

### CONVENTION OF WATER USERS FROM THE CYPRESS HILLS.

First Annual Gathering Held on Friday at Maple Creek; Association is Connected With the Western Canada Body; Big Attendance Present

### NEED OF IRRIGATION IS WELL SET FORTH

Delegates from Outside Points Gave Interesting Addresses and Many Important and Far Reaching Resolutions Were Adopted By the Convention

Maple Creek, May 26.—The first annual convention of the Cypress Hills Water Users' association, which terminated here this evening, may be said to have been a success; the meeting has been well attended, and the interest wide. In addition to the representatives of the irrigation branch of the department of the interior, and officials of the Western Canada irrigation association, farmers from all sections of western Saskatchewan and eastern Alberta, in an approximate number of only press of official business prevented the attendance of Provincial Minister of Agriculture, Motherwell and Commissioner of Irrigation F. H. Peters.

President Robert Needham of Piapot, occupied the chair, assisted by First Vice-President, Williamson of Maple Creek, Vice-President Wright of Battle Creek, and Secretary, Herringer. Other members of the association in attendance were: L. H. Williams, Maple Creek; Geo. Thompson, Gull Lake; Allison Smith, Medicine Hat; Thomas Hargrave, Walsh; John Stewart, Maple Creek; and D. Wood, Colesburg. All side delegates present to address the meeting were: W. H. Fairfield, superintendent government experimental farm, Lethbridge; B. J. Burly, division engineer, department of interior, Calgary; W. H. Paxson, of Coaldale; and Norman S. Rankin, secretary Western Canada Irrigation association, Calgary.

Mr. Rankin talks efficiency. After the mayor and president had welcomed the delegates to the meeting and Secretary Herringer had read the minutes of the previous assemblage, Norman Rankin was asked to address the gathering. Mr. Rankin congratulated the newly formed association upon the energy and activity they had displayed since their formation last January, pointing out that when the Western Canada Irrigation association was formed only six years ago, attendance at their first convention did not exceed that of the splendid assembly today. It was a fallacy to say that any one could irrigate simply by turning on the water when they pleased and then turning it off again when it was thought enough had been applied, and it was folly to expect that men who had never irrigated, could go out and at once make a success of irrigation in a haphazard manner; the farmer required to consider well both the character of soil and crop to be watered, in order to supply water intelligently and secure the great benefits that would naturally ensue; he regretted that not one of the six demonstration farms of the government, established in Alberta had been located upon irrigated land, and that in neither of the provincial agricultural schools was there a course—even optional—in the science of water application. He assured them of the cooperation of the Western Canada Irrigation association, and invited them to appoint a delegation to attend the seventh annual convention which is to be held this summer at Lethbridge. In conclusion, Mr. Rankin briefly outlined the work of the association for the past year, and the splendid haul of speakers from both north and south of the border that were to take part in the forthcoming convention. He tendered and newly formed association the good will of the Western Canadian executive, and invited them to call upon him at all times for assistance and support.

Alfalfa Growing a Success. Mr. W. H. Fairfield followed with a practical talk on "The Irrigation of Alfalfa." "Though but a few years ago," said the speaker, "the culture of alfalfa in the Lethbridge district was thought of as doubtful, they had proven that sophistry, and now had over 10,000 acres under crop; there is no frost killing, and it has been grown successfully in small areas as far north as Edmonton, and even the Peace River country." As an evidence of the interest in alfalfa in the cultivation of this crop in the past two years, over 100 farmers have applied for and received inoculated soil to begin in the culture of this forage crop. Mr. Fairfield said that the alfalfa range in the Canadian northwest was very broad and that he looked for a greatly increased acreage within the next couple of years. He concluded his remarks with a general talk on the points to be observed in alfalfa growing, inviting questions. Considerable discussion followed which brought out notably the fact that the farmer in the Cypress Hills district are extremely interested in alfalfa culture, and proposed within the next year, to substitute alfalfa for the blue joint which they have been steadily raising for the past decade. Mr. Paxson of Coaldale, told of his experiences in the manner of laying irrigation systems, and application of water, describing in detail, the check system, the dyke method, the medium spread of flooding and the furrow plan. Much discussion ensued this subject, which was eagerly listened to by the farmers.

Short addresses followed by Messrs. John Dixon, John Unsworth, Dr. Allison Smith, Walter Huckvale, and others. Resolutions for which the endorsement of the Western Canada Irrigation association was asked at the Lethbridge convention this summer are: (a) the appointment of a government irrigation commissioner, resident at Maple Creek; (b) the establishment of a Dominion experimental farm, on both dry and irrigated land at Maple Creek; and (c) notice of invitation to the Western Canada Irrigation association to hold its annual convention in 1915 at Maple Creek.

### CHARLES G. EDWARD, OF GEORGIA, IS PESSIMISTIC OVER ALIEN LAND BILL.



Representative Charles G. Edward of Savannah, Ga., predicted recently that war will result between the United States and Japan in the event of the Webb bill becoming a law.

### SENATE AMENDS BILL; RETURNS HIGHWAY BILL TO COMMONS

Government Leader Tried to Jockey Senate Into Killing Entire Bill But Failed in Effort

Ottawa, May 26.—The government highways act, amended by the Liberal majority, was today passed by the Senate Liberal majority and will be sent back to the Commons accompanied by a message asking the government to concur in the changes made. A curious situation developed in the upper house before the bill was disposed of. On Thursday night after the Liberal majority had adopted two amendments providing that the money voted should be divided between the provinces on the basis of population and the other striking out clause six giving the government power to build trunk roads, Senator Loughheed, the government leader would not have anything more to do with the bill, and declined to move the third reading. His object, of course, was to force the majority to kill the measure outright in the Senate. Sir George Ross, the Liberal leader, who was equally determined that the bill should go back to the Commons, then moved the third reading. Then Senator Loughheed raised the point of order that a member of the Opposition could not move the third reading. This was debated during the entire morning sitting. Early in the afternoon Speaker Landry ruled in favor of the Senate's decision, and the bill was sent to the House, with the result that the Speaker's decision was reversed on a vote of 44 to 19. The bill was then given a second reading on a vote of 46 to 18, the curious spectacle being witnessed of the Liberals voting for the bill by the Conservatives against it. Subsequently a message to the Commons asking that body to concur in the amendments was adopted. The fight was on party lines here, as the amendments were introduced by Senator Donville (New Brunswick) voted with the Government. The amendments will not be accepted by the government, so that for the second time this measure falls by the side of the Conservative majority.

### SHIPBUILDING POLICY A DIFFICULT POSITION IS DISCUSSED IN THE HOUSE

Minister Says He Will Ask English Shipbuilders to Locate in Canada

Ottawa, May 26.—The policy of the government in regard to shipbuilding was the subject of discussion this afternoon in committee of supply. The estimates for the department of marine and fisheries were being voted. The particular item was \$1,000,000 for government steamers and ice breakers. Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux raised the question as to whether the government intended to have its ships constructed in Canada hereafter. The minister of marine and fisheries in reply stated that in the past Canadian ship yards had not been able to deliver steamships, on time and that the work should be more costly than in Great Britain. For the future, however, he thought it would be fair to ask that British firms receiving contracts should be asked to establish yards in Canada and construct the vessels here. He announced that the government proposed to have its ships built in Canada hereafter. The minister of marine and fisheries in reply stated that in the past Canadian ship yards had not been able to deliver steamships, on time and that the work should be more costly than in Great Britain. For the future, however, he thought it would be fair to ask that British firms receiving contracts should be asked to establish yards in Canada and construct the vessels here.

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### BOY DIES WHEN HIS SCHOOL TEAM LOSES

St. Paul, Minn., May 24.—Willie Lister, aged 14 years, champion pitcher of the St. Paul graded schools, died when told that his team had lost the pennant. Physicians say death was due to a broken heart. Willie had pitched a no-run, two-hit game for the Baker school team, his third consecutive victory, and was to have pitched the final game for the pennant. He worried over the pennant race and as he complained of a headache, his parents compelled him to remain in bed. When some of his playmates came to see him he was still in bed and had not heard how the game came out. When they told him the score and that the pitcher who took his place had lost the game, he said: "If I had pitched we would have won the pennant, but it's too late now. We've lost." He buried his face in the pillow and when his friends went to comfort him he was dead.

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### FAMOUS DYNAMITE CRUISER TORN BY OWN TORPEDO

Vesuvius Rushes to Beach As Water Pours Through Hole in Hull; Seamen Gather on Bow Out of Reach of Flood As Dash for Life Is Made

### WIRELESS CALLS HELP; FIFTY MEN FACE DEATH

Newport, R. I., May 26.—The torpedo boat Vesuvius was struck by one of its own torpedoes and was beached on Hope Island, Narragansett Bay, when the lives of those on board seemed imperiled by the waters which rushed in through a two-inch hole in the stern. The beaching of the Vesuvius was accomplished safely by Chief Gunner Thomas Smith, the commanding officer. Besides the regular crew, fifty seamen gunners were on board. The vessel later was worked off the beach and proceeded to the torpedo station. The Vesuvius, a dynamite cruiser, famous as one of the vessels of the "new navy," was being used for torpedo instruction in Narragansett Bay. As a practice Whitehead torpedo left her side, the mechanism went wrong in some manner not yet determined. The torpedo turned like a boomerang and crashed into the Vesuvius' stern below the water line, gashing a two-inch hole. Smith ordered full speed ahead towards the nearest land, Hope Island, two miles away. All pumps were kept working until the Vesuvius ran her nose on the beach of Hope Island. The crew massed in the bow out of reach of the water, while the wireless operator notified the torpedo station. Some of the men were rescued by a launch alongside the Vesuvius. The Vesuvius became noted in the navy for her work as a dynamite cruiser. She threw dynamite into Spanish trenches ashore and it became a saying among the sailors that "when the Vesuvius coughs, there's an eruption ashore."

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