.

The Tenaway Ditch company, taking water from Cle-Elum and Tenaway rivers, proposes to cover 40,000 acres in Kittitas county.

The Selah Valley Ditch and Land company in the northern part of Yakima has nearly completed its main canal and claims to have 30,000 acres under the same.

The Northern Pacific and Yakima Irrigation company claims to have 300,000 acres under its projected ditch, which will extend some 50 miles through the Sunnyside country.

The Yakima Irrigating and Improvement company, in the south end of Yakima county, proposes to take water from the lower Yakima in three different points, for as many separate mains and distinct tracts of land, and hopes to redeem 45,000 acres of land. This company has built fourteen miles of main ditch and established a little townsite at Kiona and have some land under irrigation.

The average yield of tobacco on the Moxee farm is given in 800 pounds per acre and costs when cured 10 cents per pound.

Hops on the same farm average 1,800 pounds per acre and cost, ready to ship, 9 cents per pound., in the stack, \$1.55 per ton. When hops are worth 15 to 20 cents per pound, Mr. Smith considers \$150 per acre a fair average profit per acre on the Moxee farm, which is selected as an illustration.

Alfalfa hay sold that season at \$35 per ton but Mr. Smith figuring the minimum price at \$12 per ton in the field, shows a net

from Wenas - Konowock file

Irrigation

Konowock Ditch

A topic of much interest is the settlement of the questions arising in the proposed transfer of the Konowock ditch to N.P. Yakima & Kittitas Irrigation co.

The meetin of the Konowock ditch company was held on Saturday last in conformity with the call and lasted for seven hours.

The representatives of the stock owned by Messrs Flint, Allen, Snipes, Dunn and others held out for five inches of water to the share while the others were willing to accept the four inches which Mr. Granger had offered

Finally Mr. Flint and those holding to his view of the question either left the meeting or refused to vote and when the question came up on the acceptance of the four inch proposition there was not a dissenting vote.

Another meeting is called for December 6 to ratify the action.

The irrigation company is willing to give to the stockholders of the Konowock ditch company 1,200 inches of water on a basis of 300 shares while, in reality there are but 275 shares. ~~and the demand of 300 shares~~ This leaves but a difference of 175 ~~shares~~ inches on the demand of those who are holding out for five inches per share.

This should be amicably settled among the stockholders for if it is not done the irrigation company is liable to indefinitely delay the work of development or abandon it entirely, greatly to the injury of the county.

The general view of the people is that the company has made a liberal offer and that the stockholders will receive more water under the contract than before and in the same time not be under the trouble and expense of maintaining a ditch--Yakima Herald, November 27, 1890.

Public lands

Ten years ago it was estimated that 30,000,000 acres would cover all the public lands of the United States which could be reclaimed by irrigation. The recent report of the commissioner of the general land office, however, is a revelation, and he now places this class of lands at four times this figure or 120,000,000.

This is an astounding change for such a short period, and give evidence that increased knowledge of the requirements of land and the means of getting water thereon will swell still more the area that can be reclaimed and made to support and give wealth to a great population.

The acres of arid land in Washington susceptible of 100% reclamation by irrigation is now placed at 20,401,691 acres but with the advancement of science in this direction and the expenditure of consolidated capital, lands which are now looked upon as totally worthless even by the most advanced advocates of irrigation, will no doubt be brought under a perfect state of cultivation--Yakima Herald, Oct. 22, 1891.

Irrigation

Considerable excitement was created in this city during the week by the report that workmen on the Leadbetter canal had blown up a very expensive section of the flume with dynamite. The first report, however, was exaggerated. The following statement is made by the Prosser American of last Friday.

"There has been trouble for some time. The men naturally wanted their pay. About two weeks ago the contractor came here and paid out some money but did not have enough to go around and the square up with all was not completed.

Fred Pennington, of North Yakima, represented by G.S. Bankin, has a mortgage on the outfit of the contractor. A few days ago the sheriff of Yakima county came here and took charge of everything, removing the stock, consisting of about twenty five mules, besides wagons, etc.

It is reported that he took away tents, stores and supplies of all kinds, leaving the men without shelter or comfort at a cold time when the thermometer went down to nearly zero.

Some of the men were pretty badly off and had worked hard. When men worked hard they should have their pay; and when they cannot have their pay, they should have the truth told them, at least.

On Thursday about midnight the people of Prosser Falls heard distinctly four loud explosions, which occurred six miles away at Bender station. Several sticks of dynamite were put under the highest part of flume No. 7 and about 200 feet of it was destroyed--Yakima Herald, March 1, 1894.