SOLUTION FOR LABOR PROBLEM

Secretary Fall Sees Development of Untapped Wealth of Nation Would Relieve Unemployment.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—An untapped wealth estimated at a minimum of $150,000,000,000 is contained in the more than 400,000,000 acres of land still held in public domain, Secretary Fall of the interior department says in his first annual report, made public recently.

Coal and oil form the bulk of this wealth, the total coal deposits being estimated at 110,000,000 tons and the oil deposits at 1,325,000,000 barrels, with an additional 50,000,000,000 barrels of shale oil.

From the development of these resources the federal government, Secretary Fall said, would realize by way of royalties, rentals, etc., a total of $12,387,500,000.

"History is now repeating itself," says Secretary Fall, "and after a period of unlimited expenditure in war measures and in preparing for war, in the creation of a navy, etc., it has been found necessary to curtail such expenditures to the very utmost. I am justified in calling attention to the fact that the department of the interior—the home department—is fully equipped and prepared to do its part in the development of these natural resources which must be developed if the taxburden on this and future generations is to be borne at all."

Secretary Fall devotes a considerable part of his report to reclamation projects and in this connection he urges that "an affirmative strong policy be announced by the executive."

"The necessary advices can be made from year to year without becoming an excessive burden upon the taxpayers," the secretary says, and as has already been proven by experience, one year's crop upon one acre of reclaimed irrigated ground will be of a value largely in excess of the total amount expended in rendering such acre productive. Under the present system, or any proposed legislation of course the cost of such project will be repaid and meanwhile the added wealth yielded will lighten the tax burdens upon all the taxpayers of the country."

Referring to pending bills providing for further reclamation activities, Mr. Fall says that if they are enacted additional opportunity for labor will be offered the unemployed and at the same time homes made for those who desire them.

"This department," he adds, "is thoroughly organized with sufficient force and is ready to carry on any work which such an enlightened policy as suggested might be assigned to it in reclamation or other development of our national resources."

Discussing the situation, the interior secretary eclares the resources of that territory "and of the wealth to be drawn therefrom in the future are almost incalculable."

"There are 21,000,000 acres of lands in forests in that territory," he says, "and many millions of acres upon the public domain upon which settlers may depend for mining timbers, lumber for houses, etc. There are millions of acres of land fitted for agriculture and the agricultural resources are such that a large population can be supported in Alaska without the importation of food stuffs from the United States or other countries.

"Alaska's resources have not been developed for various reasons, among others the lack of transportation and largely because of the fact that those resources are administered through some 38 bureaus and various departments of this government that the activities charged with the administration of such laws may be properly co-ordinated.

Transportation is necessary of course, and the government has assisted insofar as the construction of a railroad from Seward to Fairbanks is concerned, which road will be ready for operation within a few months. ast deposits of valued metalliferous minerals and great coal mines are known to exist and must be made accessible to the railroad and to coast transportation.

"While no extensive oil development has as yet been made it is well known to this department that indications of valuable oil deposits exist from Point Barrow to the Seward peninsula."

RAISIN MEN HAVE STRENGTH

Co-operative Organization Is Stronger than in Its History.

(By Associated Press)

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 10.—The California Associated Raisin Company, a co-operative marketing organization composed of more than 10,000 individual grape growers, is stronger today than ever before as a result of a decree filed by the Department of Justice January 18, Wylie M. Griffen, president of the association, declared in a statement issued here to clear up erroneous report that the department's action would cripple the organization and the co-operative marketing movement.

The action, which was ended by the filing of the decree was brought by the government three years ago and was intended to dissolve the raisin company on charges that it was a trust operating in restraint of trade.

"The Associated Company is stronger than ever before," President Griffen's statement said. "It knows finally what it can do and what it cannot do. While it has always tried to observe both the letter and the spirit of the law, there has existed a feeling of uncertainty as to what the law was in the final construction. That uncertainty is over. Our legal status is at last established and we can go ahead now, with our heads erect and our hearts full of pride at what we have accomplished so far, to the achievement of greater things for the farmer in the name of co-operation."

Under the decree, the raisin company is prohibited from carrying out the contract under which it operated at the time the suit was brought. This contract, President Griffen says in his statement, expired last spring and the company since that time has been operating under a new form of contract which conforms in every particular with the stipulations of the decree.

The decree prohibits the company from obtaining contracts by coercion. President Griffen denies that coercive methods were ever employed by the company. The practice of selling "firm as opening" is prohibited. The statement says that the company abandoned this form of selling more than a year ago.

The decree prevents the raisin company making contracts by which competitors become exclusive agents, but it does not compel the company to sell to all because sales are made to one. The company, in the terms of the decree, is barred from curtailing or decreasing the supply of raisins or destroying them to restrict competition. This has never been done, the raisin company head claims, nor has the company ever stipulated the selling price, or that the purchaser should not do business with their company's competitors.

The action against the raisin company first took the form of hearings before the federal trade commission at Washington, and after the Department of Justice, through the attorney general, filed suit against the company in the United States court for the southern district of California, before Judge Benjamin F. Bledsoe.

MOUNTAIN IS SMOKING NOW

BEND, Feb. 10.—Residents of the Sisters country are highly excited over what appears to be smoke issuing from the top of Mount Jefferson, Charles Haines, local real estate man, reported this morning on his return from a business trip to Sisters.

Haines at first believed that snow, blown about the summit in swirls might have given the illusion of smoke but later a dark streak in the white, called to his attention, shook somewhat his faith in this explanation. There is a possibility, however, he said, that dark rock, showing through when the flurries of snow blew to one side, may have simulated black smoke. There is no crater on Jefferson, he says.

The same appearance of smoke coming from the mountain was noted by passengers on the O.W. R. & N. train which arrived in Bend yesterday evening.

Promise News Items

(Special to The Observer)

PROISE, Feb. 10.—Promise is covered with about two feet of snow.

Quite a number of people attended the debate last Friday. The question was "Resolved that Iron is More Beneficial than Wood." The negative side won.

Myrtle Lyon and brothers, Ralph and Gilbert, returned home last week from Pomwatka, where they have been visiting with their uncle. Their cousins, Howard and Roy Collins accompanied them home.

Nellie Poulson started to Enterprise Wednesday.

Jesse Garrett and family and Mr. and Mrs. Adrain Gee visited Sunday with C. E. Carper and family.

Miss Alice Henderson visited Thursday with her uncle, Bert Taylor and family.

Alice Carper visited Sunday with Dollie Henderson.

Nona and Eunice Carper called on Mae and Hattie Roop Sunday.

R. W. Colpitts received a telegram Thursday of the death of his mother in Colorado.

There will be singing every Wednesday night at the school house.

Clyde O'Herron and Hendrick Footberg returned home Saturday from Smith mountain, where they have been working.

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REPUBLICANS TO CONFER

Annual Meeting of State League of Clubs To Be Held Next Week In Portland.

Ewdard A. MacLean, Secretary of the Oregon State League of Republican Clubs, has issued formal notice for the annual Convention of the League, which will be held in the Imperial Hotel, Portland, on Monday, February 13.

"Our particular interest," says Secretary MacLean, "is in undertaking to maintain in a permanent way all these local Republican clubs throughout the state of Oregon which do such excellent work in campaign seasons, but which practically go to sleep between times.

"The Republican party is the dominant party in Oregon and, although old style political organization went out of fashion, some kind of organized activity can be of great advantage to the party and to the people of Oregon. It is only in an organized way that party policies can be discussed and crystallized.

"In breaking away from the old style party organization, because it had lost the confidence of the rank and file, we have swung to the other extreme of personal government.

"We need in Oregon more of that party counsel which is the only means of framing wise party policy for the advancement of the welfare of the state and we need less of this individual government which is responsible to no party and follows no party policy.

"Activity of the rank and file of the Republican party is the aim and the State League of Republican Clubs is the natural means of developing this activity. The convention this year is expected to take important steps for promoting organized Republican activity in every section of the state."

Secretary MacLean announces that, in accordance with precedent representation in the convention this year will be on the basis of one delegate to each 250 votes cast in each county for Harding in 1920. In any county where there may be no Republican Club, or where it way not be functioning, it is hoped that leading Republicans will come as individuals, and, in the absence of a club delegation from such county, these individuals would undoubtedly be recognized by the credentials committee.

PEAK MOVING TO THE NORTH

BERKELEY, Calif., Feb. 10.—Mount Tamalpais, across the Golden Gate from San Francisco in Marin county, is a "hobo," according to scientists, who are now asking that the U. S. government put some scientific cops on the job to watch it "keep moving."

According to scientists, Mount Tamalpais is not satisfied with its present location. It is slowly but surely working its way northward.

During the past 40 years, the mountain has moved [illegible] which Mohammet would probably consider a personal slap [illegible] were he in more favored [illegible] way. Not only the [illegible] Tamalpais is taking the [illegible] Sausalito districts along [illegible] according to scientists.

Nobody has even [illegible] a guess as to the [illegible] peak actually moves from year to year [illegible] it has made some progress [illegible] chosen direction.

[illegible] Professor [illegible] of the geology department of the University of California, are making the U. S. seismic survey to send some scientific cops to guard the mountain and ascertain just how and when it moves, and at what rate of speed it is travelling.

[illegible] SALTS.

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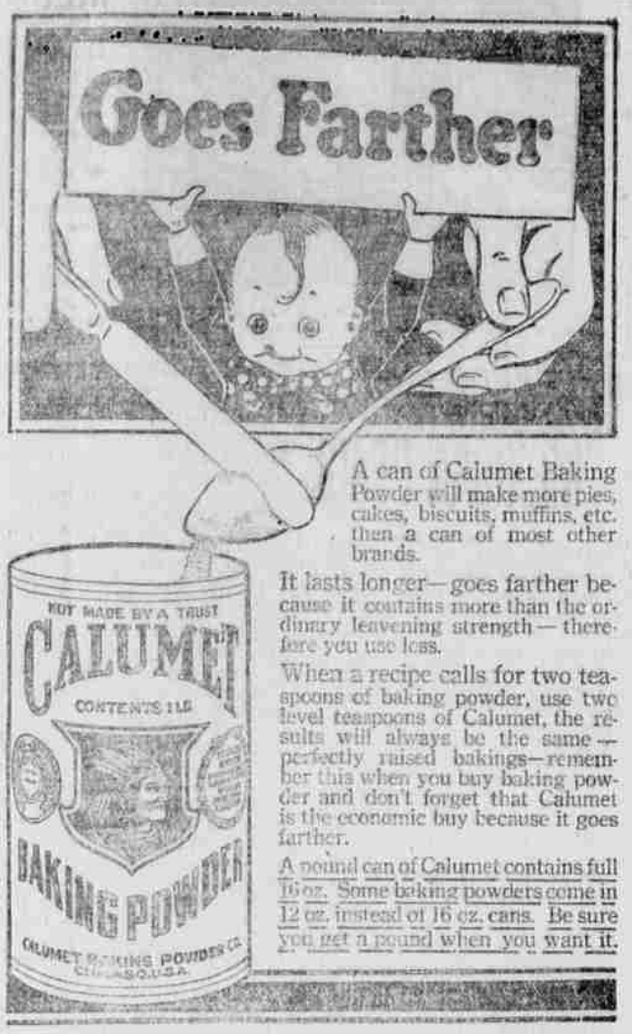

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