

# TURN ON THE WATER

## John Day River May Irrigate 250,000 Acres.

### LARGE TRACTS ARE WITHDRAWN

#### Engineer Davis Proposes to Water a Large Section South of the Columbia River.

Washington, April 1.—The prospect for government irrigation in the Umatilla country has materially brightened in the last few days, since the receipt of a report from Edward I. Davis, assistant engineer in charge of the Umatilla project. After making exhaustive topographic surveys, Mr. Davis reports that he has devised a scheme by which he believes it will be possible to irrigate anywhere from 100,000 to 250,000 acres of extremely fertile land lying just south of the Columbia river in Umatilla, Morrow, Sherman and Gilliam counties.

It was originally intended to utilize the floodwaters of the Umatilla river for irrigating these lands, but an exhaustive search failed to find any feasible dam site on that stream. Engineers found that the bed of the stream was of such loose structure that no reservoir could be built that would hold water. But Mr. Davis has discovered what he believes to be a feasible plan whereby the government can store the flood waters of the John Day river and by a long canal divert it onto the land originally intended to be irrigated from Umatilla river. While his plan is probably more expensive than would be the original Umatilla project, had it been feasible, it seems to present the only solution of this great irrigation problem.

As soon as convenient Mr. Davis' plan will be submitted to the board of reclamation engineers, who will go over the ground and determine upon its feasibility. Reports seem to indicate that there is plenty of water in the John Day river to irrigate at least 200,000 acres of very rich land. The reclamation service is very anxious to construct an irrigation system in the Umatilla country and is hopeful that Mr. Davis' plan will prove practicable.

The withdrawals yesterday under this project are desired either for irrigation or for rights of way. The new plans call for an extensive system of canals, and the government, as far as possible, endeavors to protect rights of way of this character, to prevent conflict with private owners.

### MUST MOVE RAILROAD.

#### Government Negotiates with O. R. & N. for Washtucna Coulee.

Washington, April 4.—Just as soon as the government reaches a satisfactory agreement with the O. R. & N. Co. regarding the removal of the railroad tracks from the bed of Washtucna coulee, in Eastern Washington, steps will be taken looking to the construction of the big Palouse irrigation project. The government is ready to go ahead, but can do nothing as long as the railroad occupies this coulee, for one of the essential features of the Palouse project is the conversion of Washtucna coulee into an immense storage reservoir.

At the present time a representative of the reclamation service is in conference with a representative of the Hariman interests, in the hope of agreeing upon a figure which will compensate the railroad company for moving its tracks to higher ground, and which will, at the same time, not be considered an imposition on the government. The railroad company has stated that \$350,000 was a fair price for removing its tracks; the reclamation service believes that this is more than it would actually cost to perform the work, and is not willing to pay that price.

### Japanese Rule Manchuria.

Gunshu Pass, Manchuria, April 1.—Chinese merchants arriving here after a circuitous flight from Mukden relate that the Japanese have taken over the administration of Manchuria. They have installed Japanese officials in place of the Chinese, have taken possession of the Russian administrative buildings, and have established a Japanese police force at Mukden. The work of converting the railroad from Port Dalny to Mukden into a narrow gauge road has been completed, giving three railroad lines of supply.

### Blockade Runner Taken.

Tokio, April 1.—The steamer Indu, whose nationality has not been ascertained, was seized by the Japanese on March 28. She was presumably bound for Vladivostok. The British steamer Mars, which was stranded off Rural promontory on March 17, while attempting the passage of Soya strait, has broken in two under her engines. Her bow and stern are both submerged. Her captain and nine of the crew have been rescued.

### Irrigation of Umatilla Land.

Washington, April 1.—The secretary of the interior today ordered the withdrawal from entry of 690,000 acres of land in Oregon and 90,000 in Washington on account of the Umatilla project.

### BOWEN IS UPHELD.

#### Has Not Exceeded His Instructions in Dealing with Castro.

Washington, March 31.—Dr. Jose de Jesus Paul, special representative of President Castro, had an interview today with the president respecting the issues that have arisen between Venezuela and the United States. Dr. Paul appears to believe that these issues might be settled by a change in the American legation in Caracas, in view of the strained relations between President Castro and Mr. Bowen. He is awaiting the text of the communication from President Castro to the American minister relative to the arbitration proposal, which document is en route to Washington by mail.

As an impression apparently prevails to some extent, not only in Venezuela, but in this country, that Minister Bowen has incurred the ill will of President Castro by an excess of zeal in the presentation of the American claims against Venezuela, it may be stated that official inquiry from Washington has developed the fact that Mr. Bowen merely presented to the Venezuelan government the precise instructions sent to him from the State department relative to arbitration; that he did not add to nor take from those instructions in the slightest degree, but in fact effaced himself, so the fact is that the State department and not Mr. Bowen is responsible for this presentment which has so stirred the Venezuelan government.

In view of the statement from Dr. Paul touching Mr. Bowen, it can be added upon the highest authority that, in view of the administration, the doctor has no official standing and whatever communication he makes to the president or State department cannot have any weight or bearing. If President Castro is dissatisfied with Mr. Bowen, he must have recourse to the regular diplomatic channel and communicate that fact formally to this government, which cannot receive representations on the subject from other sources.

### MILL IS IN RUINS.

#### Bannockburn Property at Albany is Ravaged by Fire.

Albany, Or., March 31.—The old Albany woolen mill, a brick building being operated by the Bannockburn Woolen Mills company, of Portland, was Wednesday entirely destroyed by fire, involving the owners in a loss of about \$50,000, and the city in a loss in payroll and general expenditures in the city's stores that cannot be replaced in years. While the Bannockburn Woolen Mills company will not suffer a loss greater than the figures given above, the building could not be duplicated for less than \$75,000. It cost that when built, and later some \$20,000 more was spent upon it.

The fire originated in the drying room, in a wooden annex or basement built below the main floor of the building, on the water front. It is supposed to have been started by an explosion in the steam drying apparatus, though the exact origin is not known. The flames shot quickly up the big power belt to the first floor of the main building. Here the greasy floor and woodwork furnished fuel for the flames and in a moment the entire building was on fire.

The building, with all the valuable and intricate machinery, is a total loss. There were no manufactured products on hand, hence the losses are confined to buildings, machinery and the small amount of raw material. The large boiler and engine are thought to be uninjured, though some explosions that were heard from the direction of the engine and drying rooms may have injured the big machinery.

### Pennsylvania Miners Will Strike.

Altoona, Pa., March 31.—The operators and miners of the central bituminous district of Pennsylvania, after being in conference in this city almost continuously since March 10 endeavoring to agree on a wage scale to go into effect on April 10, adjourned finally today without coming to an agreement. The failure to agree means a suspension of work by the 16,000 organized miners of the district at the end of the present week. The employers demand a 10 per cent reduction, but the men say it is beyond consideration.

### Commission on Port Arthur's Loss.

St. Petersburg, March 31.—(I. a. m.)—The membership of the commission to investigate the circumstances of the surrender of Port Arthur, under the presidency of General Roop, has been announced. It consists of General Reuber, of the engineers; Giebenkoff and Kamaroff, of the infantry; Denionenkoff, Krijanorsky and Bogaviesky, of the artillery; and Admirals Dikoff and Doubassoff. The sitting will begin at the middle of May.

### Awaits Creditors' Approval.

Washington, March 31.—Interest at the State department centers in the attitude of the French and Belgian creditors towards the recent settlement with Santo Domingo. It is realized there that an unfavorable reply on their part might cause an embarrassing situation, in view of the action which this government has already taken. These creditors have, in all, claims of \$18,000,000 against Santo Domingo, and their attitude towards the agreement is of great importance.

### All but American Treaty Ratified.

Berne, Switzerland, March 31.—The Bundesrath today ratified all the pending treaties of commerce with the exception of the treaty with the United States. Further negotiations regarding the latter will be necessary because of the action of the American senate in modifying what is regarded as an essential clause of the treaty.

# COMMISSION IS OUT

## Asked to Resign by Direction of the President.

### FREE HAND IN REORGANIZATION

#### All Commissioners Now in Washington Comply with Request, Which is Cabled to Governor Davis.

Washington, March 30.—The first practical step having in view the reorganization of the Panama canal commission was taken today, when, in compliance with instructions from President Roosevelt, Secretary Taft requested the members of the commission to tender their resignations. This request was promptly complied with by the members of the commission now in Washington and their resignations will be in the hands of the president tomorrow.

The purport of Mr. Taft's letter requesting the resignations of the commissioners was sent to Major General George W. Davis, retired, of the army, governor of the canal zone, and also one of the members of the commission, and a prompt answer is expected from him.

As indicated in the letter of Mr. Taft, the resignations are requested in order that the president may have a free hand in reorganizing the commission. That the president has contemplated reorganization has been known for some time and he has been in consultation with Mr. Taft as to his future policy in choosing its personnel and directing its work. It was believed originally that better results might be accomplished by the appointment of a smaller commission than now existing, but a recent opinion of Attorney General Moody held that under the law, the president was required to name seven members in all. The appointments probably will be announced during the progress of his Southern trip.

The members of the present commission, in addition to General Davis, are Rear Admiral John G. Walker, of the navy, retired, chairman; William Barclay Parsons, William H. Burr, Benjamin M. Harrod and C. Ewald Grunsky, the last four being civil engineers.

### FAILS IN SPEED TRIAL.

#### Torpedo Boat Destroyer Makes Final Effort on Puget Sound.

Seattle, April 1.—Twenty-five knots was the average speed made by the torpedo-boat destroyer Goldsborough on her final trial held in the waters of Elliot bay this afternoon. On the fifth lap of the mile course the craft made 29.4 knots for half a mile, but she failed to keep it up, and from the report of the trial board there is little hope that she will ever be able to develop an average of more than 25 knots.

True to her reputation, the Goldsborough featured the trial with a series of accidents. They were of a minor character, however, consisting only of trouble with her auxiliary engines and the blowing out of packing in her steam connections. It cannot be determined what the Navy department will do regarding the Goldsborough until after the result of the trial is submitted to the bureau at Washington. The trial board was composed of J. V. B. Bleeker, captain of the Bremerton navy yard and president of the board; J. B. Buret, naval constructor at the yard; Commander Stacy Potts, head of the steam engineering department; Commander R. M. Doyle, of the Philadelphia, and Lieutenant B. H. Fish, of the Philadelphia, who acted as recorder of the trip.

Lieutenant G. C. Davidson and his crew from the Paul Jones, another torpedo boat destroyer, were in charge of the engineering department of the Goldsborough.

### No Person was Responsible.

Brocton, Mass., March 30.—A statement that no evidence had been adduced to show that any person was criminally liable for the explosion in the R. B. Grover company's shoe factory here last week, which caused the death of 58 employees, made this afternoon by District Attorney French, concluded an inquest held in the police court to determine, if possible, the cause of the accident. Mr. French also said that he believed it to be shown that the explosion was due to a hidden defect in the factory boiler.

### Good News to Santo Domingo.

Santo Domingo, Republic of Santo Domingo, March 30.—The news of the acceptance by the government at Washington of the proposition of the Dominican government that the government of the United States assume control of the finances of this republic with the view of setting aside a portion of the revenues for the payment of its debts, pending definite action on the part of the American senate, has had a most favorable effect here.

### Engineer of Indian Irrigation.

Washington, March 30.—Secretary Hitchcock today designated William H. Code, of Los Angeles, as chief engineer of Indian irrigation. He will have supervision of irrigation construction work on Indian reservations throughout the West.

### RUSSIA HAS OFFERED TERMS

#### Official Admission at St. Petersburg—Bluffing on Indemnity.

St. Petersburg, March 29.—After a meeting of the council of ministers, which lasted until after midnight, the positive information was given out through an official channel this morning that Russia has outlined the terms under which she is prepared to negotiate peace. It was asserted on the same authority that, thanks to the good offices of the United States and France, the question of bringing about the termination of the war had assumed tangible form and that preliminary steps in the negotiations would be taken in the immediate future.

Of the terms upon which Russia would be willing to begin negotiations, enough was known tonight that Russia will maintain to the eleventh hour an absolute opposition to any Japanese proposal to impose a direct indemnity upon her conquered foe. It is also intimated that a demand for the cession of Russian territory would meet with the same vigorous opposition.

It is apparent, however, that the czar himself is convinced of the Russian situation in the Far East and of the inability of the Russians to resume hostilities with any chance of success in the event of a suspension of preliminary negotiations.

The opinion was expressed yesterday by all exceptionally well informed foreign diplomats here that the demonstrative declarations of the ministers on the subject of indemnity and cession of territory are intended as a balloon d'essai to draw out opinion on the subject in Tokio. Eventually, this diplomat asserted, Russia is prepared to accept peace on any terms that Japan may be willing to offer.

### FIXING A WITNESS.

#### Charge Placed Against Armour's General Superintendent.

Chicago, March 29.—The Federal grand jury tonight returned an indictment against Thomas J. Connors, general superintendent of Armour & Co., on a charge of interfering with a witness summoned to appear before the jury investigating the beef trust. Mr. Connors, who is J. Ogden Armour's most confidential employe and the active head of one of the largest packing companies of the world, was arrested on a bench warrant by a deputy United States marshal and taken to the grand jury room, where he was released on \$5,000 bonds. After his release Mr. Connors refused to discuss the matter.

The indictment charges that John Edward Shields, of Brooklyna, a former employe of Armour & Co., who testified before the grand jury, was approached, favored and entertained by Mr. Connors, and specifically states that on March 25 the offense upon which Mr. Connors was indicted occurred. It is also charged that Shields was given the use of Armour & Co.'s offices at 205 La Salle street to transact his business while in Chicago and also the use of a private telegraph wire in the office of the packing company.

### WAITING FOR CASTRO'S LETTER

#### Government Will Continue Negotiations Unless It is Insolent.

Washington, March 28.—It has been decided to await the reception of the exact text of President Castro's refusal to accept Minister Bowen's arbitration proposition before proceeding further with the negotiations in this line. It is realized that there may only be a fair difference of opinion as to whether or not the Venezuelan response was couched in discourteous language, and it may be that at this distance from the seat of negotiations and after the lapse of a few days the words which appeared to Mr. Bowen to be insolent will admit of a different construction. The disposition is to move circumpectly at least at this end, and unless President Castro chooses to force an issue by another move at Caracas, it is believed that some time will be consumed in reaching a settlement.

### No Big Game Hunting in Alaska.

Washington, March 29.—As the result of representations by Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, it was determined by the cabinet today that no permits should be issued this year for big game hunting in Alaska, except for authorized representatives of museums. Similar action was taken last year because of the knowledge that game in Alaska was rapidly being destroyed and it was desired to preserve it so far as possible for the benefit of the natives, although they are required to comply with the local game laws.

### Japanese Again Advancing.

Gunshu Pass, Manchuria, March 29.—The Japanese are again moving forward and the Russian guard has fallen back from its position, about 13 miles north of Sipinghai (74 miles north of Tie Pass) to Chaomiasodri, which is situated 40 miles below Gunshu Pass. Practically complete reports show that the Russian army sacrificed general commissariat stores to the amount of \$1,250,000 and stores for an army corps amounting to \$500,000 at Mukden.

### Try Again in Wisconsin.

Madison, Wis., March 29.—Unfavorable action on a bill for an exhibit at the Portland exposition was reconsidered by the Wisconsin assembly today, and a new bill appropriating \$24,000 was introduced.

# WAITING FOR HER CUE.



Cincinnati Post.

## A Little Lesson In Patriotism

"Let our object be our country, our whole country, and nothing but our country."—Daniel Webster.

The United States owes no less of a debt to the men who established a government out of the chaos that inevitably succeeded the revolution than to those heroes who fought the battles of liberty on the field of war. Had it not been for the untiring energy of the nation builders the work of the revolutionists would have been for naught.

No one saw more clearly, or urged more zealously, the wants of a consolidated government than did Rufus King. He was one of the most ardent of the Federalists, devoting himself to upholding every act of Washington. He collaborated with Hamilton in several articles that appeared over the signature "Camillus."

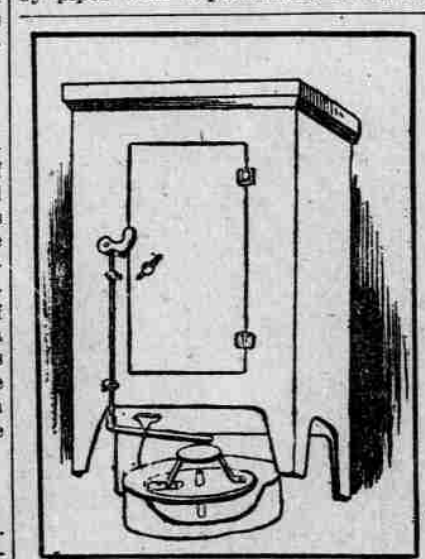
King's unimpeachable honesty and undoubted loyalty led to his appointment to the post of minister to England. His mission had to do chiefly with the questions of the right of search. Through the unpleasantness that finally culminated in the war of 1812 King acted with discretion and the most earnest patriotism.

Although not at the outset an advocate of that war, nevertheless when it was once declared he gave it his most decided support. One of the incidents which marked his attitude was his appearance in New York at the time when a financial panic was threatened and by his advice and example restoring confidence in the government.

### HIGH-WATER ALARM.

#### To Prevent Overflow of the Refrigerator Drrippan.

Of course, there is but one way to satisfactorily equip a refrigerator to drain the water arising from the melted ice, and that is to connect it by pipes with a permanent drain, as



ALARM FOR REFRIGERATOR.

The health authorities will not allow it to be connected direct with a sewer. Where this luxury of construction is not available the overflow alarm and reservoir shown in the illustration offer a good substitute. This idea, the invention of a Chicago man, provides the usual piping in the refrigerator leading to a pan concealed underneath. In the pan a portable float is arranged, connected with two arms in such a manner as to indicate on a registering device the height of water in the pan and thus warn the housewife or domestic when the pan needs to be emptied. The construction of the

several parts of the device is exceedingly simple, and as it can be readily dismantled when not needed, as in winter, it does not complicate matters.

### BIG QUESTION TO SOLVE.

#### J. Hill Says that United States Is Facing Startling Conditions.

"I don't believe in viewing conditions through the colored glasses of either optimism or pessimism," said James J. Hill, of the Great Northern Railway, to a representative of "Success Magazine." "I believe in examining them without prejudice, in order to form conclusions that approximate the truth. For instance, I don't try to palliate the fact that in this country we have some big and threatening problems to solve.

"One of them is the labor question. The present standard of wages is artificial. It must be reduced if this country is to compete with others in the markets of the world. Our foreign trade in manufactured products, instead of increasing with the increased production, is falling off.

"Consider the single but important item of steel. A very few years ago we were told that our steel was commanding the world's markets. Nobody dares to tell us that now. Even natives of our own country, in the Philippines, have recently been sending big orders for steel to Germany. Why? Simply because they can get it cheaper there.

"As it is in steel, so it is in many other products. Germany is making great strides ahead of us. She is, in fact, leading the world, and promises to increase her lead. Her mechanics work cheaply, and spend sixty-six hours a week in their factories, whereas ours spend but forty-four. Moreover, they are better workmen.

"We cannot hope to compete with her in foreign trade until we reduce the cost of our manufactured products and improve their quality. Even England, suffering from industrial paralysis because of the power of the trades unions and other influences, is moving faster than we are. The simple truth is that we are being badly beaten in the race for the markets of the world."

### Not Lonesome.

Seated on the grass in front of a sod cabin in Oklahoma was a man cleaning a double-barreled shotgun and after we had conversed for a few minutes I asked him how far it was to the nearest neighbor's.

"A trifle over two miles," he replied. "As far as that? You must find it rather lonesome here."

"No, I can't say as I do."

"Perhaps you are not one of the lonesome kind."

"No, I'm not. But, you see, I mortgaged the claim for \$400."

"Yes."

"And I couldn't pay and they foreclosed on me."

"I see."

"That was two years ago, and the sheriff has been trying to get possession ever since. He comes twice a week and we have a shot at each other and at least twice a week some durned fool comes along and wants to know if I ain't lonesome, and when you add the claim jumpers, the rattlesnakes and the skunks this life is about the excitingest thing I know of. There comes the sheriff now and you had better get down behind that log and keep clear of his buckshot."—Topeka (Kan.) Journal.

### Why He Kicked.

"Look here!" exclaimed the irate investor. "I believe I have been bunloed in the stock you sold me."

"My dear man," replied the suave-voiced broker, "you fail to realize—"

"That's just the trouble; I haven't realized a cent."

### Important Question.

Proud Father—And while at college my daughter learned to be an excellent rifle shot. Why, she's an expert at any range.

Suitor (anxiously)—I wonder if she's an expert at a kitchen range?