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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1919.

THE TUMALO DISTRICT.

The plan to form an irrigation district out of the Tumalo project, outlined in the petition for an election which is published in this issue of The Bulletin, is likely to be the cause of considerable friction until the question is settled. Ever since it was proposed it has probably been the chief subject for discussion in every Tumalo home and already the pros and the antis must be pretty well established in their respective camps.

Formation of a district has been proposed as a means of obtaining more water for the project. Although no more land was supposed to have been sold under the project than there was sufficient water for, it has developed, especially in the past season, that the new settlers and those at the end of the ditches, have not had enough water. If the leaks in the reservoir could be cured there would be enough for all and for much new land. It seems hopeless to obtain any aid from the state for stopping these leaks and so the settlers would take things into their own hands through a district.

Groundwork for the execution of such plan was laid at the last legislature by the passage of a bill authorizing the Desert Land Board to reduce the existing lien on Tumalo lands to such amount as it saw fit, the idea being that if a district were formed and additional liens added on account of reservoir expenditures the state might waive enough of its claim to leave the amount to be paid by each settler little or no greater than it now is.

As we see it the chief objection to the district idea is likely to come from the older established water right holders who see nothing to gain from the plan. That, however, seems the part of pure selfishness unless they can also show that they actually have a good deal to lose. To the newer settlers who are short of water the plan means everything, as it does, also, for the further development of the project.

For these reasons it seems to us that the district plan should have the support of the voters interested. If all who have signed the petition are in favor there should be no difficulty and we trust that this may be the case.

According to the United States Public health service the rat causes millions of dollars of loss every year in the United States. It is one of the animal parasites for which no useful purpose can be found in nature's scheme of affairs and there is every reason to get rid of him.

The Burns Commercial club, representing the live men of the town, recently met with the city council to consider improvement of the local cemetery. We cannot decide whether the action denotes civic pride, altruism or pure selfishness.

It is not an ordinary thing to have one pair sweep up everything, but that is what the Belgian royalties now visiting this country will do.

COLONIAL MANDATES FOUND NECESSARY

(Continued from Page 1.)

principles advocated by him were closely followed in Article XIX of the original Covenant of Paris. Great objection to it, however, was expressed in some American quarters, upon the ground that the League might require a nation—ours; for instance—without its consent, and even against its will, to undertake the administration of some far distant country. The apprehension was not warranted by the language of the Covenant, but the revised Covenant has removed any possible basis for it, by expressly limiting the selection of mandataries of the League to those states who are willing to accept.

The history of German colonization is one of the exploitation of semi-barbarous peoples for the bene-

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fit of Germany, without the slightest regard to the welfare or interests of the peoples she ruled over. It is, therefore, unthinkable that any of the African or Australasian possessions of Germany should be restored to her, nor is it conceivable that the Allied Powers should return to the rule of the unspeakable Turk any of those regions which have been freed from Ottoman tyranny.

Not Ready for Self-Governments.

The African colonies are, and for many years will be, incapable of governing themselves. Such regions as Mesopotamia, Syria and Armenia are occupied by peoples unaccustomed to self-government, and incapable, at the present time, of being entrusted with complete political autonomy. While each of these countries was occupied by the army of one of the Allied Powers, yet in a general sense, their possession was the result of the combined effort of the Allies, and no one power is warranted in claiming the right, or should be charged with the duty of continued occupation and sole responsibility for the government of such regions. The suggestion of General Smuts was followed by the Peace Conference as affording a just solution of a difficult problem.

"Sacred Trust Civilization."

Article XXII of the revised Covenant declares that there shall be applied to that problem: "the principle that the well being and development of such peoples form a sacred trust of civilization and that securities for the performance of this trust should be embodied in this covenant."

It declares the best method of giving practical effect to this principle to be that the tutelage of such peoples be entrusted to advance nations, who by reason of their resources, experience of geographical position, can best undertake this responsibility, and that the mandate under which they should act must differ according to the stage of development of the people, the geographical situation of the territory, its economic conditions, and other similar circumstances. In the case of

communities formerly belonging to the Turkish Empire which have reached a stage of development where their existence as independent nations can provisional be recognized subject to the general assistance and control of a mandatary, it is declared that the wishes of those communities should be the principal consideration in the selection of a particular mandatary. Other peoples, especially those of Central Africa, are at such a stage of development that the mandatary must be responsible for the administration of the territory, under conditions which will guarantee freedom of conscience or religion, subject only to the maintenance of public order and morals, the prohibition of abuses, such as the slave trade, the arms traffic and the liquor traffic, and the prevention of the establishment of fortifications or military training of the natives, except for their own police and defense purposes, and under such con-

ditions also as will secure equal opportunities for the trade and commerce of other members of the League. These provisions should effectively preclude the possibility of such scandals as the history of the Congo State affords.

International Stewardship.

Other territories, such as South-west Africa and certain of the South Pacific Islands, which are contiguous to organized and civilized powers of the character of the South African Union or the Australasian Commonwealth can, it is pointed out in the revised Covenant, best be administered as integral portions of the territory of such adjacent nations, and under its laws, subject to the safeguards above mentioned, and in the interests of the indigenous population.

In every instance, the mandatary is required to render to the Council an annual report of its stewardship, and a permanent commission is to be constituted to receive and examine

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these reports, and to advise the Council on all matters relating to the observance of the mandates.

The United States is not required, under the treaty, to accept a mandate to administer any one of these territories. But the direct responsibility which it has assumed in the settlement of the terms of peace may, and probably will, impose upon it the moral obligation of discharging some duty in this direction. The experience which has been gained in the administration of our Asiatic and other insular possessions should have fitted us for the performance of such a trust.

Sacred Mantilla.

In Spain a woman's mantilla is held sacred by law and cannot be sold for debt.

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