

**NEBRASKA IRRIGATION**

**Mr. Stewart's Paper Read Before the Nebraska Irrigation Association**

Hon. H. G. Stewart, of Mitchell, Neb., was on the program for a paper to be read before the irrigation meeting held some weeks ago at Lincoln, but was unable to attend. His knowledge of conditions in western Nebraska gives great weight to what he has to say on the subject. The paper is as follows:

I regret exceedingly that circumstances prevent me from attending this meeting of the Nebraska irrigation association. And I also regret that these very important gatherings are not made more so by being held in the region of operative irrigation.

While irrigation is as old as the race and was the primitive method of agriculture, to us it is new; and an association organized to promote and fabric the practical experience of the man behind the shovel. To do this a part of its meetings at least should be held where they will be accessible to practical irrigators.

Supposing that this association is interested in pushing forward everything promotive of irrigation and especially measures suited to Nebraska, I wish to bring to your notice certain of our necessities on the line of national aid to irrigation or to the reclamation of arid lands. To that end and for the purpose of making myself understood briefly, I have proposed a bill setting forth what I deem to be the most practical plan for such aid as it would be immediately available and would cost the general government nothing in the end, as there seems to be a strong opposition to government aid which involves the expenditure of money. While I think the present national irrigation law a good one, its benefits are too far in the future for us of this generation, but when worked out it will be productive of great things. Mr. Newlands himself said it would take fifty years to perfect the plan. No doubt most of us may need water as bad then as we do now, but I see no provision in the law locating a reservoir in the region we are likely to occupy and this is one instance wherein congress cannot be accused of looking out for itself.

"Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the United States in congress assembled.

"Section 1. That when the citizens of any state having a district irrigation law shall organize themselves into a district under such law, having voted bonds to construct or purchase irrigation works, shall have complied with the law as to voting bonds and to having such action passed upon by the court, then the government of the United States shall take such bonds at their face value and pay therefor out of current funds or out of any special fund created for such purpose under the following conditions:

"Sec. 2. Before the irrigation district bonds shall be purchased by the government, the state engineer in company with an engineer employed by directors of the district shall run the proposed route, make an estimate of cost of the completed works and the number of acres to be irrigated thereby, and measure the water supply. The report of the said engineers containing such estimates shall be forwarded to the secretary of the treasury at Washington who shall immediately dispatch a competent engineer in the government employ to review said estimates of such works and if his report shall agree as to cost and practicability with the estimates of the aforesaid engineers and if such estimated cost shall not exceed six dollars per acre of irrigable land for dirt ditch or nine dollars per acre for stone ditch then the secretary of the treasury of the United States is hereby authorized to purchase with any available funds provided by congress the 6 per cent twenty-year coupon bonds of said district, payment to be made therefor as construction proceeds upon estimates made and signed by the district board and their engineer and indorsed by the government engineer who shall be associated with the district engineer upon said works until completed."

I simply offer this as the outline of a plan which I believe would be of greater benefit than anything else which is within the range of possibility. As the government can borrow money at 3 per cent and the district bonds draw 6 per cent the extra 3 per cent would pay all of the expense of the government in the case and in the end the government would be out nothing. Objection is sometimes made to such plans as this on the grounds that it interferes with the investment of private capital. Such objection is not good in this case, as private capital is not seeking investment in irrigation securities as it leads to over-

bonding. No better security exists than good irrigable land where the water supply is sufficient for the actual cash cost of necessary works. To emphasize the necessity of such a measure will say I know of three large districts (first-class irrigation propositions), which have only realized about one-third on the bonds they are carrying and their construction was dallied along for years for want of money. All could have been done in one season with \$4 or \$5 per acre cash while now the farmers themselves must pay for three ditches to get one. And there are other localities which have been waiting for years to secure money for construction purposes at even these terrible discounts. I believe that this or a similar and well perfected measure if enacted into law would result in putting under irrigation 200,000 acres in Nebraska in two years' time.

I present this paper to your meeting hoping that it may receive favorable consideration and support.

H. G. STEWART.

Mitchell, Neb.

In his History of American Political Theories (Macmillan), Mr. C. Edward Merriam traces the historical development of American political theories from the colonial days down to the present time. The political philosophy of the colonists is first considered, with especial attention to the significance of the Puritans. The doctrines of 1776 and their expression in state constitutions is made a subject of investigation, and is followed by an examination of the reaction from these ideas as seen in The Federalist, and in the school of which Adams was the great theoretical exponent. The characteristic doctrines of the Jeffersonian democracy are carefully analyzed and the further expansion and expression of these ideas in the Jacksonian democracy is described, the political philosophy of the slavery controversy is examined and the texts of the pro and anti-slavery parties studied in detail. The development of political ideas in connection with the great conflict over the nature of the union is discussed at length, and the principles of the great schools of interpretation compared from the standpoint of modern political science. Recent tendencies in political speculation are taken up and contrasted with the doctrines characteristic of earlier days. Throughout the discussion, the various types of political theory are considered in connection with the facts of American history and the intimate relation between the ideas and the environment is strongly emphasized.

**A Heinous Crime**

Charles Riebe, an old man, was arrested yesterday afternoon by Special Detective Wilson of the Big Four railroad. Riebe has been out of work since summer. His wife goes out washing in order to make a living and a daughter works in a laundry. Both were at work when Riebe left the house to pick up some coal. When they came home in the evening he was nowhere to be found and the mother asked the police to help them find him.

The police found him. He was in a cell at the central police station, charged with petit larceny. When Mrs. Riebe told her story to Night Police Clerk Tratzmiller, he allowed the man to leave the prison and go home on a personal bail bond. The offense which brought misfortune to his family is that of stealing 15 cents worth of coal from the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad company.—Cleveland Recorder.

Editor Independent: I herewith send you a clipping I took from the Recorder, a daily paper published in Cleveland. I desire you to print it in your paper, and make such remarks as you deem proper. We are living in a time of prosperity (?) when such incidents are of frequent occurrence. If a man, destitute of fuel, his wife and children slowly freezing to death, steals a bucket of coal, the officers of the law are ready to pounce upon him, like an enraged tiger upon his prey; if a man, woman or child, to satisfy the pangs of hunger, steals a loaf of bread that retails for a nickel they are speedily arrested and are doomed to suffer the full penalties of the law.

There is no mercy shown to poor suffering people who in their dire extremity are forced to steal a hod of coal or a morsel of bread, to save the lives of the sufferers, but those favored ones who steal on a gigantic scale, and who steal, not to save life, but who steal to add to their millions, they are allowed to go scot free. There is no safety in stealing on a small scale; there is safety in stealing on a large scale. See a Carnegie, a Rockefeller, and a Baer, and the trusts,

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are better than "Native Stock"—They mature earlier, yield more to the acre, are not irrigated, are more solid and free from scab. They are little effected by drouth, and produce large, smooth, regular sized potatoes that bring the highest price on the market.

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The most profitable early potato in cultivation. Fit to eat in six weeks and crop fully matured in ten weeks from planting. In yielding it ranks with medium and late varieties, a rare trait in an extremely early kind. Tubers are oblong, smooth; skin flesh color; flesh white; upright, strong vines with tubers growing compactly in the hill; in this respect similar to the Early Ohio, but largely surpassing that variety in yield of uniform and large sized potatoes. Eyes shallow, quality excellent, mealy and of fine flavor. Keeps well. Grown in North Dakota. Order at once as our supply will, without doubt, be exhausted before planting season is over. Price—peck, 35c; bushel, \$1.00; barrel, \$2.60.

**Red Triumph**

We are all familiar with it as sold at our groceries when the first "new potatoes" are shipped in. Extremely early, earlier than any others, but not of very good quality, and more subject to blight than other varieties. Tubers nearly round, medium in size, reddish pink in color. Grown in North Dakota. Peck, 25c; bushel, 80c; barrel, \$2.10.

**Red River Early Ohio**

Early Ohio is the most popular early potato in this country. We have more calls for it than any other early variety. Every potato grower knows what it will do in his locality. It is the standard extra early the world over, and other varieties are measured by it. We have an extra choice strain of Early Ohio. Our Red River Valley stock, grown in North Dakota, is as fine as one cares to see. The tubers are smooth and regular in shape, free from prongs, perfectly pure and full of vigorous life. Price, peck, 25c; bushel, 80c; barrel, \$2.10.

**Carman No. 3**

This handsome new main crop potato is of large size, yielding immense crops of uniform size and shape. It is of perfect form. It has but few eyes and they are shallow; the skin and flesh are extremely white and its cooking qualities are very fine. It is a remarkably handsome potato, enormously prolific. Keeps well. Per peck, 30c; bushel, 90c; bbl., \$2.40.

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Columbian Beauty Seed Corn, the premium corn of the world. It took the premium at the World's Fair. The Corn is snow white, large grain and small Cob, weighs 60 Pounds to the Bushel, 3 to 5 Ears to the stalk; grows from 250 to 300 Bushels to the Acre. It is worth its weight in gold. The Seed from which this Corn was grown was brought here from Genoa, Italy, in 1890, by Col. Geo. Sowers. The price of this valuable Corn is, by mail, postage paid, Half Peck 20c., One Peck 35c., Three Pecks \$1.00, One Peck \$2.50, Half Bushel \$4.00, One Bushel \$7.00, Two Bushels \$12.00. Every package guaranteed to give satisfaction or money cheerfully refunded at once. I refer you to S. E. Stewart, postmaster at this place, or to any reliable merchant. Order today and be ready to plant when the season comes. The best is always the cheapest. For a success.

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Get a Larger Corn Crop by planting high bred seed. My varieties include corn that is suitable for different climates and localities. Carefully selected seed, shelled or in the ear. Illustrated seed catalogue free. Enclose 2-cent stamp and samples of six varieties will be sent to you. Write today. Address C. M. WEST, Shenandoah, Ia.

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combines, monopolies, and such like, that rob and steal and violate the law every hour they live.

REV. W. M. KAIN.

Ashtabula, O.  
(The remarks that the editor would make, Bro. Kain, you might not "deem proper." You have stated the case accurately, and no reader of The Independent is so tongue-tied that he could not make some appropriate, though perhaps not elegant, remark.—Ed. Ind.)

The Independent Press, Sheridan, Wyo., is the latest "kangaroo" socialist paper infant—"just brung." A little better proof reading would improve it some.

Good paint is cheap. It will pay you to paint your house and barn this spring. See the special paint bargains offered by the Farmers Grocery Co. of this city in their ad. this week. Write for color card and mention The Independent.

Certificate of Publication  
State of Nebraska  
Office of Auditor of Public Accounts  
Lincoln, February 1st, 1903.  
It is hereby certified that the Potomac insurance company of Washington, in the District of Columbia, has complied with the insurance law of this state, applicable to such companies and is therefore authorized to continue the business of Fire and Lightning insurance in this state for the current year ending January 31st, 1904. Witness my hand and the seal of the auditor of public accounts the day and year first above written.  
Charles Weston,  
Auditor of public accounts.  
J. L. Pierce, Deputy.

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State of Nebraska  
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Lincoln, February 1st, 1903.  
It is hereby certified that the Concordia Fire insurance company of Milwaukee, in the state of Wisconsin, has complied with the insurance law of this state, applicable to such companies and is therefore authorized to continue the business of Fire and Lightning insurance in this state for the current year ending January 31st, 1904. Witness my hand and the seal of the auditor of public accounts the day and year first above written.  
Charles Weston,  
Auditor of public accounts.  
J. L. Pierce, Deputy.