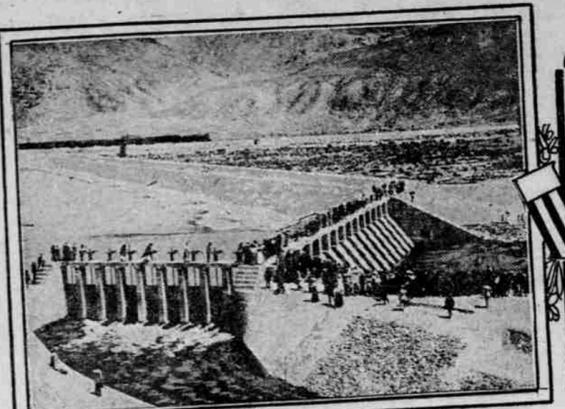


# Making It Easy For The HOMESTEADER

## EFFECT OF RADICAL CHANGES IN LAND LAWS

Time for Securing Title Is Cut in Half and Changes Will Check Emigration of American Citizens to Canada—Work of Reclaiming Arid Land Described by Experts



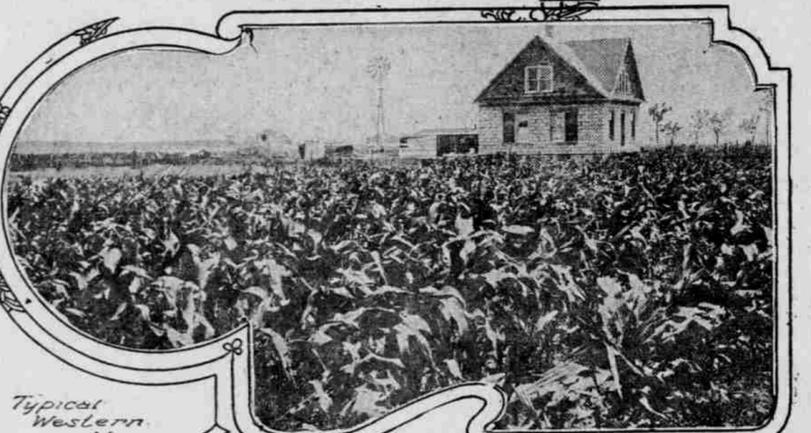
Opening Of The Great Truckee-Carson Dam In Nevada.



Once A Desert—Now A Thriving Community, Bailliant, Mont.



Map Shows In Black Location Thirty Projects Now Under Construction By Government



Typical Western Home.



Senator William E. Borah.

NEARLY every one at some period of life has given serious thought to the possibility of securing a home in the West. After years of unprofitable labor in the crowded life of the cities, the idea has appealed with striking force—to build a home way out on the prairies where one might breathe the air of freedom and get away from the hurly-burly of life as it is today in most of the towns and cities of our land. A home out in the open, miles and miles away from everything, with just enough to maintain life and a few of the luxuries, is the ideal home thousands have looked forward to for many years. But the great drawback up to the present has been the restrictions of the land laws and the long time necessary to acquire a title to the home.

property for five years, but to be without title to it for the same length of time. He could make no use whatever of his title as a basis for credit, because the title was in the Government and remained there, not only for five years, but in some cases as many as ten years. Again the homesteader was forced to remain on the land the whole time, and because of this he could not give his children proper schooling, or in fact any kind of schooling. He could not leave the homestead under any circumstances. Under the new law he may get his title in three years, and during these three years he may go away for five months in each year to a place where he may avail himself of schools and at the same time earn sufficient to pull him through the rest of the year.

highest dams in the world have been completed. In addition there has been built a total length of 581 miles of roads, more than 1800 miles of telephone wires, and 75 miles of levees. As a result of all this work, 1,114,000 acres of land have been transformed from a desert into the richest land in the world.

There is another great dam being constructed on the Rio Grande, in New Mexico. It will be known as the Engie Dam. The work has just started, but when completed it will be one of the biggest structures of its kind in the world. Still another is that of the Truckee-Carson Dam. This work will add another 50,000 acres of land, and is expected to be completed early in the year 1914.

The great question of providing homes for our people is a big one. The rapid narrowing of the boundary of our unoccupied public lands and the tremendous increase in land values in all the settled sections of the United States render it increasingly difficult for a man of small means to get a foothold on the land. There is congestion in many of our cities, and the menace of a great population of underfed and poorly housed people increases each year.

reclamation law no farm will contain more than 160 acres, the only requirement being that every settler must reside upon the land and cultivate it for three years before he secures a title. The homestead rights of soldiers and sailors are the same as they always were.

As a final word of advice, I should say that homesteaders should have some money. How much depends, of course, upon the settler and the kind of farming he expects to do. While there are numerous opportunities to secure work, the settler with a little money and equipment will be able to get his land in condition earlier and will thus secure an early start. A knowledge of irrigation is not absolutely essential, as the Government keeps a practical farmer on each project to advise newcomers. A recent innovation on several projects are the demonstration farms, where the Government grows crops best suited to that section. These are a great help to newcomers. During portions of the year Uncle Sam gives employment to settlers in building canals, laterals, and roads, which is another great help, especially during the first two or three years, the most trying period of homesteading in the West.

Now, Uncle Sam has stepped in and proposes to aid all his citizens who may want homes in the West. On the 7th of last month President Taft signed the new homestead law, which became operative at once. The new law nearly cuts in half the time required to own a homestead. Under the old law, a five years' residence was required, with no provision for a man to go away and earn enough to tide him over hard times. Under the new law, however, only a three years' residence is required, while the pioneer is permitted to be away for five months during each year, so that he may be able to earn sufficient to pull him through the critical period of home-making in the West. There are other radical changes provided under the new law, which does away with much red tape and technicality, the plan of the Government being to make it easy for the homesteader to acquire title to his land as quickly as possible.

What Uncle Sam Has Constructed. Representative Edward T. Taylor, of Colorado, is the man who was responsible for the passage of the law in the House of Representatives. Both of these men struggled against great odds for years.

Nearly all Government land not yet taken up by settlers is confined almost wholly to the arid sections of the West. While these lands are very rich and fertile when reclaimed—in fact, it is said to be the richest land in the world for agricultural purposes—it is more difficult to reclaim than the old lands of the Middle Western States. But there is more than 400,000,000 acres left, and under the new law, which enables a man to get his title within a reasonable time and to make his living as he goes along, the authorities confidently predict that thousands of homesteaders will occupy these lands within the next few years.

Charles J. Blanchard is the statistician of the Reclamation Service, and he has been intimately associated with all the work done by Uncle Sam toward home-making in the West. Mr. Blanchard is an enthusiastic believer in the slogan "America for Americans," and he believes the Government should do everything possible to keep Americans from emigrating to foreign soil. He has traveled over every foot of ground now being reclaimed, and is probably the best-posted man on the subject in the country.

"The home-making instinct is a well-developed trait in American character," said Mr. Blanchard, in speaking of home-making by the Government. "Our forefathers, who landed on the bleak shores of New England, their descendants, the pioneers of the Middle West, the Argonauts of this generation who crossed the trackless plains, were impelled by this instinct, and by the love of adventure or the lure of gold to wander forth into strange lands."

Effect on Character Building. "Then there is the other side of the question. The economic value of National irrigation cannot be measured in dollars and cents. The desert made habitable offers the boon of health to him who builds a house upon it. You cannot fix the possibilities of this great land of silence and sunshine. Its influence is tremendous in character-building. Instead of the dead monotony and idleness which prevail in modern city life, the desert offers the uplift of vast distances, perpetual sunshine, and the individual home, with the broader freedom of action that comes with life in the open. There is a constant inspiration to industry. It is a real stimulation which comes from the great life that springs from the bosom of the desert when water is applied.

"The most difficult problem the Government had to solve in reclaiming the great Southwest was the labor question. The ordinary laborer did not like the job, because he could not spend his money fast enough. It was a Government reservation where no saloons and no gambling were permitted, and no towns nearer than 60 miles, so the laborer did not look with favor on the work. The westward of the engineer came out when he turned missionary, and held a pow-wow with the Apache Indians, who have lived in the basin for generations. It was in the year 1880 that the engineer succeeded in inducing several hundred Apache Indians to go on the payroll, and largely through their labors the wonderful highway near Yuma, Ariz., was built.

Canada's Inducements. For many years thousands of our best citizens have been emigrating to Canada—last year the figures were something like 120,000. Canada, being alive to the situation, has offered all kinds of inducements to get Americans to emigrate to that country. The campaign was unusually attractive and was put in operation slowly so as not to attract attention too quickly. But after a while the number of families leaving the United States became so great that Uncle Sam became wise to the fact that he must do something to remedy conditions and do away with a great portion of the United States.

Investigations were started with a view to finding out just what great inducement was offered by Canada. The result of this activity revealed the fact that the enterprising Dominion north of us had not only cut in half the time required to secure title to a home, but had raised the ante two or three better by actually building homes for settlers immediately upon their arrival, helping them to secure agricultural implements, furnishing them with seed, and the like, all of which was done on the long-time payment or installment plan.

"I don't mean to imply that the teams I have not mentioned are 'marks' for me or any one else, and I never go into any game unless I'm prepared for it. I've puzzled some of the boys more than others. Look at Boston. Don't they make me travel at a mile-a-minute gait? Why, I don't know, unless it is for the reason I have given."

"Another thing, under the old law a man could not get his title until he had lived there five years. He was compelled not only to remain upon his

pitched for a semi-professional team known as the Telling, and it was while I was playing with this team that a Cleveland American League scout got after me. I received a letter asking me to call at the office of the Cleveland club, which I did, and I was then told that they would give me \$100 a month for the first season, and \$150 for the second, and that I would be the next. I was getting more than that with the semi-professional outfit, so I thought I'd better wait and see if something else wouldn't turn up."

game. While I am more used to Myers, I would just as soon have either Wilson or Hartley as a mate.

Italy in North Africa. Two centuries before Christ the Roman people had become powerful on the northern and southern shores of the Mediterranean Sea as the Carthaginians had on the southern shores. Their interests clashed and they were unable to agree on any plan for permanent peace. Cathe had been ambassador to Carthage, declared again and again in the Roman Senate. "Carthage must be destroyed."

## "RUBE" MARQUARD'S BASEBALL STORY

(Continued from Page 6.) that falls to the lot of all pitchers when they first get into fast company. O'Toole is not the only pitcher that caused me to extend myself. Lew Ritchie, of Chicago, always gives me a good run for my money. Benton, of Cincinnati, also keeps me going at top speed. O'Toole is the "king bee" when it comes to making me hustle all the way.

take the trouble to look over the baseball scores, is that invariably the manager of the team I'm working against will put in the man he considers the best in his string. While this makes it harder for me to win I don't mind it, because if I'm lucky and get a better credit than it would be to me an easy pitcher.

Rube, because that same fan will have your picture on his mantelpiece before you're through playing the game, is the way McGraw would talk as I'd start for the center of the diamond.

"Few people know that when I first came with the Giants I had an entirely different delivery than I have now. I used a side-arm swing, which McGraw said was wrong, and he made me practice pitching overhand. Naturally I lost control, and it was months before I could handle myself with any degree of confidence. That the change was for the best I think has been fully demonstrated.

"But it wasn't long before Charley Carr, of the Indianapolis club, hove in sight with an offer which looked good to me, and I joined him. One of the first games I pitched in was an exhibition affair early in 1908 against the Cleveland Blues. You can imagine how I felt standing there trying to strike out the heroes of my boyhood days.

"I smoke cigars, and like many other pitchers, I always chew tobacco during the game. But I never do so at any other time. These two habits may not meet with the approbation of some, but they have never done me any harm as far as I can see.

"No matter what pitcher Boston uses, the name is sure to be exciting. It's a mystery that I can't explain. Every player on the team seems to come to bat for the sole purpose of fattening his batting average at my expense. Whether men are on bases or not, they seem to do just as they please, regardless of all rules of inside baseball.

"I don't mean to imply that the teams I have not mentioned are 'marks' for me or any one else, and I never go into any game unless I'm prepared for it. I've puzzled some of the boys more than others. Look at Boston. Don't they make me travel at a mile-a-minute gait? Why, I don't know, unless it is for the reason I have given."

"I remember overhearing a conversation on the car one afternoon on the way to the Polo Grounds. Philadelphia was booked to play against us, and this fan would have it that if Alexander pitched against Marquard my string of victories would be broken. It was not my turn to work, and it is seldom that McGraw will let you go on the mound simply because you feel like pitching, but I told him I felt confident that I could win, and asked him to let me work. He did, and I won, but Alexander came very near turning the trick.

"The old side-arm style hurt me a little and McGraw told me at the time he made me change it that I shouldn't last a season unless I switched to the overhand. The cross-fire used by most left-handers is eliminated by the overhand throw, and the wear and tear on my arm is reduced to a minimum.

"There they were, Lajola and the rest, standing before me swinging the same bats that I had considered it an honor to carry for them. I beat them, and I guess I felt worse about it than I had lost.

"Good hours and plenty of sleep are also an important item, and one that any one, no matter what his profession is, can follow to good advantage. At the present time I weigh 185 pounds, and while I go close to the 200 mark in the Winter time, I lose it easily when the Spring practice starts.

"Now it's my turn to get busy," he said smiling. "I'm due for a session this afternoon, and I've got to limber up a bit. The Chief's just itching for me to get on the mound, and I guess I'd better not keep him waiting any longer."