

GREAT AND GROWING WEST

Irrigation Will Change Deserts to Gardens and Provide Lands for Millions of Homes.

ROOSEVELT'S STRONG, FRIENDLY HAND

A Policy that Increases the Sum of Human Happiness and Enlarges and Strengthens the Republic.

When President Roosevelt said, "I BELONG WEST OF THE MISSOURI RIVER," he spoke from his heart. It was not that he loved the east less, but the west more.

He felt that, in a certain way, the country at large did not properly appreciate this crude, big brother, whose wonderful development and accomplishments are destined to bring the greatest fame and riches to the family—the Nation. He got acquainted with this big brother and found out that he was worth winning and saving. He started out at once upon his patriotic and philanthropic mission.

Mr. Roosevelt firmly believes there is nothing too good for the west. He has put that section next to its immeasurable future, by the National Irrigation Act, which, it is universally admitted, could not have become a law without his urgent personal influence in the House, any more than without his signature as President. Then, there is his "Open Door" policy in China, and the Panama Canal, assured as a permanent highway to the world's commerce. These measures are vitally associated with the west.

Known and Loves the West.

No other President has ever spoken at such length or so explicitly on the subject of irrigation. It is equally true that no other President ever had so wide an acquaintance with the subject as Mr. Roosevelt possesses. He is, as it were, an adopted child of the west and knows its wants and sympathies with them. The proposed reservoirs in connection with the reclamation service will husband for the great empire beyond the Mississippi the waters necessary to add the desert reaches there to habitations and productivity. This will insure the enduring qualities of his fame. His knowledge of the west shines through all his utterances. He holds that irrigation is the coming necessity, and that by it our natural resources can be uncovered to a degree undreamed of and our population and industry more than doubled within our continental limits.

Potency of National Act.

The National Irrigation Act is gauged on an honest, intelligent, extensive plan, well considered, and will be wisely carried out. By it we will be able as a nation to add to all former triumphs of this Republic new illustrations of our power to do things. By a system of judicious forestry almost the entire area can be re-forested, in a hundred years. The climate could be changed and improved. We could give an impetus to every kind of trade, which, with our new advantages in the Orient, would more than double the volume of our present commercial traffic. In this area of intense agricultural and horticultural development will be created a field for the exercise of every kind of skill and every attainment of handicraft. Here many of the vexed social and economic questions are destined to be settled. In giving to the Nation a race of landowners, a race of men and women will be insured who, by interest, instinct and choice, will be patriots.

Nature Did the Needful.

Nature seems to have employed every resource at its command to make the mountain and plain region the most favored portion of the earth's surface for the habitation of man. This section will one day be the seat of empire of the United States, and, consequently, the world. For a distance of more than a thousand miles there are successive chains of mountains, in general course running north and south and on parallel lines, with numerous valleys occupying the immediate ground.

Fertility of Arid Soil.

Under the rains of centuries much of the soluble plant foods in eastern soils have been washed into the sea. Where no rainfall exists the plant food remains. The government analyses of soils show that the arid lands average three times as much potash, six times as much lime and fourteen times as much lime as the humid lands. Any farmer will tell you that a limestone country is a rich country. To replace the food taken by growing plants the eastern farmer resorts to fertilizers and manure. Starting with a rich soil, the irrigationist also finds fertilizing strength in the water he uses. The manurial value held in solution in 36 inches of water—the amount applied to one acre in a season at the University of Arizona—amounted to \$9.07. Ten acres under irrigation average better returns than 40-acre crops, in the usual way.

Land Very Valuable.

In those communities of the west which have been created by irrigation, the average yield of wheat, potatoes and small fruits far exceeds that of the best farming district in Iowa or Missouri or the best part of the Mississippi Valley. Although comparatively remote from the world's markets for products, an acre of land under water rights in the very heart of the arid region, will command a higher price than an acre in the humid Mississippi Valley. The farmers have learned that 40 acres, well tilled, will yield more profit than 400 acres farmed in the old, haphazard way. Intensive farming and larger profits from smaller farms are making closely settled communities, establishing nearby neighbors, schools, churches and libraries, and the isolation of old farm life no longer exists. The farmer makes more money, and the deadly monotony of life does not drive his children from home, or his wife to the insane asylum.

Roosevelt Immortalized.

The passage of the National Irrigation Act is tantamount to saying that the west is already redeemed—it is now only a question of time. Perhaps no law has been passed since the foundation of this government which has been or can be so prolific in great and lasting results to the United States. No law has ever been enacted which will add so much stability, wealth, happiness and general prosperity to the people and the government as the National Irrigation Law.

Here is a new field for the most hopeful speculation. It cannot be that any human mind has yet been able to estimate the far-reaching, the fruitful results which will follow in the wake of this National Act. Lincoln is immortalized by his Emancipation Proclamation. Roosevelt will be immortalized because he has done that which will set free from the thrall of the congested centers of population, millions of families who can and will feel grateful to him and his memory as they sit under their own vine and figtree and enjoy all the comforts and contentment of their new and enlarged life of health, happiness and usefulness.

Innate Home-Owning Desire.

There is an innate desire in the heart of the Anglo-Saxon American to own a home. There is an inherent yearning of the common people, apparent on every page of history, to own in fee simple some portion of the earth. The desire is still as keen as it ever was. Of all our wealth producing classes, the farmer needs a home most. He must have one, he should by all means own it. His farm need not be so large as some suppose, but it should belong to the farmer, not to some one else. This is not only self-evident because of the advantages to the farmer, but because of its advantages to the Nation at large. It is the cornerstone of our National life; it lies at the root of all true patriotism and all social improvement and contentment.

Hope for Honest Toll.

The National Irrigation Act, passed by the earnest request and as a result of his personal efforts, has already begun its work of measureless good to American citizenship. It is placing within the reach of the landless man our manless land. It is to speak with a voice that cannot be misunderstood. By combining the two powerful factors of irrigation and reclamation, in its up-building work of the Nation, its mission will be well nigh irresistible. It will lift from the pathway of the breadwinner the dead weight of poverty and congestion which has obstructed our national progress, created intricate struggles between capital and labor and threatened to shipwreck our future prosperity.

Expansion of Action.

The arid region, extending in the main from the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean and from Mexico to Canada, embraces an area, generally speaking, of about 1,500 miles either way. Here is what is known as arid America. The

First Voters Read This.

Roosevelt and Fairbanks are both young men, as are a majority of the voters of the Republican party. If you believe in progress, if you want to see our country the richest and its people the most contented and prosperous on



(Reproduced from Philadelphia Inquirer.)
A sad blow—burying the first-born in Vermont.

BILLION DOLLAR COUNTRY

Facts Which It is Desirable to Bear in Mind.

Evidently Judge Parker has lost track of the fact that the United States has become a billion-dollar country, while he has been dreaming away his manhood on the bench at Albany. Otherwise it is impossible to account for his acceptance of "the Republican challenge to a comparison of Democratic and Republican administrations."

If there is any issue before the American people upon which the Republicans are more ready to appeal to the voters than another, it is that relating to the administration of national finances. But they will not let Judge Parker, or the hungry aggregation of Democratic editors to whom he addressed his Rip Van Winkle remarks, ignore the fact that the United States of 1904 deals with billions, where in Cleveland's first administration its finances could be discussed in terms of nine figures. Neither will they permit him to compare net expenditures under Cleveland with extraordinary appropriations under McKinley and Roosevelt.

When he makes his comparisons between the expenditures of 1885-1888 with those of 1901-1903 he will not be permitted to ignore such facts as the increase in postal expenditures from \$50,942,415 in 1885 to \$138,784,487 in 1903, and that the excess of expenditures on account of the postal service over receipts last year was only \$4,569,044, as compared with \$8,381,572.

As an index of the growth of the United States in every direction that marks advance in national welfare there can be no better standard than the increasing use of an ever improving and extending mail service.

Neither will Judge Parker nor the editors to whom he unbosomed a choice medley of ideas from the wit and wisdom of Samuel J. Tilden and Grover Cleveland, be permitted to "point with Democratic pride" to the enforced economy of Cleveland's second term 1893-1896, without being confronted with the following deficits that waited on Democratic policy and Democratic administration:

DEFICITS DURING CLEVELAND'S SECOND TERM.

1894	\$69,803,261
1895	\$2,805,222
1896	\$5,203,248
With no exceptional expenditures, over \$200,000,000 was added to the public debt during Cleveland's term.	

And when they are discussing the expense of running the government of a people that has increased nearly 50 per cent. in population and more than 100 per cent. in wealth since Grover Cleveland was first inaugurated, Republicans will not forget to remind American voters of such billion-dollar facts as these:

MONEY IN CIRCULATION	
1885	\$1,292,568,615
1903	\$2,267,692,169
Deposits in National Banks	
1885	\$3,290,963,599
1903	\$1,106,375,517
Deposits in Savings Banks	
1885	\$2,935,204,845
1903	\$1,005,172,147
Deposits in State Banks	
1885	\$1,814,570,163
1903	\$1,188,417,293
Deposits in Loan and Trust Companies	
1885	\$1,589,398,798
1903	\$1,025,719,237
Total	
1885	\$742,189,755
1903	\$1,420,141,679

VALUE OF FARMS.
(Estimated on Census returns for 1880, 1890 and 1900.)

1885		1900	
(a) Value of Farm Animals	\$2,456,428,283	(a) Value of Farm Animals	\$3,102,515,540
Production of Minerals	\$2,427,898,680	Production of Minerals	\$1,299,640,265
Tolls	\$2,862,070,929	Tolls	172,221,278,993
Freight tons carried one mile by Railroads	(at 1.04 cents per ton mile)	Freight tons carried one mile by Railroads	(at .763 cents per ton mile)
Wages in Manufacturing Industry	1880	1900	
\$947,933,798	\$2,328,691,254		

OUR FOREIGN TRADE.

It Expands Under Republican and Collapses Under Democratic Policies.

One of the great arguments of the free traders has been that with free trade we would have access to the "markets of the world." Well, the only time the free traders have had control of the government in recent years was in the second Cleveland administration. They did not put actual free trade into operation, but they came close enough to it to put most of the factories of this country out of operation. We did not get the markets of the world. They may have been open to us, but our manufacturers were going out of business so fast, under the ruinous tariff schedules the Democrats had put into effect, that they could not seek the markets of the world. Their own home market, the best one to them, was invaded by cheap foreign goods, however.

NOT USED BY DEMOCRATS

Adjectives for Which Parker's Followers Have No Use.

"We know what we mean when we speak of an honest and stable currency," said President Roosevelt in his speech of acceptance.

In no official utterance of the Democratic party, or of its candidates for President or Vice President during the last eight years, have the adjectives "honest" or "stable" ever been used to designate the kind of currency Democracy demanded, and this notwithstanding the Democratic phrase makers will use adjectives freely and recklessly whenever they have any "paramount" or "tantamount" idea to advance, like in the platform adopted at St. Louis, which said "the existing Republican administration has been SPASMODIC, ERRATIC, SENSATIONAL, SPECTACULAR AND ARBITRARY."

Alton B. Parker says the gold standard is "irrevocably established," but he does not say that his own personal belief in it as affording an "HONEST AND STABLE CURRENCY" has been irrevocably established, nor, furthermore, that he deemed the Democratic party wrong, when in Congress, in 1890, it almost to a man voted against the establishment of the gold standard.

As the gold standard of value was then "irrevocably established," by the Democratic party, but by the Republican party, the only gold standard that the Democratic party can honestly claim to have "irrevocably established" is the gold standard of silence on a subject on which it never did talk except to lower itself in the estimation of intelligent people, and to breed apprehension in business circles.

PULITZER'S MISTAKE.

He Does Not Understand the Attitude of Parker.

Joseph Pulitzer did not attend the gathering of Democratic editors which met and commended recently with the Democratic candidate for the presidency, but he wrote a letter, of which this was the concluding paragraph:

It is because I so strongly desire Judge Parker's election that I speak so plainly on this subject. I earnestly beg you to see me to-morrow at Esopus, to urge that he accept also the full responsibility of his position; that he will not permit the campaign in New York—the political State to be mismanaged by the small politicians who beset him.

"Beset," indeed! Little is Alton B. Parker "beset" by the small politicians to whom Pulitzer alludes, those who have, for years, been the vassals of David Bennett Hill or among the operators for Tammany. Alton B. Parker has been one of them himself. Foxey political manager for Hill, who repaid him by an appointment, and who, in the present year, has repaid him further, he is not likely to be "beset" by his own associates. Mr. Pulitzer must be wandering in his mind. It is upon those from whom he wishes Mr. Parker to dissociate himself that Mr. Pulitzer depends for whatever vote he may get in New York—Tammanyites and the Hill benchmen.

The Pleased Democracy.

We are not constrained to keep silent on any vital question; our policy is continuous, and is the same for all sections and localities. There is nothing experimental about the government we ask the people to continue in power, for our performance in the past, our proved governmental efficiency, is a guarantee as to our promise for the future.—President Roosevelt.



The Donkey—Say, but this is fine; That's the first time I've been able to make these two wings together in ten years.—Minneapolis Journal.

GASSAWAY'S FAVORITE POEM

(Henry Gassaway Davis' favorite poem is "Excelsior."—Current notes.)

The shades of night were falling fast,
When up through West Virginia passed
A youth who held within his hand
A banner with this strange command:
"Fork over."

"What seek ye?" cried the ones he met;
"I seek the bar!" I'll find it yet—
I'll get that check we want, you bet."
He sang, as Davisward he set:
"Fork over."

"Try not that task," the maiden cried;
But only fruitlessly she sighed,
For he replied: "We need the stuff,"
And chortled then in accents gruff:
"Fork over."

"O, stay, vain youth," an old man called,
At such self-confidence appalled,
"Dost think his name is Givenaway?"
This youth sang, through the dying day,
"Fork over."

On, on he went, by hill and dale,
Until the night at dawn grew pale,
And then at last, with heart elate,
He murmured to the candidate:
"Fork over."

He saw the barrel round and fair—
Alas! he saw no bung-hole there!
The candidate without his spec's
To read the banner did not vex—
"Fork over."

"I cannot hear a word," he sighed,
"You heard when you were notified."
The earnest youth at once replied
And then more vigorously cried:
"Fork over."

They found him, frozen stiff and cold,
His banner still within his hold—
And now they send no strange device,
They simply say: "We want the price—
Fork over."

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

The People Trust Him Both as Man and President.

More and more as the presidential campaign develops, it becomes apparent that upon one man the American people have fixed their affections and their admiration, and that in him they perceive a serene and perfect trust. That man is Theodore Roosevelt.

Four years ago the Republicans of the rank and file demanded the nomination and secured the election of Theodore Roosevelt for Vice President. Against his own wishes, against the advice of his nearest friends, Roosevelt accepted the duties forced upon him by his enthusiastic admirers.

In the dark days which followed the assassination of McKinley the beloved, the old aphorism that "the voice of the people is the voice of God" was called to mind as the American nation noted the gravity, sincerity and thorough competency with which the man they had chosen for Vice President took upon himself the duties of the Presidency.

As the years have passed, admiration and respect for Roosevelt have grown, until now he is without doubt the most popular man in the round world. That his popularity is well founded no one who knows the shrewd judgment of Americans will question. No man can occupy the Presidential chair for one year without being justly measured and estimated by the people whose chief executive he is.

From a popular idol, one in whose personal gifts, manly qualities and practical work all men delighted, Roosevelt has grown, in these three years, to be the ideal President of the most powerful Republic the world has ever known, the head of one of the greatest nations of the earth at the present day.

Theodore Roosevelt the man—Theodore Roosevelt the President—is a figure to be proud of. In every way, in every act of his life, he speaks a clean-minded, courageous, hearty, vigorous and incorruptible individuality. He is the champion of civic purity, of national patriotism, of religious freedom, a worker for and believer in the best opportunities for all men, without regard to class, occupation, theological opinions, politics or race or color.

The young men of the country have in the President one to whom they can loyally look as an example of vigorous manhood, rejoicing as a strong man preparing to run a race. The staid citizen, tending in the heat of the noonday of life, turns to Roosevelt as his choice out of all men to hold the cares and responsibilities of the public business in his clean, competent hands. The old Republican, he who has borne the brunt of the last strenuous generation, the veteran of the great war for human freedom and the preservation of the Union, beholds in Roosevelt a man worthy to wear the mantle of Lincoln.

The man of the day, the man of the hour, is Theodore Roosevelt. He is a great President because he is a great man. It has come home to every Republican within the first weeks of the campaign that the main strength of the Republican cause this year is its candidate for President. Firmly is he settled in the affections and the respect of the American people. All Republicans will vote for him, and thousands upon thousands of men from other parties will vote for him, because he is a man of strong fiber, the sort of man that every other man naturally loves and trusts.

There is no weak spot in the character of Theodore Roosevelt the man. There is no "yellow streak." Outspoken, fearless, definitely forceful, his ideas and opinions are well known to his countrymen, and his works are as clean, as straightforward and clear cut as are his ideas.

He will be our next President, and he will carry with him into the office which he is elected the entire confidence of the American people.

The Wisdom of a Centenarian.

Benjamin Brown, of Richview, Illinois, has been somewhat neglectful concerning his registration as a voter. Now he has registered, because he wants to vote for Roosevelt. The only remarkable feature about this case is that Mr. Benjamin Brown is just one hundred years of age. But, after all, even this feature is not remarkable, because no American citizen who has acquired the wisdom of a hundred years could do anything else than vote for Roosevelt in this campaign.

One private reclamation project near Phoenix, Ariz., created a taxable property of over ten million dollars in less than twenty years, and that from land practically worthless until irrigated.

It was under President Harrison's Republican administration in 1891 that the first Federal forest reserve was established. This was the beginning of actual growth in national forestry.

At the average rate of increase in the past we will have over 160,000,000 people in the United States within the next 50 years. The west must supply most of these with homes.

To irrigate is to populate. Irrigation depends for its success upon population. Colonization is the populating of hitherto unoccupied tracts of land.