

MAKING DESERTS TO UNITED STATES BLOOM COSTS MANY MILLIONS \$70,000,000 Already Spent In Irrigation Projects \$48,000,000 More to Be Invested In Next Four Years

THROUGH the work of the United States reclamation service a considerable proportion of the western desert area, extending from Arizona and lower California northward into the state of Washington, has been transformed, and the lands, formerly worthless as a national asset, now yield crops worth each year \$250,000,000. Thirteen million acres in these deserts have been planted to grains, fruits and other crops. The reclaimed areas, dotted with thousands of comfortable homes, present undeniable proof that the possibilities for homemaking and crop growing are just beginning to be realized by the thousands of people for whom the government undertook and is carrying forward the reclamation work.

In this work of development the government already has employed \$70,000,000. An additional \$48,000,000 is to be invested in the next four years—\$12,000,000 each month. Of this latter amount a \$20,000,000 bond issue was authorized recently by the government, and the additional \$28,000,000 will be derived from the income from the sale of public lands and from the projects already established, of which there are more than thirty, either complete or in course of construction. The fact that this huge expenditure is to be made by the government is sufficient to suggest the transformation that is taking place in the American Sahara, with its millions of acres of lands which formerly comprised only unlimited stretches of drifting sand and alkali flats unrevealed by any vegetation other than the sagebrush, for, while the government is carrying forward its work there will be expended by private capital developers operating in the same field probably ten millions to the government's one.

It was the pioneer work of the reclamation service which first served to create a more general interest in the homemaking possibilities of the west, and the impetus this interest has been given is most forcibly reflected by the appearance in many of the larger cities during the last few years of land and farm produce expositions on a big scale. Until three years ago the only exposition of this nature ever known was the state or county fair. In addition a remarkable increase of interest in the work of agricultural colleges and experiment farms has manifested itself. Until within possibly the last eight or ten years the majority of farmers revealed an unmistakable prejudice against these institutions.

Land and Produce Expositions. Probably from 5,000,000 to 10,000,000 persons will visit land and produce expositions in Chicago, New York, Pittsburg, St. Louis, Kansas City and other points this year. The interest in such expositions in Chicago always has been such that it has been difficult to provide a show place big enough to accommodate the crowds. What the interest will be in the New York exposition this year, the first one of the kind ever given here, it would be difficult to forecast. When the problem of creating homes for the people in the western deserts first was presented to congress most of the national lawmakers were firm in the conviction that that portion of the nation was hopeless of utilization for any such purpose. They ridiculed the idea that any considerable number of persons would ever court starvation in such a barren land, and it required all the logic of such national leaders and thinkers as Theodore Roosevelt, J. M. Carey, governor of Wyoming, and Senator Newlands of Nevada to convince congress that the government could make the desert arable and livable.

President Roosevelt signed the reclamation act on June 17, 1902. It was largely, if not wholly, through the efforts of the national irrigation congress that the act finally became a law. This congress, an educational institution which for twenty years has labored, through earnest men in both public and private life, for a greater development of the agricultural resources of the country, has been given the credit not alone for the enactment of the reclamation act, but for many of the good results that have been possible because of it. The congress has in addition influenced the national congress and state legislatures from time to time to enact such further legislation as would prove beneficial to the government in its reclamation work and has helped largely to remove obstacles to progress in the form of arbitrary state statutes which were made laws before the reclamation act was created.

Nineteenth Annual Gathering. During its existence the congress has held an annual session at which state governors and other public men of note gathered for a session of one week thus gaining year by year more and more interest in the development possibilities of the nation. This year the congress is to have its nineteenth annual gathering in Chicago, from Dec. 5 to 9. The organization met there once before—in 1900. At the Chicago meeting, to illustrate the growth of interest the congress has created and the important place it occupies as a national body, President Taft, Director Newell of the reclamation service and others of national importance will appear on the speakers' platform. The

Chicago congress will be the first one to have the president as its guest. Work of the organization for the year is to be directed by 100 men of Chicago, and this list, which comprises the board of control for the year, contains the names of many men who represent the highest rank in Illinois civic, professional, commercial and railway attainments. The sessions probably will be held in the Auditorium, Orchestra hall and other downtown meeting places, it being necessary to provide several auditoriums for the Chicago meeting. The congress will attract 200,000 or more visitors, as the sessions are to be held during the week of the United States Land and Irrigation exposition, during the International Live Stock exposition and while the Chicago grand opera season is at its height.

The United States reclamation act made it possible for the department of the interior to set aside the receipts from the sale of public lands in certain western states and territories as a fund for the reclamation of arid lands. The original fund employed for this work, it was shown, was to become a revolving one, permitting of further expansion year by year as the work continued, with the returns from the investment such that the original fund would be in the treasury ready for further service after the first ten years of settlement, if not before.

By the terms of the act the lands reclaimed by the government can be acquired only by actual settlers after residence and cultivation for a period of five years and on payment in not more than ten annual installments without interest of their share in the cost of creating the irrigation system. This water cost amounts in a majority of the projects to \$30 per acre. At that cost, then, the settler is required to pay \$3 on each acre per year for ten years. That is the return the government asks—just what it costs to provide the lands, or the water, rather, which makes the lands susceptible of farming. The farm unit is 40, 80 or 160 acres, although in few, if any, of the projects can 160 acres still be homesteaded. There are lands open to entry now in five of the projects. As additional funds are put into the work additional units of 10,000 acres or more will be thrown open to entry from time to time in the projects that are now incomplete, and when all the projects are all additional ones will be started.

Some Available Lands Left. The projects with farms now available include the Huntley, in Montana, with 30,000 acres, for which lands the settler must pay \$4 per acre to the Indians at the time he makes his filing; the Sun River, in Montana, with 276,000 acres, and in which the settler makes an initial payment of \$3.50 per acre; the Umatilla, in Oregon, with 20,400 acres, the lands being in private ownership and purchasable from settlers having an excess of 100 acres; the Belle Fourche, in South Dakota, with 130,000 acres, also privately owned lands, purchasable at from \$20 to \$25 per acre; and the Shoshone, in Wyoming, with 132,000 acres, all subject to homestead entry, this project having a general elevation of 4,500 feet. In these projects the charge for water right, which becomes perpetual upon the tenth annual payment is made, is \$30 per acre, excepting in the Umatilla and the Shoshone, in which it is \$20 and \$45 respectively.

While the reclamation of the land is, of course, the more essential feature of the government's work, the engineering accomplishments associated with some of the projects are so remarkable that they assume first importance in the general scheme of the project as a whole. On one of the projects, the Shoshone, the highest dam in the world has been constructed. Beside this dam the tallest skyscraper in Chicago would be found wanting in height. Placed in a narrow gulch, the structure rises 328 feet above the bed of the river, and for the construction of the plug 75,000 cubic yards of concrete were employed. The water thus impounded is again diverted sixteen miles before the dam into canals which supply the irrigable lands in the Shoshone project. Hundreds of homesteaders are here profiting from water which formerly went to waste.

Of all the sagebrush states of the west Nevada held for years without doubt the first rank. And yet this state, the government has found, contains some of the best agricultural land in the west.

ord breaking heat—the hottest day in ten years in Norfolk—a terribly hot night was experienced here. Many slept out of doors. At 8 o'clock Wednesday morning it was 99 in the shade, official. The forecast is for fair and cooler. At 9 o'clock clouds that looked like a shower, came from the west. It was raining at Tilden.

Tuesday was more than a red hot Fourth of July in Norfolk and northern Nebraska. It was the hottest day this city and vicinity had known for ten years. The government thermometer registered 103, which was the hottest temperature known in Norfolk since 1901.

Humidity sweltered and suffered without being able to find relief from the torrid rays of the July sun. About 200 Norfolk people went to Tilden for the ball game. A couple hundred spent the day at the Country club, many attended picnics on river banks and other stayed at home trying to keep cool. In this city it was an altogether sane Fourth.

Indications in Norfolk Wednesday morning were for a shower. Golf, fireworks, bathing and children's athletic contests were the features of the celebration at the Country club Tuesday. The weather was extremely warm, but the 200 people who attended the celebration were able to find shady and cool spots along the river, on the club grounds, and the day's outing was thoroughly enjoyed. Ladies of the club had charge of the refreshment booth and ices and cold drinks were available at all times. Motor boats were kept busy all day going back and forth from the grounds, but those who sought shelter from the blazing sun by remaining in the boats eventually found refuge on the club grounds.

M. C. Hazen had charge of the sports and reports that everyone who took part was a winner. Among the events were: 75-yard race for boys and girls; hopping race for boys and girls; potato races and penny scrambles. Quite a number of the visitors took advantage of the bathing facilities at the boat landing, which was used for a spring board.

S. F. Erskine had charge of the fireworks and made a success of the exhibition. Many of the fireworks were of a new variety and they were declared the best yet seen at the grounds. The fireworks scene was made a pretty one by children running around with electric sparklers. After the fireworks display, a cool breeze sweeping over the grounds from the river made everyone comfortable, and the dancing in the clubhouse was thoroughly enjoyed.

C. B. Cabanis won the first prize in the nine-hole handicap medal play golf contest. A. T. Hutchinson won the second prize. Mr. Hutchinson and R. B. McKinney were tied at the end of the game, but the former came out the winner in the play-off. Mr. Cabanis had a handicap of 21, his winning score being 37.

In the eighteen-hole game Dr. P. H. Salter was winner with a score of 83, and George H. Burton second with a score of 87.

franchise is a right, and it is also a duty. The citizen who will not leave his work on the farm, in the workshop, office or store and go to the polls and vote on primary and election days, fails in the greatest duty an American citizen owes to his country. Let every voter exercise his franchise rights intelligently and conscientiously, then will our country be safe, and her institutions be lasting and prosperous.

At Hoskins there was a large crowd of Fourth of July enthusiasts, many of the visitors being from Norfolk. Members of the Norfolk band made the trip to Hoskins early Tuesday morning, but the weather was too warm for comfort.

Hadar also celebrated and a fair sized crowd was in attendance. At Stanton, it was estimated that 200 automobile loads of people were present from other towns. Norfolk was well represented there.

Norfolk is Deserted. Norfolk itself was almost deserted. Several hundred people went to Tilden and many others went to other towns. A large crowd enjoyed an outing at Taff's grove, but even in the shade of the large trees at this place, the weather was uncomfortably hot.

Among the picnickers at Taff's were the parties of the Nebraska Telephone company officials, C. A. Palm, J. C. Adams, E. E. Coleman, P. J. Fuesler and many others.

Accidents Are Few. Accidents were scarce. Among them were the illness of one small boy from the over-eating of ice cream, and the runaway of a team of horses owned by Dr. C. J. Verges. Edward Schelly had charge of the team and was returning from a fishing trip. He had lost loose of the reins and the animals made a fast run down Tenth street. The vehicle struck Sam Meek's barn, but save breaking up a bit of the barn and frightening a woman, there was no damage.

Girl's Gown Catches Fire. The only mishap from the handling of fireworks occurred at the Country club, where Miss Marie Witzigman was somewhat frightened, when a little girl ran into her with fireworks similar to an electric sparkler. The little girl thought the fire had gone out, but when she ran into Miss Witzigman, the delayed explosion occurred, burning considerable of the latter's gown. No one was hurt.

3,000 Gallons of Ice Cream. Up to noon Wednesday some of the drug stores were still out of ice cream. At 5 o'clock Tuesday evening all the cream in the factories of the city had been sold out and some of the drug stores had but a few quarts of the much sought for ice left. It was estimated that about 3,000 gallons of ice cream were shipped out of the city for Tuesday's trade.

bed on account of accidentally falling from a chair last Thursday evening. Oliver Powell returned home from Emmett Monday morning. Dave Fletcher returned from Clearwater the first of the week, where he had been looking after the interest of Fletcher & Son, implement business.

M. T. Kryger came back Tuesday from a business trip to Long Pine. Mrs. C. H. Gilderleeve was a Tilden visitor on Monday of this week. Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Tegarden and daughters, Edna and Elsie, left Sunday morning for Longmont, Colo., where they intend to remain at least the remainder of the summer for the special benefit of the health of the two daughters.

J. J. Melick returned to his home in Omaha Monday, after attending to business matters here for several days last week. Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Gallaway were in Neligh the first of the week visiting relatives and friends.

Charles H. Kelsey was in Oakdale the first of the week on legal business. Mrs. Z. B. Crinklaw and little daughter returned home from Oakdale Tuesday afternoon, where relatives and friends were visited a few days. Miss Laura Bennett has accepted a position as stenographer in the law office of Kelsey & Rice.

The people of Neligh will be divided on the Fourth, and it is presumed that Tilden and Ewing will be the two favorite towns in this section that will draw the crowds. The Neligh concert band and baseball team will furnish the bulk of the entertainment for Ewing. The Neligh team plays O'Neill.

Miss Kate VanGilder of Wayne arrived in Neligh Tuesday evening for a visit among her many friends here. A classified advertisement will usually eliminate the objectionable first syllable from the word "impossible."

PRIEST TO SAY MASS WITH ARTIFICIAL HAND. Pope Grants Dispensation—Will Use Two Gold Fingers. A dispensation granted by the pope has made the Rev. John Kruszynski of Chicago happy. Through a special favor of the pontiff he will be permitted to continue to celebrate mass. This performance on his part had been prohibited because he lost his right hand in an accident.

By a remarkable mechanical contrivance the way of an artificial right hand he will be able to use the two fingers necessary in the ceremony. They will be of gold. The Rev. Father Kruszynski is of the Resurrectionist congregation and for years was rector of the St. Stanislaus college. His hand was lopped off a year ago by a corn sheller on the farm of the order to which he belongs. It was necessary to satisfy the pope that the priest will be able to maintain all the reverence and respect for which the mass calls.

Waterloo, Ia., July 6.—A terrific wind and hailstorm swept over the eastern portion of Black Hawk and Bremer counties last night, mowing the fields of standing grain as if by a giant sickle. The farmers have suffered heavy loss from damage done to buildings and grain. Reports indicate that several barns were hit by lightning. Telephone and telegraph wires and poles have been torn from their fastenings and it is believed the losses have been heavy in districts where communication has been cut off by the storm.

TORNADO NEAR WATERLOO, IA. Grain Mowed Down as if by Giant Sickle—Buildings Wrecked. Waterloo, Ia., July 6.—A terrific wind and hailstorm swept over the eastern portion of Black Hawk and Bremer counties last night, mowing the fields of standing grain as if by a giant sickle. The farmers have suffered heavy loss from damage done to buildings and grain. Reports indicate that several barns were hit by lightning. Telephone and telegraph wires and poles have been torn from their fastenings and it is believed the losses have been heavy in districts where communication has been cut off by the storm.

FUN WITH ROYAL INITIALS. A Pun That Pleased Victoria and One That Hit Albert Edward. Caroline Fox in her memorials under date of May 24, 1837, Queen Victoria's birthday, jots down an egregious pun reported by her famous kinsman, Charles James Fox. "Uncle Charles died with us today. He was delighted and dazzled by the display on the queen's day and mentioned a right merry quibble perpetrated by my Lord Albemarle, who on her majesty's saying, 'I wonder if my good people of London are as glad to see me as I am to see them?' pointed out as their immediate cockney answer to the query 'V. R.'"

Jokes run in cycles. Sixty-five years later Edward VII. was on the English throne. Sir Walter Parratt, professor of music at the University of Oxford, was practicing with part of his band in the music room at Windsor palace, where all the furniture was covered with sheets bearing the royal cipher. Suddenly he turned to the musicians and said, "We all know that the king is king, but why is he?" The men looked astonished, but said nothing. "Because E. R., of course," chuckled Sir Walter as he pointed to the initials around him.

A more humorous jest of this sort is found in the "Life of Richard H. Barham," author of the "Ingoldsby Legends." On the night of Jan. 25, 1842, the late king of England was christened in Albert Edward. Barham, going out to see the illumination and observing in a moment every window in the town lit up, heard some one say, "That likely it was himself, 'Ah, he'll make acquaintance with the other three vowels before he comes of age!'"—New York Tribune.

Takes Land From Forest Reserve. Washington, July 6.—President Taft has signed several proclamations eliminating 151,739 acres of land considered to be of more value for agriculture than forestry from national forests in California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada and South Dakota and adding 116,760 acres for forestry. In the Sioux forest in Montana and South Dakota 42,923 acres were eliminated and 9,990 added from the Payette, Idaho, 16,379 acres were eliminated and 15,990 were transferred from the Weiser to the Payette, and from the Monadnoma forest in California and Nevada 32,927 acres were eliminated and 197,760 acres were added.

Teachers Reach San Francisco. San Francisco, July 6.—The first big influx of eastern delegates to the National Education association convention which opens here tomorrow, arrived today. Representatives from Chicago and New Orleans were included. The imposing is expected to continue steadily. Committees are busy with plans of welcoming thousands of visitors. The most notable of the day's arrivals was Mrs. Ella Flagg Young, president of the association, who is city superintendent of the schools of Chicago. Mrs. Young came with a party of about thirty. The

opening feature of the convention will be banquet tomorrow in Mrs. Young's honor. **Lords Exclude Home Rule.** London, July 6.—The house of lords by a vote of 253 to 148 passed Lord Lansdowne's amendment to exclude home rule from the operation of the veto bill. War Secretary Haldane made it clear that the government would refuse to accept the amendment. **Newcastle Burned Out.** Newcastle, Neb., July 5.—Special to The News: The business portion of Newcastle was almost completely wiped out by fire yesterday, entailing a loss of \$100,000. The blaze started in the living apartments of Tom Mace, over a general store, presumably from a firecracker. Before the fire was under control, one meat market, one general store, two saloons, two grocery stores, one clothing store, one drug store, the post office, the telephone exchange of the New State Telephone company, the Newcastle State bank, the Edwards & Bradford hardware and furniture store, had been reduced to ashes. In addition to these buildings, four residences were destroyed, besides the homes of two other families who lived over stores. The only business house left standing are the Farmers State bank and the general store of Mikessell & Co. The fire broke out about 1 p. m. and spread with amazing rapidity. About 5 o'clock the water supply, which is furnished by a reservoir system, became exhausted. The wind was blowing from the south, but the flames made some progress against the wind. About 5 p. m. everything available for the flames had been consumed and the fire worked itself out. C. H. Bradford of Sioux City estimated the loss of the Edwards & Bradford company on its lumber and store at \$200,000, practically covered by insurance.

Chautauqua Program. C. C. Gow, chairman of the local chautauqua committee, announces the following talent for August 5-13: Dr. N. M. Waters, Leo F. Lybarger, Dr. E. A. Steiner, Charles Medbury, Hon. Robt. B. Glenn, Mohammad Ali, Walt Holcomb, Walter M. Chandler, Frank Dixon, Shunagapavi (Indian wonder worker), Royal Hungarian orchestra, Uralia Concert Co., Caveny & Co. (triple modeler and soprano soloist), Columbia Tennesseans, Ciricello's famous band of twenty-seven pieces, Highland Ladies' orchestra. This unusually strong program for nine days for only \$25 season ticket. School children's tickets \$1.

RAIN IS NEEDED. Government Report Says Agricultural Region Needs Moisture. Washington, July 6.—Rain is much needed in the great agricultural districts and intense heat in the interior and northern part of the country east of the Rockies is doing much damage to crops generally, according to the crop weather report for the week ending yesterday, issued today by the weather bureau. The report says: "In the corn growing states west of the Mississippi, the continued lack of general and heavy rain is being severely felt. The drought is still largely unbroken in Missouri and it is becoming serious in Iowa and portions of Kansas and Nebraska where there was an entire absence of any beneficial rains. In Oklahoma serious drought covers the entire state and rain is again needed in Arkansas.

"In the corn growing states east of the Mississippi intense hot weather prevailed during the latter part of the week but beneficial showers occurred locally and there was considerable moisture in the soil from the rather general rains of the preceding week. At the close of the week, the ground was again dry and rain is needed in nearly all portions of those states.

"In the spring wheat growing states more moderate temperatures prevailed over the Dakotas and Montana. There were some local showers in western Minnesota and the eastern portion of Dakotas, but over much of the important wheat growing sections only light and insufficient showers occurred, and rain is greatly needed."

Kuhl Talks Politics. Lincoln, July 6.—John Kuhl of Randolph, speaker of the lower house at the late session of the state legislature, who has been in the city for two days, declared that as a party he thought the democrats should not fool away their time on any poor material for the gubernatorial race in 1912, but that they should do their best to get a man to run who would be both a credit to the party and to himself.

"We have no use for a man who wants to run for office purely for selfish motives, nor do we want a man who thinks the place would make him a bigger man. We want substantial candidates such as Mike Harrington, C. J. Smyth of Omaha, ex-United States Senator William V. Allen or Philip Kohl of Wayne county, who was in the state senate at the late session," said Speaker Kuhl.

Enola Beats Meridian. Enola, Neb., July 6.—Special to The News: The Enola Sluggers were victorious in their game of ball at Meridian with Meridian Creek July 4, score 9 to 4. Batteries: Enola, Lyons and Puchs; Meridian Creek, Purdy and Davis. Umpire, Wolf.

Wisner, Neb., July 6.—Special to The News: Wisner went to West Point Sunday and defeated the West Point team by a score of 10 to 4. Wisner hit the ball hard and timely. Score by innings: Wisner 9 0 0 1 2 4 1 2 0-10 West Point 0 0 0 2 0 2 0 0 0-4 Batteries: Wisner, Cooper and Thompson; West Point, Wagner and Thelsen. Hits: Wisner, 12; West Point, 7. Struck out: By Cooper, 8; by Wagner, 5. Home run: J. Murry. Three-base hits: R. Kane, Baker. Two-base hits: J. Murry and L. Kane.