

ONLY NEEDS WATER

Soll of Boise and Payette Valleys in Idaho is Very Rich.

PART NOW UNDER CULTIVATION

Proposed Government Irrigation Project Will Increase the Arable Acreage Four-Fold.

Boise, Idaho, Sept. 28.—October 18 a board of consulting engineers of the Reclamation service will meet here to determine whether construction shall be ordered upon what is known as the Boise Payette project. It is confidently expected construction will be recommended, as all the preliminaries have been completed and it is known the service is anxious to go on with the work.

This is one of the most important as well as one of the most complicated reclamation projects under consideration. It is of great importance because of the large amount of land it is proposed to reclaim, because of the fact that the supply of water for lands which have not a sufficient amount available for their use is to be re-enforced, because of the value of the lands when supplied with water, and because of the marked effect it will have upon the future of this section of the state. It is complicated, not so much because of engineering problems, though these are interesting, but because of the private interests that are woven through the project in nearly all its parts.

In the Boise and Payette valleys there is now irrigated about 100,000 acres of land; under the proposed government system there will be nearly 400,000 acres producing crops. These valleys are now regarded as among the most valuable and attractive of the West. They support a large population and yield enormous crops of all farm products, together with large quantities of fruit. The apples grown here are regarded as being the equal of those of any other section, while the prunes stand abreast of those of California and Oregon.

FIRE AT SPOKANE.

Half a Block of Brick Buildings in Wholesale District Burned.

Spokane, Wash., Sept. 28.—A disastrous fire broke out in the heart of the wholesale and shipping section of the city at 2:35 o'clock this morning, which completely gutted three brick buildings. The total fire loss will approximate \$250,000.

The cause of the fire is unknown. It broke out in the Cudaby building, which was filled with soap and lard, and spread with great rapidity to the Weeks buildings on the east. Later the Booth-McClintock building, on the west corner of the block, caught fire. The four-story brick building on the east corner, occupied by the Spokane Drug company, was saved by a fire wall.

All of the building owners who suffered losses in the fire, which destroyed half a block of buildings and their contents, have announced their intention of rebuilding at once, and will erect larger and more complete structures. Hundreds of people had personal property stored in the Pacific Transfer company's building at owners' risk, and their total losses are estimated variously from \$5,000 to \$20,000.

Work for Heney.

Washington, Sept. 28.—Secretary Hitchcock, in an interview, said: "After the land-fraud cases in Oregon have been wound up, United States Attorney Heney, who has been conducting them, will come to Washington and will look after the California cases in which Hyde, Dimond and others have been indicted. Later on there will probably be other indictments in other states. The loss to the government through these frauds has aggregated millions of acres of land and millions more of dollars."

Stevens Showing Results.

Panama, Sept. 28.—The work of John F. Stevens, chief engineer of the Panama canal is beginning to show results. The correspondent of the Associated Press today visited La Boca, where the work has been pushed forward since the arrival of Mr. Stevens on the increase of the dockage facilities. Mr. Stevens informed the correspondent that the new 1,900-foot dock at La Boca would be finished September 30.

Mail Service on the Yukon.

Washington, Sept. 28.—Arrangements similar to those in operation last year have again been made between the Postoffice department of the United States and Canada for the distribution of mails in the Yukon district. The contract provides for a tri-weekly distribution during the closed season.

DRIFTING INTO REBELLION.

Hatred of Hungarian People for Francis Joseph Grows.

London, Sept. 27.—The correspondent of the Morning Post at Buda Pest says:

The situation here grows worse daily. The Radical element threatens to swamp the moderate party and to hurry the country into irreparable action. Public references to the dynasty are made in a tone which it is impossible to reproduce. The principal newspapers urge the formation of one great party under Francis Kossuth's. This is supported by Kossuth, Count Apponyi and Baron Banffy.

The Daily Telegraph's Buda Pest correspondent says that great excitement prevails, accompanied by a determination to keep up the struggle to the bitter end. The correspondent continues:

The Independent party is believed to have secured new adherents, while the old Liberal party has broken up. The partisans of Kossuth have also obtained the upper hand in quarters which formerly were dominated by the Socialists.

The coalition leaders have issued a proclamation stating that they are determined to eschew all revolutionary methods. Kossuth is quoted as saying he believed that the king-emperor would yet change his mind and grant concessions to Hungary.

Both in Buda Pest and Vienna it is realized that much depends on the outcome of the great meeting of all the coalition parties to be held at Buda Pest October 20, at which, it is understood, a plan for legislation will be formulated.

The wildest rumors are afloat in Buda Pest. One paper publishes a statement that the king-emperor intends to resign the crown of Hungary in favor of Prince Francis Ferdinand, and other similar unauthenticated statements are made.

According to the consensus of the reports, the king-emperor has determined to appoint a cabinet with Count Johann Zichy at its head.

RUINS FILL MANILA.

Terrible Typhoon Sweeps Capital of Philippine Islands.

Manila, Sept. 27.—Ten thousand of Manila's inhabitants are homeless, more than 200 injured and six known dead from the terrible effects of a typhoon which swept over the Philippine capital late yesterday afternoon.

When the great storm struck the city the streets were plunged into darkness. Thousands of electric wires were blown down and short circuited. The known dead were killed by these live wires. Hundreds of stone dwellings were blown down, and two churches and a hotel unroofed. The greatest damage occurred in the native quarters.

Traffic is suspended and the streets are deserted. The police stations are making an effort to feed and shelter the homeless.

It is believed that shipping in the bay had warning of the approaching storm and got out of its course, but there are grave fears for the safety of many vessels.

The typhoon came to an end at 7:30 P. M. Gangs of men are clearing the streets and the impression prevails that many dead will be found in the ruins of the dwellings.

REVOLVER AND MACHETE.

Means Gomez Advocates to Followers to Win Cuban Presidency.

Havana, Sept. 27.—Judging from the present outlook, Cuba is facing a serious political disturbance, compared to which the recent troubles will be insignificant.

Miguel Gomez, the Liberal party's presidential candidate, admitting the defeat of his party by the outcome of Saturday's election, advises all Liberals to abandon the political battle, saying the United States is backing President Palma and the Moderates, and that the fight is useless. The only hope for the Liberals, he says, lies through the use of the revolver and machete.

The private secretary of Gomez has been arrested on a charge of conspiracy to overthrow the government.

Calls Peace Conference.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 27.—It is announced that the Russian representatives abroad were instructed on September 21 to communicate to the governments to which they were accredited an invitation to a second peace conference at The Hague. They were further directed, in the event of acceptance, to announce that the Russian government's proposal would be strictly practical, and that the conference would especially and exclusively deal with the serious questions arising out of the late war.

Shaw Says He Will Quit.

Washington, Sept. 27.—In reiterating his declaration of last March that he would leave the cabinet about February, Secretary Shaw tonight said: "I shall leave the cabinet on or about February 1, as has been well known, in fact, ever since I entered it. I announced that I should remain in the cabinet for a comparatively short time. I had hoped to get out last March, but consented to remain longer because certain interests kept me there."

Starving Cattle in Montana.

Great Falls, Mont., Sept. 27.—Word comes from the Marias river district, in Teton county, that there are fully 800 head of cattle in that section. They have been out on the range since June and have eaten everything from grass to all kinds of brush and trees.

OBJECTS TO TREATY

China Wants Prompt Evacuation of Manchuria.

RAILROAD GUARDS ARE MENACE

Says Province Should Be Cleared of Troops in Nine Months and No Guards Remain.

Washington, Sept. 26.—The Post this morning says:

"The Chinese government, a week or more ago, made a formal protest to the Russian and Japanese governments concerning two of the conditions set forth in the treaty of peace signed at Portsmouth. China objects to two things—first, the length of time allowed for the evacuation of Manchuria, and, second, the provisions made for an armed guard for the railroad lines owned by Russia and Japan in Manchuria."

"China believes that nine months is entirely sufficient time within which Japan and Russia shall evacuate Manchuria, instead of 12 months, as provided for in the peace treaty."

"The provision made for guarding the railroad, the Chinese contend, contemplates an armed force of probably 10,000 men in Chinese territory. The Chinese government regards the maintenance of guards in Manchuria as a menace and it does not propose to agree to such a plan."

MEXICAN TRADE GROWING.

Largest Increase Last Year Was in American Imports.

Mexico City, Sept. 26.—Statistics of Mexico's foreign trade for the fiscal year ended June 30, show a healthy commercial condition. The imports were valued at \$85,861,081 gold, of which \$48,303,167 came from the United States, an increase of nearly \$6,000,000 over the preceding fiscal year. Great Britain sent goods to the value of \$10,481,343, an increase of about \$400,000. Germany contributed \$9,810,538, which is a slight increase. France sent \$8,482,685, which is a gain of \$1,000,000.

The gold exported amounted to \$13,696,146, a gain of nearly \$3,000,000 over the preceding fiscal year. The total amount of silver exported (silver value) was \$95,523,645, which is a decrease of \$13,588,044. The total silver value of all exports was \$208,520,451, or about \$104,800,000 gold value. This shows a very satisfactory condition, although a slight decrease from the preceding year.

Trade with the United States is growing steadily and will increase from year to year in the judgment of mercantile and banking houses. The country was never more prosperous and the outlook for the coming year is a bright one.

SLAVS ARE AROUSED.

Austrian Invasion of Albania a Challenge to Russia.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 26.—Not only Russia but all the Slavs of Europe are aroused as the result of Austro-Hungarian troops crossing the frontier into Turkey and occupying Novibazar. Four Russian army corps have been ordered south and subsidized steamship lines plying on the Danube are preparing transports. Prince Golytzin, privy councillor, said today:

"Russia considers the Austrian invasion of Albania and occupation of Novibazar a challenge that is answerable with force, because it is a flagrant breach of the treaty of Berlin. It threatens the independence of Serbia and Montenegro, which Russia has guaranteed."

"The invasion, however, is a master move, killing two birds with one stone. It is calculated to relieve the Hungarian crisis, flatter Magyar vanity by annexing Turkish territory, while at the same time the Slav population of the annexed region would put the Magyars in a minority in Hungary. But intrigues by the Hapsburgs always end to their own detriment."

Packers Fix the Rates.

Chicago, Sept. 26.—"The packers fix the rates," declared A. B. Stieckney, president of the Chicago, Great Western railroad, testifying for the defense before the Interstate Commerce commission today regarding freight rates from the Missouri river to Chicago. In answer to a question as to how the charges were made, President Stieckney replied: "In fixing the rate on dressed meat, we don't have very much to say. The packer generally makes the rate. He comes to you and always makes you feel that he is your friend."

All Protest Against Peace.

Tokio, Sept. 26.—The emperor is giving personal attention to the memorials presented to the throne against the terms of peace arranged with Russia. These memorials now number nearly 100. The persons who are trying to interview privy councillors advocate the refusal to ratify the treaty of peace, and the public is almost unanimous in demanding the resignation of the cabinet. Even the moderates do not conceal their grief.

Growing Worse at Hamburg.

Jackson, Miss., Sept. 26.—The yellow fever infection at Hamburg is spreading rapidly, nine new cases, four suspicious cases and one death being reported today. Roxie reports one new case and one death.

AT WORK ON MESSAGE.

President Devoting Much Time to the Gathering of Material.

Oyster Bay, Sept. 26.—The president is devoting considerable time each day now to work on his annual message to congress. For some time he has been assembling data for the message, but since the adjournment of the peace conference he has been writing the data into definite form. The message will not be completed until some time early in November, because each member of the cabinet will have to supply material for discussion of the work of his department. This information will be contained in the annual reports of the cabinet officers, which have not been completed.

Three topics highly important at this time to the American people will be discussed by the president in his message. They are the Federal regulation and supervision of life insurance, the relations between this country and Venezuela and America's interest in the fiscal affairs of the government of Santo Domingo. Other important subjects naturally will be considered, among them the scandals disclosed in the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior; the work of the department of Justice in the beef trust cases, the regulation of railroad freight rates, the progress made in the construction of the Panama canal and the conclusion of peace between Russia and Japan.

Much of the material for the discussion of these subjects the president has in hand, and the last few days of his stay at Sagamore Hill are being devoted to the preparation of that part of his message which will deal with them. Few visitors have been received since the adjournment of the peace conference, the president desiring to be as free as possible from interruption while working on his message. His last week here is practically devoid of engagements. The consideration of all matters except those of immediate importance is being postponed until the president shall reach Washington.

NAVAL BASE AT SINGAPORE.

Great Britain Will Purchase Extensive Docks and Sites.

London, Sept. 26.—The fact that the British government purposes to establish a vast naval base at Singapore, which was announced by the Sunday Observer with the suggestion that this was the first tangible result of the new Anglo-Japanese alliance and the conclusion of the Russo-Japanese war, affords the newspapers an opportunity to discuss the situation of using Singapore as a base, which was announced some time ago when Admiral Fisher outlined the reorganization plan.

The newspapers now point out the tremendous strategic value of Singapore as guarding the gateway to the Pacific and when open to Japan's war vessels as giving Great Britain and Japan the upper hand over the other European countries where the Far East is concerned. Some of this morning's papers are inclined to dwell upon this phase of the acquisition of the Singapore docks, as though just at the time it were a demonstration of power by Great Britain. But the government's intention to purchase the docks at Singapore has been an open secret for many months, and according to good authority, the British government is simply facing the result of the new strategic situation in the Far East.

EXPERT ON THE GROUND.

Northern Pacific Sends Man to Select Sites for Portland Bridge.

North Yakima, Wash., Sept. 26.—While the fact that the Northern Pacific is to construct a line down the north bank of the Columbia river from Kennewick to Portland has already been publicly announced, Mr. Levey supplies some of the missing details which have been most eagerly awaited.

Mr. Levey left St. Paul Thursday night. Accompanying him was Ralph Majeski, a bridge engineer and expert, who continued to Portland last night. Mr. Majeski comes from Chicago, and has the reputation of being one of the best bridge experts in the country. It will be his province to look over the route by which the new line will enter Portland, by way of Vancouver, Wash., and decide upon the best sites for crossing the Columbia at the latter city and the Willamette at Portland.

Calabria Is Wind Swept.

Rome, Sept. 26.—Another tornado today caused enormous damage in Calabria. A gradual clearance of the buildings ruined by the recent earthquake shows that the number of persons who perished was greater than given in the first estimate. Large numbers of bodies are being discovered daily. The work of constructing wooden cabins under government supervision is progressing rapidly. Two hundred have already been completed and 4,000 more will be necessary to shelter the homeless people.

Islands Are Seized.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 26.—News has been received here that the American steamer Montara, having on board Baron Bruggen, manager of the Kamchatka Trading society, was seized by the Japanese near Nikolskoe, Behring sea, and that the Japanese occupied the Kommander islands and hoisted the Japanese flag. Neither the date of the seizure of the vessel nor the occupation of the island is given in the information received.

San Gabriel Swept by Flames.

Carmon, Cal., Sept. 26.—A brush fire that burned two days has devastated San Gabriel valley, destroying all the vegetation and doing \$100,000 damage. The main industry of the valley, bee raising, has been ruined.

EAST REVOLUTIONARY WIDOW



Near the head of Black River Valley, in Windsor County, Vermont, ten miles from the nearest railway station at Ludlow, lies the hamlet of Plymouth Union. What the population lives on is a question difficult to answer. Fortunately, it costs very little to live there. A majority of the population are in one way or another supported by Civil War pensions. A tidal wave of patriotism must have swept through this section of Vermont in the early sixties.

The most interesting inhabitant of Plymouth Union is "Aunt Esther" Damon, the last on the roll of Federal pensioners as widow of a soldier of the Revolution. "Aunt Esther" was born in Plymouth township, not far from her present home, on the first day of August, 1814. She was one of a family of eight or nine, born to a heritage of poverty. Her father is remembered as a "stirring" man, who began life with nothing, married prematurely, and worked hard to provide for his family. In cutting timber to build them a house he was killed by the fall of a tree. His widow was left without resources and found it impossible to hold her family together. One by one they were "bound out" to service, and were never reunited. At a tender age Esther was thus put to work and remembers this period chiefly as one of neglect and ill-treatment.

By one kind of work or another, mostly domestic service, she made shift to live, and finally drifted to Tyson, which then had a charcoal blast furnace and was something of a center of activity. She is said to have taught a district school for one or two terms. Her own education had been very limited, and teaching could not have offered her a successful career. By thus doing whatever came in her way, she managed to support herself until she was 21 years old, when she married.

Her choice of a husband was not well considered. Noah Damon, whom she wedded after a brief courtship, was a widower 75 or 76 years old, with adult children and a record of good service as a soldier of the Revolution in sundry Massachusetts commands. He is traditionally remembered as an easy-going, honest, improvident man, and not inclined to be industrious. It is said that Esther Sumner was misled as to his ability and willingness to support her, and thought he had some property, whereas he had none. Perhaps he was an optimist by temperament. Their marriage was celebrated on the 6th of September, 1835.

The young wife soon discovered that, for her, the marriage relation meant not only supporting herself by

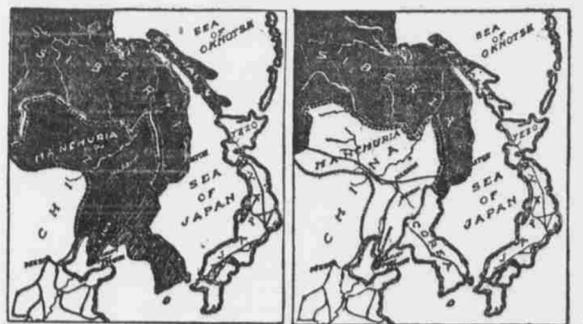
continued hard work for small wages, but supporting her husband as well. He was quite willing to entertain her with stories of the war, but these did not seem to compensate for the added burden she had unwittingly assumed. She insisted that Damon's children should make some provision for him. This led to misunderstandings and family quarrels, and they finally took the old man to a farm in New Hampshire, to which the young wife refused to go.

No separation other than that described was sought or desired. Damon never ceased to crave his wife's companionship; she, in turn, while unwilling to be a dependent upon the Damon family, spared enough of her meager earnings to keep him clothed, and in other ways to provide for his comfort. In some way Damon got money to make a trip to Boston to visit some friends, and from this outing he never returned. He died on the journey, which was probably too much for his failing strength, but whether in going to or coming from Boston is not clear. After the death of her husband, which in the circumstances cannot have been a very keen bereavement, Mrs. Damon realized that she had other duties than self-interest alone suggested. Her mother was then old and poor and friendless. Esther took her and cared for her to the end of her life. To enable her to do this she leased a little farm near Reading, Vt., and worked it as well as she could with the help of a hired man.

After her mother's death she did not feel equal to continuing this profitless and unsatisfactory enterprise, and returned to Plymouth Union to take up her residence with an old resident of that place, a Mrs. Snow, who had a house, but no income. In that house she has lived for the past sixteen years, and there she hopes and expects to remain for the rest of her life. During a period of many years she has been in receipt of a Federal pension of \$8 per month, and this meager provision had to suffice in a large degree for the needs of both old women. The pension has lately been increased to \$24 per month.

With the exception of a slight deafness, Mrs. Damon retains her faculties remarkably.

HOW THE WAR CHANGED THE MAP.



BEFORE. AFTER. Russian territory shown in black. Japanese territory or sphere of influence in white or shaded.

EVOLUTION OF THE MOTOR CAR.

A Frenchman named Cugnot, an Englishman named Trevithick, and an American named Oliver Evans had all been experimenting with steam carriages in the eighteenth century; and in 1829 Sir James Anderson, a British



STEAM CARRIAGE OF 1829.

nobleman, had one built which was a conspicuous success. It carried fifteen passengers, and attained a speed of fifteen miles an hour. The steam carriage was such a vast improvement upon the dandy horse and the velocipede that capitalists began to build them by the score. They were invariably shaped like stage coaches, each with a clumsy, puffing smoking engine fastened on behind. Nothing so fast as the steam carriage had ever been invented, and every idle gentleman of

fashion welcomed it as a new means of recreation. It made a national sensation, favorable and unfavorable. As it whirled along the country roads, like a smoky monster from some subterranean world of fire, horses leaped over hedges and the terrified peasantry fled to nooks of safety. Compared with it, a modern motor car is a thing of peace and gentleness.

A dozen or so of them were run in London as omnibuses, but the high fare—a shilling a ride—and the ominous aspect of the vehicle, scared away passengers. Ladies disliked the steam carriages because of the grease and soot that soiled their dresses; and so, little by little, they fell into disfavor. The railway, with its closed coaches, cheaper rates, and smooth rails, drove them from the roads into the museums.

Taxes Raise in France.

The average tax for each Frenchman has risen from \$15.25 in 1876 to more than \$25 a year at present.

Some people, when they own a dog that would peacefully sleep around the yard and make no trouble, tie it up, to insure that it will howl.

This is about all the attention some men attract: When their procession goes by, people inquire: "Whose funeral to-day?"