

NATION WILL EXTEND IRRIGATION SERVICE

Meeting to Be Held in Albuquerque, N. M., Will Give Impetus to Great Work.

WILL HELP FORESTRY, TOO.

Projects to Be Undertaken May Involve Total Expenditure of Hundred Million Dollars.

Following by only a few months the meeting of the Governors to consider the conservation of the nation's resources the sixteenth annual irrigation congress, to be held in Albuquerque, N. M., from Sept. 20 to Oct. 10, will be a gathering of unusual significance.

Within the next few years the work of the government for reclaiming the unfruitful lands of the continent will almost certainly, it is asserted, undergo a big expansion, and where now millions of dollars are being expended in utilizing wasted water supplies and diverting them to fertile arid regions, the draining of swamp lands and the problem of reforestation are likely to be big questions that in the near future will receive the attention of the scientists and engineers of the reclamation service.

In the work at present undertaken the next three years will witness an expenditure of \$30,000,000, according to the broad program that is being carried out, and this, added to \$31,000,000 that already has gone into the irrigation works concerned, will bring to completion twenty-eight irrigation projects in sixteen States, making productive 1,010,000 acres of formerly desert waste.

From this time on, also, the government engineers plan to begin operation on at least one big reclamation project each year until the whole scheme, involving an outlay of \$100,000,000, shall have been completed. Plans will be discussed for those to be begun, including big works in the valley of the Colorado River and in the Sacramento Valley in California. All of which lends magnitude and importance to the coming congress.

Will Consider Forestry Also.
The subject of forestry is slated for extended discussion at this gathering, its relation to irrigation being the most intimate, it is said. Rivers rising in devastated countries are subject to annual floods that cannot be controlled and work only further devastation each year, while the flow can be turned to no useful purpose.

In the country surrounding Albuquerque, where the modern wonders of irrigation are to be discussed, there are traces of ancient works fully as wonderful in their way because created by primitive peoples ages ago who were the first irrigators of the West.

The most remarkable part of it, according to the government engineers who are surveying new canals for these same regions, is that the ancients, with their crude instruments, hit upon the most advantageous routes for carrying out these big engineering works, and in many sections to-day, it is said, the surveys are plotting out the new works right along the lines of those in use centuries ago.

The Comic Side of The News

Pretty soon steak will be a sign of wealth.
The American navy is still the undefeated wonder of the world.
The Japs realize that peace has its disasters no less than war.
The desire to take Harry Thaw to Europe ought to be encouraged.
Congress has been just as busy as though it had been doing something.
Prince Helie refuses to plunge at Monte Carlo. He prefers to play a sure thing.
It takes a strong-minded woman to support the weight of a Merry Widow bonnet.
Evelyn Thaw says she wishes the public to forget her. The public wishes it could.
An authority says "diamonds are harder than steel." They are certainly harder to get.
Now let us hear from the delegate on Merry Widow hats as one of our national resources.
Some are born to trouble, some hunt for trouble and some marry into the Goud family.
Mrs. Hetty Green denies that her daughter is going to get married now. Husbands will probably be cheaper before the year is out.
The House of Representatives costs us \$150 a minute. Yet people still say that "talk is cheap."
The fact that the Japanese invented linoleum a thousand years ago is enough to make some hot-headed people want to go to war with them.
Every young naval officer knows exactly how to build a battleship, just as every man knows how to run a farm, a hotel or a newspaper.
Down in Georgia they start a State campaign a year or two in advance, so as to find time to say all the hard things they think about each other.
When Mrs. Hetty Green begins spending \$30 a day at a hotel it's a sign that the panic is over.
The price of foreign noblemen has been reduced, but the better ones are still scarce and expensive.
The man who swallowed a check for \$150 must have some personal knowledge of undigested securities.
Gov. Swanson says "a clear conscience is to be preferred to gold." But some people have neither one.
If Russia and Japan do not maintain the "open door" in Manchuria, Uncle Sam is prepared to smash a window or two.

ALLISON WINS IN IOWA.

Returns Indicate Nomination of the Hawkeye Senator.

Returns from more than 800 precincts Wednesday indicated that Senator Allison had defeated Governor Cummins in the fight for the Republican Senatorial nomination, as a result of the State primaries. The Allison men claimed at least 10,000, but the Cummins leaders would not concede this.

Counties which two years ago went for Governor Cummins this year returned a majority for Allison. Seven Congressional districts give Allison his majority. He carried practically every



county in the First and Second Districts. In the Third District he lost Hardin County and in the Fifth Cummins secured a majority in three of the counties.

One of the surprises of the primaries was the election of Judge S. F. Prouty over Congressman Hull at an estimated plurality of 1,200. Judge Prouty carried Polk, Story, Marion and Dallas Counties. He carried nearly every precinct in Des Moines and Polk County.

Senator Allison has been in the United States Senate since 1873 and he served four terms in the lower house before winning the toga. This gives him a record of forty-three years in Congress. Mr. Allison was born at Perry, Ohio, March 2, 1820.

DEATH TAKES BULLER.

British General Who Lost Fine Military Reputation in Africa.

General Sir Redvers Henry Buller died in London after an illness of several weeks. He was born in 1839. General Buller, for many years a famous soldier, was obliged to retire from the army with a discreditable record because of the successive defeats suffered during the Boer war. He was a veteran soldier and had won the Victoria cross for gallant deeds in India, Egypt, and other parts of the world where Great Britain had had fighting to do.

The action which finally led to his undoing was connected with the siege of Ladysmith in the autumn of 1899. Buller was commander in chief of the forces sent against the Boers and

CURRENT COMMENT

The startling assertion that in the schools of 816 cities and towns of the United States conditions are ripe for a repetition of the Collinwood, Ohio, fire disaster appears in a current issue of a fire insurance publication, the Insurance Press. A list of the danger spots is published, and it includes Chicago, New York, Cleveland, Detroit, Philadelphia, Boston and numerous other large cities, as well as smaller centers of population.

Fire statistics show that, during the first quarter of 1908, fifty-eight fires occurred in educational institutions of the United States and Canada, resulting in death to many students, endangering the lives of thousands of others, and causing a property loss of about \$1,000,000. In many instances dormitories were burned, some while the students were asleep at night. Such dangerous blazes occurred in nineteen States and one territory. Public school fires caused damage in eighteen States. Panics among pupils and teachers invariably resulted. Safety was often found to be sought, not in the protection afforded by fireproof building material, iron escapes or other structural improvements, but in fire drills, which depended upon discipline that could be maintained only when danger was remote.

The statement is made that at 322 colleges and universities the question of the safety of the lives of students has scarcely been considered. By far the greater danger, however, is said to exist in the public schools of the country. Public school boards are said to appreciate their responsibility by providing fireproof materials in new buildings, but little or nothing is done to improve conditions in old school houses which were erected before the modern building era.

This is declared to be a matter worthy immediate and widespread action on the part of public officials. If theaters, churches, halls and other public gathering places are by law equipped with sprinkler systems, fire escapes and other safety devices, how important it is that school houses, where children spend as much as thirty hours a week, be protected. The Fort Wayne, Ind., hotel fire, which found helpless, sleeping victims in unprotected rooms, is the eighty-fifth blaze of its kind in the United States and Canada since the first of the year. Not all of these resulted in loss of life, but hotels, like schools, are shown to be in need of special protective apparatus.

World's Biggest Clock Starts.

At 3 p. m. on a recent day a clock was started on top of the factory building of Colgate & Co. in Jersey City, which is believed to be the largest clock in the world. It is 38 feet across its dial and the mechanism weighs 2,000 pounds. The minute hand is 20 feet long and its end travels 24 inches every minute. At night the hands are outlined with incandescent lights, a red light marking each numeral and a white light for each minute.

FROM FAR AND NEAR.

A federal grand jury has begun an investigation of alleged land frauds said to have been committed in Umatilla county, Oregon.

Lieut. Archibald Taggart, biggest policeman in New York, 6 feet 6 inches tall and 300 pounds in weight, has retired after twenty years to become a butcher.

Three men, John Sharpless, John Miles and a young Englishman, named Richmond, all of Nelson, B. C., were swept over the falls in Kootana river and drowned.

Fire at Childress, Texas, destroyed the machine, blacksmith and boiler shop of the Fort Worth and Denver road. The loss will reach \$200,000.

At the meeting of the Yale corporation in New Haven, Conn., announcement was made of the election of Prof. Jones, dean of the School of Engineering at the University of Minnesota, as dean of Yale college.

Falling a quorum, the members of the Arkansas Legislature, called in special session by Speaker A. H. Hamiter, gave up an attempt to transact business and adjourned sine die. There will be no extraordinary session.

Weights Make Record Flight.

After a series of experimental soarings in their latest model aeroplane over the sand dunes near Mantoloking, N. J., the Wright brothers broke all records Monday in a flight exceeding two miles, during which they turned two corners and at all times had the machine under complete control. In their aeroplane on Kill Devil Hill they are working on a new motor, with which they now expect to make a fifty-mile flight. All details of their plans and improvements are kept closely guarded from the newspaper men, who have flocked to the place from all over the world.

WHICH OF THESE WOMEN WILL BE NEXT MISTRESS OF THE WHITE HOUSE?



Mrs. Charles E. Hughes
Mrs. John A. Johnson
Mrs. William H. Taft

SENATOR JONES DEAD.

Noted Arkansas Politician Passes Away in Washington.

Former United States Senator James K. Jones of Arkansas died at his home in Washington at the age of sixty-nine. Heart failure was the immediate cause of death, which came within a day after the ex-Senator was stricken. At the time of his death Senator Jones was practicing law in partnership with his son, James K. Jones, Jr.

Senator Jones was born in Marshall County, Miss., Sept. 29, 1839, received a classical education, was a private soldier during the Civil War on the losing side, lived on his plantation after the close of the war until 1873, when he commenced the practice of law, and the same year was elected to the Senate of the State of Arkansas. The next step in the political ladder came in 1880, when he was elected in the Garfield-Hancock year as a Representative to Congress. It was not until Carlisle of Kentucky was elected Speaker that Jones came forth from obscurity and was made a member of the Ways and Means Committee of the House. In 1888 he was elected to the Senate and took his seat in 1887.

For eighteen years thereafter Senator Jones was a national character and a power in the councils of the Demo-

WHY'S TO RULE WHITE HOUSE?

Washington Society Speculates on the Next President's Wife.

Washington correspondence:
While the presidential election is agitating the politicians and speculation is rife as to who will be the Republican and Democratic nominees for the Presidency and ultimate victor, society circles in Washington are far more interested in trying to guess who will be the first lady of the land after March 4th.

While admitting that Mrs. W. J. Bryan and Mrs. W. H. Taft have the best chances, society nevertheless discusses the possibility of the white house being presided over by Mrs. John A. Johnson, Mrs. Charles W. Fairbanks or Mrs. Charles E. Hughes.

Mrs. Taft and Mrs. Fairbanks may be said to be the most prominent of the possibilities. Mrs. Fairbanks was born in Marysville, Ohio, and lived there until she went to Delaware and to the Ohio Wesleyan University. Her maiden name was Cornelia Cole. She was a general leader among her friends and graduated in 1872 in the same class with her husband. In 1874 Mr. and Mrs. Fairbanks were married and went to live in Indianapolis, where they were soon identified with the life of the city.

In appearance Mrs. Fairbanks is un- usually prepossessing, having that indefinable stamp of a gracious and refined woman.

Mrs. Taft, unlike Mrs. Fairbanks, has never been prominent in club affairs. She is a home-loving woman, her husband's chum and confidant, and the idol of young Charlie Taft, the Quentin Roosevelt of the Taft family. Mrs. Taft was Helen Herron, of Cincinnati.

Mrs. Johnson, all who have met her declare, is a sweet, sympathetic woman, ever ready to lend a hand in the cause of charity. Her early experiences have taught Mrs. Johnson the uses of adversity and most of her time, when not helping her husband, is spent in aiding the poor of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Mrs. Johnson's maiden name was Elmore Preston, and her home St. Peter, Minn.

Mrs. Bryan is never happier than when on the family farm near Lincoln, and boasts that she is a better farmer than most men. Nevertheless, Mrs. Bryan is an accomplished woman, widely read and possesses that indefinable art of impressing every one with her ability as a society leader, known as "savoir faire." Mrs. Bryan before her marriage was Miss Mary Elizabeth Baird, of Perry, Ill.

Mrs. Charles E. Hughes, wife of the governor of New York State, is a brilliant and accomplished woman, but has preferred to devote herself to home life rather than society. Mrs. Hughes numbers a great many New York society women among her friends. Mrs. Hughes was formerly Miss Antoinette Carter, of New York. Miss Helen Cannon is Speaker Joseph G. Cannon's younger daughter and would figure prominently in white house social affairs should Mr. Cannon win the presidency.

INTERESTING NEWS ITEMS.

Gaston Fairer has been convicted in New York City of selling Easter chicks on the ground that the act was cruelty to animals.

President Roosevelt is left \$10,000 by a will just recovered which purports to have been made by the late Benjamin F. Hadley, an eccentric recluse of Somerville, Mass.

The postmaster general has ordered that postoffices now existing outside the corporate limits of large cities shall hereafter be branch postoffices, under jurisdiction of the main office.

That sake, a Japanese liquor, should be classed as a wine and taxed as such, was the decision of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco in a suit involving the payment of \$500,000 in duty to the government.

TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

The international convention of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers voted to admit to membership the engineers of all electrically drawn trains on steam railroads.

Interurban connections soon will be made between River View and Stanley, Wis., and neighboring towns. A dam is being constructed across the Eau Claire river at River View, and it is the purpose of these back of the structure to develop enough power to enable the running of the trolley system.

Not at One Stroke.

Representative Leake of New Jersey has kindly outlined a plan for tariff revision. He says: "The Democratic party will not wipe out the tariff with one stroke of legislation." Which certainly is very considerate of Congress man Leake. But it has a suspicious sound, as suggesting the Democratic scheme of horizontal reduction proposed a generation ago, and which seemed based on the principle that cutting off a dog's tail a little at a time would not hurt as much as though the amputation of the member were performed at one fell swoop. That notion was never carried out, although it did conduce to national hilarity. Congressman Leake should have more originality or a keener sense of humor.—Troy Times.

Bully Idea.

Pat (planning a burglary)—Sure now, Mick, an' how shall we know if we're both there at the right time?
Mick—Be aisy, Pat; O'ive the vry jewel av an idea. If you git there first, put a chalk mark on the gate; and if O' git there first O'ill rub it out.—The Sketch.

Gossip Set to Music.

"I went to the opera last night."
"What did you hear?"
"That Mrs. Brown is going to get a divorce, Mrs. Biggs has the dearest dog and a new baby, and the Huttons are going to live in India."

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"Well, I hope that what it is, I should hate to think she paid anything for it."—Philadelphia Press.

Luxuries vs. Necessities.

"Mrs. Brown's husband has bought her a lovely automobile," said Mrs. Green the other evening.
"Hub! That's no sign that he won't be over here to borrow my lawn mower as usual."—Detroit Free Press.

Political Comment.

Bryan's Chaotic Finance.

Most of the Democrats in the House lodged when the vote was taken to substitute the currency bill introduced by their leader, Mr. Williams, for the Vreeland bill. The Williams bill was understood to be the embodiment of Mr. Bryan's views on currency reform, yet ninety-three Democratic members simply voted "present" when the ayes and noes were called for. Naturally, the Republicans had a prolonged laugh over this sort of party faith and harmony. With few exceptions the Democratic members declined to go on record in favor of a currency bill fathered by Mr. Bryan. He has put forward so many issues that broke down under investigation, and when tested by the public judgment, that his fellow Democrats have grown circumspect in backing his fresh propositions.

Mr. Bryan is a greenbacker and un-reconstructed. He has always held that the best plan to issue paper money is directly by the national government, and that its redemption in any metal is not a fundamental necessity. Any financial policy that he might be charged with conducting would lead along that road. He voted for General Weaver in 1882 and was fused with the Populists in 1896, accepting without a word of dissent their outspoken greenback principles. His party in Nebraska to-day is composed chiefly of Populists and greenbackers. The Democrats in Congress know his financial position too well to vote for a currency bill shaped by him without looking out for perilous stuff. Therefore they voted "present" instead of "aye" when the Bryan-Williams bill came before the House.

Sunshine and Prosperity Platform.

To keep the dinner pail full.
To keep the pay car full.
To keep the factory busy.
To keep the workmen employed.
To keep the present wages up.

This is the platform suggested by the Business Men's League of St. Louis for adoption by the National Prosperity Association recently organized in that city. It could not be improved upon.

In the next five weeks this platform should be circulated by tens of millions in every city, town and farming community in the United States. Other millions of leaflets bearing this legend should flood Chicago in the week of June 16. Let no delegate escape the deluge. Let the national Republican convention pronounce for

The full dinner pail.
The remunerating pay car.
The busy factory.
The busy workmen.
The unredressed wage rate.

On such a platform the Republican party can win. Long live Sunshine and Prosperity!

Something to Think About.

Those who will persist in croaking about "hard times" should study the official statements issued from Washington, showing that in all probability the export trade of the United States would reach \$2,000,000,000 in the fiscal year which will end June 30. If these phenomenal figures are reached it will have more than doubled in the years that have elapsed since the beginning of the first McKinley administration. There seemed little doubt a month ago that the export commerce of the country would reach the \$2,000,000,000 mark the fiscal year, but there was an unexpected decrease in outgoing cargoes in March. The export trade in that month was valued at \$141,397,578, as against \$161,685,228 in the same month of last year.

The grand total of foreign bond commerce for the first nine months of the fiscal year stands at \$1,497,963,535, but if the increase in shipments during the next three months should be as large as it was in the same months of last year, in comparison with those of 1906, the grand total for the year would be close to \$2,000,000,000.

Will Bear the Brunt of Revision.

Our tariff schedules are constructed on the plan of preserving the market for manufacturers to domestic industries, not only by a tariff on competing imports but also by the absence of the tariff on one of the most important elements of expense entering into manufacturing in the form of raw materials. For this reason the schedule of manufactured articles will bear the brunt of revision, not only because it affects investments amounting to fully \$15,000,000,000 in manufactures, but also because it bears directly upon the income of employes, including officers and wage earnings, amounting to fully \$4,000,000,000 a year.—Wall Street Journal.

Not Fast Colors.

She—Don't you think she has a beautiful complexion?
He—Why, I suppose so.
"It runs in her family, you know."
"Oh, is it the kind of complexion that runs?"—Youkers Statesman.

Room for One More.

He was on trial for bigamy.
"What," queried the judge, "ever induced you to marry fourteen wives?"
"Superstition, your honor," replied the prisoner. "I consider thirteen an unlucky number."

Explained.

"Everyone speaks of your benevolence, madam, and that you provide so many needy ones with food."
"Yes, yes; when one has three daughters learning to cook at the same time."—Pileggiade Blatter.

Embarrassed.

The Manager—I'm sorry you've decided to quit the show. What's the matter?
The Actor—I can't afford to live up to the salary your press agent says I get.

Charity.

"Dar's enough charity in dis world' ter kiver a multitude er sinners," said Brother Williams, "but ter do 'um any good hereafter de kiverin' should be treeproof."—Atlanta Constitution.

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They Do.

"What do you do in case of fire?"
"Call up the village fire department and notify them the house has burned down. They do so enjoy playing on ruins."—Life.

The Man without a Purpose Lives, but enjoys not life.—Herbert.