

The first step by the people of the Fresno Canal district toward the accomplishment of the Pine Flat Dam project was taken Tuesday of this week at a meeting held in Fresno when delegates from twenty-four of the fifty-two school districts in that territory put themselves on record as unqualifiedly in favor of forming an irrigation district served by their own canals, giving them complete ownership and control of land, water and water distribution. After the delegates had expressed their approval of the proposition it was decided that all should report back to their districts, take up the whole matter, lay the facts before the farmers and be prepared to report the majority opinion at a meeting to be called in the near future.

The irrigation situation with

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The irrigation situation with which the people of the Fresno Canal district are confronted was explained to the delegates by George Roeding and John Fairweather, who has been actively assisting Mr. Roeding for sometime.

The organization of the district is the first step to be taken by the people of that district before they can enter into the Pine Flat Dam proposal.

Speaking to the delegates on private and public ownership Mr. Roeding said:

"The ownership of land and water and the irrigation of the land should be united, so that no question can ever arise as to who owns the water."

He said that an increase in the water supply and the stabilization of the present supply would provide a more perfect irrigation of the entire area, and urged provision for the complete reclamation of all water-logged lands by a co-operative drainage system. "Service," he said, "is just as important as cost. Our lands have grown to great value due to the character of the crops and intensive farming, and we need greater uniformity in winter distribution, and we need also community co-operation in the matter of drainage.

"Our canals should be better cared for. Organization and co-operation will secure better care. When all this is accomplished there will be a greater increase in crops, and they will be very much diversified and there will be a consequent advance in land values."

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