

NO LONGER A DREAM

The Desert Will Be Made to Blossom as the Rose.

Irrigation Bill Recently Passed by Congress Will Stimulate the Rapid Development of the Arid West.

[Special Washington Letter.] It is said to be possible to irrigate a large portion of the great desert of Sahara by making openings for the Mediterranean sea and flooding the vast acreage; but by retaining control over the waters so that the desert shall not become an additional sea. All things are apparently possible to modern civil engineering and some of us may live to see the desert blossom as the rose.

When the fathers and mothers of today were school children they studied geographies which showed upon their maps of the country west of Omaha and Kansas City, a vast territory then unknown and denominated "The Great American Desert." That was only 35 or 40 years ago. Just think of what an immense empire has been developed in that short space of time. Ever since the railroads penetrated the wilds and vastnesses and stretched their arms to the golden gate our people have been approaching the problem of reclaiming "The Great American Desert," by irrigating its arid millions of acres so that happy homes may there be built of peoples comprising a tremendous population.

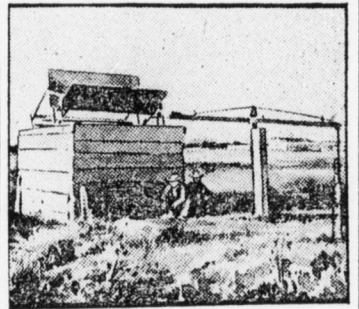
It is a well-known fact that forestry and irrigation must receive simultaneous attention. It is not too soon for the general government to take cognizance of the palpable fact that the destruction of the forests in the great lake region has affected the Mississippi river within one generation. Unless the trees shall receive protection the river will run dry and become a glorious reminiscence; and future generations may place the "Father of Waters" among the myths of the aborigines.

There was a time when the valley of the Jordan was the most fertile and beautiful in the then civilized world. Solomon, reputed to have been exceptionally wise, began the destruction of the forests in the hill country of Lebanon. His successors continued the crusade against the trees until the hills became barren, and the Jordan a miserable creek. The plain of Esdracel, which was famed for its fertility and beautiful grandeur, became as it is to-day, almost a blessing and a byword for its barrenness.

Having a broad view of the lessons to be learned from the past, and to be applied to the present and immediate future, President Roosevelt in his message to the congress last December, said: "The forest reserves should be set apart forever for the use and benefit of our people as a whole and not sacrificed to the shortsighted greed of the few. The forests are natural reservoirs. By restraining the streams in flood and replenishing them in drought they make possible the use of waters otherwise wasted. Forest conservation is therefore water conservation. The forests alone, however, cannot fully regulate and conserve the waters of the arid region. Great storage works are necessary to equalize the flow of streams and to save the flood waters. The storing of the floods in reservoirs at the headwaters of our rivers is but the enlargement of our present policy of river control, under which levees are built on the lower reaches of the same streams. The government should construct and

Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming" shall be set aside as a special fund to be known as the "reclamation fund," to be used for the "storage, diversion and development of waters for the reclamation of arid and semi-arid lands in the said states and territories."

The report of the house committee shows that 535,486,731 acres of land are available for public entry in the states and territories named in the bill. Kansas and Nebraska contain no arid lands, although nearly one-third of the western portion of each state is semi-arid, and susceptible of improvement by irrigation. More than one-third of the public lands within the states of North and South



KANSAS IRRIGATING WHEEL. (Simple Device Which Supports One Family in Comfort.)

Dakota are in the arid or semi-arid belt. The portions of the states of Oregon and Washington east of the Cascade range are either arid or semi-arid. This condition exists over two-thirds of California, a fact surprising to all who have not investigated the subject. One-third of Oklahoma is arid.

All of the other states and territories are in the arid belt, and can only be made agricultural by scientific irrigation. It is estimated that upwards of 50,000,000 acres of barren land may be made fertile. The development of this empire will prove not only beneficial to those teeming millions of the future who shall dwell thereon, but have an effect upon the humidity of the contiguous country, and also add to the wealth of the entire country by sustaining artisans and other producers of labor's valuables.

In 1900 the national platforms of the three political parties declared in favor of irrigation by national direction. Referring to this fact, the committee's report says: "With confidence in the desire of members of all parties to fulfill the pledges of their national platforms, greatly encouraged by the earnest and vigorous recommendations of the president, the members of both branches of congress from the arid and semi-arid states met in the early days of the present congress, appointed a committee of one from each state and territory, with Senator Warren as chairman, and proceeded to formulate a suitable bill. This work having been accomplished, the bill was introduced in the senate by Mr. Hansborough, and in the house of representatives by Mr. Newlands. No legislation presented to an American congress has had all of its provisions more carefully and thoroughly considered in all their bearings."

The special committee mentioned in the report did diligent work. Each member of the senate and of the house of representatives kept the matter before the legislators, so that when the time came for voting everyone knew the provisions of the measure and its ultimate object. Where all did well, it is almost invidious to make any distinction; but it is generally admitted that Congressman Reeder, of Kansas, was exceptionally hard at work all winter and spring in this behalf. He talked irrigation to everybody and all the time, in season and often out of season.

Senator Warren, the chairman, infused his energy and earnestness into the senate, until every senator realized that Warren was after water, more water, and keeping them all in hot water, on account of his irrigation bill. The North Dakota senator, Hansbrough, was like unto him. Mr. Newlands, of Nevada, told everybody that with irrigation Nevada would support a population of 60,000,000 as easily as now she supports a population of only 60,000. Senator Clark, of Montana, the richest man in the world, and Senator Dubois, of Idaho, one of the poorest men in public life, vied with each other in praying for the irrigation of the arid lands of their states.

And yet, with all this missionary work done before the bill came up for discussion in the house of representatives, there were members actively opposed to it on various grounds. A score of amendments were offered, all of them designed to defeat the object of the bill. One after another they were voted down, and the bill was finally passed by a vote of 146 yeas to 55 nays.

It is expected that upwards of 200,000 acres of land will be annually reclaimed under the provisions of this law, until all of the millions of acres of the desert shall have been reclaimed and peopled with home owners. Irrigation is not an experiment. It was practiced before the dawn of recorded history. Man attained his first high degree of civilization under its practice. Through its efficiency the great nations of antiquity established and maintained their might and glory. Egypt, Assyria, India, China are irrigated models for us. We are taking a new departure by following in the footsteps of the wisest ancients.



HON. W. A. REEDER. (Kansas Congressman Who Pushed the Irrigation Bill.)

maintain these reservoirs as it does other public works."

The committee on irrigation of arid lands, in the senate and house of representatives, proceeded promptly to consider the recommendations of the president. The senate committee was the first to formulate and report a bill, and the measure was passed and sent to the other branch of the congress, so that it was received in the house of representatives on March 4. The senate bill was reported to the house from its committee on irrigation of arid lands on April 7, and placed on the calendar. Speaker Henderson caused June 12 to be set apart for public discussion of the measure, and it was passed by the house of representatives June 13. The bill, as adopted, contained numerous amendments, but substantially all of them were accepted by the senate.

The enactment provides that all monies received from the sale of public lands in Arizona, California,

A BOAT CAPSIZES.

Hotel Waiters and Waitresses Were in the Craft.

Fourteen of the Pleasure Party Flung Watery Graves, While Three of Them Were Saved—All of the Victims Young People.

Portsmouth, N. H., July 18.—A 19-foot whaleboat containing 16 waiters and waitresses employed at the Oceanic House, Star Island, Isle of Shoals, who had gone out in the bay yesterday afternoon on a pleasure trip in charge of Skipper Fred Miles, was capsized during a sudden squall and 14 of the occupants were drowned. The other three were rescued by fishermen who put out from the shore in their dories. The names of the drowned are:

Henry Farrington, head waiter, of Fredericton, N. B.; Bertha Graham, Danvers, Mass.; Minnie McDonald, Cambridgeport, Mass.; Eva Adams, Portsmouth, N. H.; May Adams, sister of Eva, Portsmouth; Catherine Bowes, Saxonville, Mass.; Elizabeth Bowes, sister of Catherine, Saxonville, Besise Chase, Malden, Mass.; Anna Sheehan, West Bedford, Mass.; Eva Marshal, Haverhill, Mass.; May Marshal, sister of Eva, Haverhill, Mass.; Isabel Kaouska, Cambridge, Mass.; Laura Gilmore, Exeter, N. H.

The saved are: Alice Haggerty, Lillian Bresnahan, Skipper Fred Miles. The bodies of Farrington, Alward, Bessie Chase, Eva Marshal and Isabel Kaouska have not yet been recovered. All the others were taken from the water by fishermen and then to the island, where they were worked over for a long time by two doctors, but without success.

Farrington and Alward were both law students at Harvard university, rooming at Forsyth Hall. Both were good swimmers and lost their lives in trying to rescue the others.

The victims were all young people whose ages would not average over 20 years. Most of the Massachusetts girls were school teachers, who have passed their summer vacations here for several years in serving as waitresses in the hotel.

REMARKABLE CASE.

A Boy Remains Under Water 25 Minutes and is Resuscitated.

Washington, July 18.—Superintendent Kimball, of the life saving service, has received a report from Capt. Ludlam, of the Hereford Inlet life saving station, at Anglesea, N. J., of the remarkable resuscitation of Stanley S. Holmes, a 5-year-old boy, after he had been under water 25 minutes. Capt. Ludlam reported that July 5, during a squall in the harbor, William B. Holmes and his child were overturned in the water and that the boy sank, remaining under water not less than 25 minutes before the life saving crew of the Hereford station were able to secure the apparently dead body. Within four hours after the body was removed from the water the child regained consciousness.

Superintendent Kimball received affidavits from the father of the child, from Miss Margaret Mace, a medical student, and Mary J. Hock, a trained nurse, substantiating to the fullest degree the statements of Capt. Ludlam. The opinion of most of these people is that the child had been under water fully 30 minutes when taken out, and all are certain that the time was not less than 25 minutes.

Narrow Escape From Drowning.

Boston, Mass., July 18.—Capt. John Morris of the sloop yacht Aphrodite, with James Harvey, Mrs. Harvey, her seven-year-old daughter and another arrived in the harbor last night on a schooner, having been capsized from their boat about five miles southeast of Richmond Island on the Maine coast. The party started some ten days ago to cruise about the shores of Maine. Wednesday they left Popham Beach to come home and had got as far as Richmond Island when the heavy lead shoe on the keel of the boat dropped off and the sloop turned over bottoms up. Mrs. Harvey and her daughter were the most helpless, and the men assisted them in holding to the bottom of the Aphrodite until assistance came. None of the party was injured.

Attempted Murder and Suicide.

Columbus, O., July 18.—John Smith, of Washington, Pa., is dead, and Maggie Canan, of the same place, is seriously ill in this city from the effects of strychnine placed in ice cream by Smith with murderous and suicidal intent. Smith was 19 and his companion is about the same age. According to the girl's story, they ran away from home to be married. They arrived here yesterday and registered at a hotel as John Thomas and wife. In the afternoon Smith left the hotel on the pretense of securing a marriage license and returned with the ice cream. Both were taken sick while eating the cream and the cries of the girl attracted help. Smith died in an hour, but the young woman will recover.

Improving Rapidly.

London, July 18.—Since his removal to Cowes the progress of the king has been so rapid that his physicians have ordered a more liberal diet for his majesty.

Heavy Storm in Chicago.

Chicago, July 18.—Damage estimated at thousands of dollars was wrought to property in various parts of Chicago last night by the terrific wind and electric storm, which swept in from the southwest and cut over the lake. Several persons were injured during the progress of the storm. Store fronts were blown in, elevators unroofed, chimneys and trolley wires tumbled down, and business houses flooded by the down-pour of rain. Sixty-eight miles an hour was the velocity attained by the wind.

MINERS CONVENE.

President Mitchell Is Against a General Strike.

Bituminous Miners Should Remain at Work and Pay Assessments In Aid of Anthracite Men—Two Days' Proceedings.

Indianapolis, July 18.—If the voice and influence of President Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers, shall prevail with the members of his organization, there will be no general strike of the organization. The chances of such a step being taken now are very remote. In his speech in the convention yesterday afternoon Mr. Mitchell advised strongly against a strike and urged that the bituminous miners continue at work, and that a system of assessment upon the members of the order, which he outlined, be carried into effect as the best means of affording aid and support to the striking anthracite men in the east.

A motion to adopt the suggestions of President Mitchell provoked a long debate, in which the general sentiment was against the ordering of the strike. The men from the anthracite regions finally made a request that they be allowed to hold a caucus to determine upon an expression of opinion as to what they thought the convention should do and asked an adjournment of the convention for this purpose. Their request was granted, and the adjournment taken. The men who were in favor of a strike were in a decided minority in the convention.

The convention began in Tomlinson hall with an attendance of about 900 delegates.

The first session was not of an executive character and there were many spectators present anxious to witness the proceedings of what had been heralded as one of the most important gatherings of laboring men held in recent years. The first part of the session was devoted to addresses of welcome from municipal officers of Indianapolis and responses in behalf of the union.

Secretary Wilson then read the call for the convention and President Mitchell called for the report of the committee on credentials. The reading of this consumed much time. The report was accepted and the convention adjourned until 1:30 p. m. When the convention met in the afternoon President Mitchell made his address.

Indianapolis, July 19.—At the conclusion of a secret session, which lasted all of Friday afternoon, the recommendations of President Mitchell for the management of the anthracite strike were referred to a committee which is to report back to the convention to-day. This committee consists of President Mitchell, Vice President Lewis, Secretary Wilson and the president of each district which is taking part in the convention. There is little doubt that the committee will urge the adoption of the recommendations and fix the rate of assessment at 10 per cent, or higher.

At the opening of the executive session Vice President Lewis took the floor and delivered an energetic speech on the amendment of red by Delegate Haskins in the morning to the effect that the fund to be raised in aid of the anthracite miners, be extended to all of the striking miners where their strike has been sanctioned by the general organization.

President Mitchell then took the floor to speak for the adoption of the recommendations made in his speech Thursday.

A vote was taken on the Haskins amendment and it was voted down by a decisive majority. This left before the convention the original motion for the adoption of the recommendations of the president. Secretary Wilson offered an amendment that the matter be referred to a committee consisting of the three highest officers of the national organization and the district presidents. This prevailed.

BELIEVED TO BE CRAZY.

Man Enters a Foundling Asylum and Shoots Two Sisters of Charity.

New York, July 18.—Harry F. King, 30 years old, entered the office of the New York foundling asylum yesterday afternoon and shot two Sisters of Charity. He then ran into the grounds of the institution and shot himself in the left breast, making only a flesh wound. King was taken to a police court, where he was committed without bail for examination Saturday. The injured sisters are Sister Angelo, 45 years old, shot in the right arm, and Sister Cecelia, 30 years old, shot in the left arm and side. Neither was fatally hurt.

King, who has been a frequent visitor to the foundling asylum, is believed to be demented. He suffered for some time from melancholia, according to the police, and on May 7 was arrested in the yards of the institution after he had attempted to commit suicide by taking carbolic acid.

When he was arraigned, King said he had begged the authorities of the foundling asylum to give him information about his birth, but that they had refused to do so. This so angered him, he said, that he did not know what he was doing.

INDUSTRIAL OUTLOOK.

It Has Improved with the Settlement of Numerous Labor Disputes.

New York, July 19.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: Settlement of numerous labor controversies and prospects of early agreements as to many struggles have greatly improved the industrial outlook while agricultural conditions steadily improve. As these have been the only unfavorable influences for some months, the prospects for active trade are decidedly encouraging. Preparations for unusually heavy fall sales are being made and confidence grows stronger. Mills and furnaces that have been idle on account of the usual overhauling, resumed as rapidly as needed repairs could be made. Financial conditions are sound, the mid-year dividend distributions producing no stringency, and speculation has been heavy for the season, both in securities and staples.

Manufacturers of cotton goods hold prices steady, and there has been a distinct increase in demand during the past week, although buying is only for imperative requirements, the disposition to delay purchases being still evident. No concessions are offered by holders.

Eastern shoe shops receive more orders, some of the larger producers refusing contracts calling for delivery before October.

Crop prospects have continued favorable, and with the removal of speculative influences there was a gradual decline in prices.

Failures for the week numbered 213 in the United States, against 193 last year, and 20 in Canada, against 32 last year.

ARMY OF IMMIGRANTS.

Total Arrivals in This Country During the Last Fiscal Year Numbered 648,743.

Washington, July 19.—A statement has been prepared at the immigration bureau showing the number of immigrants who arrived in the United States during the fiscal year 1902, as compared with 1901. The total arrivals for the last fiscal year were 648,743 immigrants and 82,055 other alien passengers, making a total of 730,798. This is an increase of 160,825 immigrants over 1901.

Following are the names of the countries from which the largest number of immigrants came during the last fiscal year:

- Italy, including Sicily and Sardinia, 175,375.
- Austria-Hungary 171,989.
- Russian Empire and Finland 107,347.
- Sweden 50,594.
- Ireland 29,138.
- German Empire 28,304.
- Norway 17,484.

A Destructive Tornado.

Plattsburg, N. Y., July 19.—A tornado swept over Moffittsville, a small village near Dannemora, in Clinton county, Thursday night, destroying a starch factory, a carding mill, the Chateaugay Ore and Iron Co.'s sawmill and other property. The same storm sunk a steam launch in Upper Chateaugay lake belonging to Seth Thomas, the well-known clock manufacturer, of Connecticut, and destroyed his fine camp and boathouse on the same lake. The storm also demolished the fine cottage owned by Frank Sawyer, of Chicago, located near the Seth Thomas cottage, severely injuring one man.

Killed Husband and Brother-in-Law.

Murphysboro, Ill., July 19.—Mrs. George Joubert shot and killed her husband and brother-in-law, Moses Joubert, whom she took for burglars, early Friday. The Joubert family reside about five miles east of Ava. George and his brother, Moses, had been to that village and, returning home in an intoxicated condition, proceeded to break down the door, which Mrs. Joubert had locked. The woman became frightened and, supposing they intended to kill her, fired with her husband's revolver.

The Whipple's Trial Trip.

Baltimore, July 19.—The torpedo boat destroyer Whipple, built by the Maryland Steel Co., has returned from her official trial over the Barren Island measured course. In every movement, the vessel exceeded the contract requirements. The mile course was run at a speed of 29.44 knots and the highest attained was at the rate of 30 1/4 knots. She maintained during the hour's trial required by the endurance test the speed of 27 1/2 knots, 1 1/2 knots more than required by the contract.

Names for New Warships.

Washington, July 19.—The navy department announces that the two battleships to be built under the authority of the last naval appropriation bill are to be named the Louisiana and Connecticut, and the two cruisers the Tennessee and Washington. The battleship will be built at the New York yard and will cost \$4,212,000 and the cruisers \$4,659,000 each.

A Fatal Cyclone.

Chesterville, Ont., July 13.—A cyclone of great fury passed within a mile of this town Friday and everything in its path, about 60 rods in width, was destroyed. The country presents a scene of devastation. Dwellings are overturned and dead cattle are lying at nearly every farm. Several persons were killed and a number injured.

The Andrews Trial.

Detroit, Mich., July 19.—Attorney Otto Kirchner contributed the leading feature in yesterday's trial of Frank C. Andrews when, in opening the case for the defense, he stated that Andrews still believed he was a very rich man and able to pay every cent he owes the wrecked City Savings bank. The impression had prevailed that Andrews had lost everything through speculating in Amalgamated copper stock. Mr. Andrews will go on the stand, gentlemen, and tell you how he hopes to pay every cent he owes the bank," said the attorney for the defense.

INECESSANT RAINS.

They Have Produced Flood Conditions in Iowa and Missouri.

Loss of Millions Is Threatened—Farmers Will Be Ruined—The Rise in Rivers Has Only Begun—Situation Is Very Gloomy.

Keokuk, Ia., July 19.—Heavy rains in central Iowa are sending a flood down upon prosperous Missouri farmers, which will ruin many of them and cause losses aggregating, at a conservative estimate, two and a half million dollars. There seems to be no hope for the country between the Mississippi river and its Missouri bluffs between Keokuk and Hannibal, 300 square miles, mostly corn laid by, with some thousands of acres of wheat in the shock. The water touched the danger line the first of the week and had begun to recede, when heavy floods started again in the Des Moines, Skunk and Iowa rivers.

With a stage in the Des Moines river only three feet below the tops of the great levees, the river began to rise three inches an hour at the mouth here Friday, continuing until the factor of safety was wiped out last evening. A rise of one and a half feet in a short time at Ottumwa, and a further rise throughout its length below the Capital City was prevented from running out freely by a rise of a foot and a half at Davenport, increasing and coming down rapidly. The observer of the weather bureau at Keokuk has sent telegraphic warning to all points south to prepare for danger.

The Egyptian levee, which stood the flood just receding after strenuous efforts to hold it, is only slightly above the water now and the coming flood in the Des Moines will cover it certainly. This will let the water into hundreds of square miles, including the town of Alexandria, Mo. The inhabitants there are preparing for an overflow of the entire town to a depth of several feet. The worst feature is the time of the year. The corn crop is all made and wheat is in the shock, entailing a total loss of the year's work. Crops were never finer and the yield promised to be immense.

Grain men say the above estimate of value is too low, and put the figures of the loss from the overflow at near \$4,000,000 between Keokuk and Hannibal. It is believed the Illinois levees will hold and the damage there is likely to be only \$20,000 to \$30,000 between Keokuk and Quincy. Heavy rains reported in southeastern Iowa indicate still higher water. Lowland farmers, river men and the weather bureau observer alike predict the greatest damage ever known from flood on the upper river.

Reports late last night showed tremendous rains along the Des Moines river and tributaries. Six inches fell at Corydon and nearly that much at Ottumwa. Rains all over this section continue, with two inches as a general minimum rainfall and many reporting five inches. These rains will reach the lower river and flooded districts by Sunday with a still further rise and devastation. Both the Des Moines and Mississippi rivers are rising fast.

Late reports show that half the country for a distance of 30 miles between La Grange and Hannibal was already under water long before the crest of the flood arrived. Points up the Des Moines river report water flowing through the towns, but that the country was damaged totally by the flood several days ago.

RESCUED FROM A MOB.

Man Who Shot at a Woman Narrowly Escapes Lynching by Residents of Shamokin, Pa.

Shamokin, Pa., July 19.—Surrounded by a thousand enraged men and boys at the Pennsylvania railroad station last night, Norman Patonkin, of Philadelphia, a non-union fireman at the Bear Valley shaft, and Jacob Kramer, a deputy policeman of Schuylkill Haven, were rushed on a passenger train and taken to Sunbury jail. The former is accused of shooting at Mrs. William Lattshaw Thursday night because she is said to have taunted him for working while others were on strike. He was near the colliery at the time and the woman was in a garden close by. The bullet grazed her head.

Kramer, who appeared at the hearing before a local justice to testify in Patonkin's behalf, was arrested for carrying a revolver. The men were unable to procure bail. A large crowd collected at the justice's office during the hearing and threatened to hang the prisoners. Strike leaders persuaded the miners to disperse. They reassembled as the time arrived for the men to be taken to the train for Sunbury.

Wants to Cut Wages.

Anderson, Ind., July 19.—Tin plate workers confirm a report that they have been asked by the American Tin Plate Co. to allow their wages to be reduced 25 per cent, so that the company may accept an order from the Standard Oil Co. for 1,500,000 boxes of American tin plate. The same question is before all the tin plate workers throughout the country. They will vote on the proposition next week.

A Duel on the Street.

Metropolis, Ill., July 19.—In a duel on the street yesterday Ben Faughn, of Metropolis, was shot and killed by Jasper Abbott, of Stuck, Ill. Abbott made several remarks to ladies in a hotel to which Faughn remonstrated. He led Abbott up the street about 40 yards and Abbott drew a pistol and shot Faughn twice. Faughn then wrested the gun from Abbott and fired at him, inflicting a slight flesh wound. Faughn walked half a square and being shot, and fell dead. Abbott is now in jail. Intense excitement prevails and lynching is expected.