

## THE CENTRAL POINT AMERICAN

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## EDITORIALS

### FIGHTING THE BIG DAMS

Wildlife Management Institute re-  
ports that a strong farmer-rancher  
movement is developing in South  
Dakota to stop the Pick-Sloan plan  
for building a series of high, so-  
called multi-purpose dams on the  
Missouri River.

Three of these dams are the prin-  
cipal targets of the South Dakotans.  
According to the Institute, the dams  
will permanently submerge more  
land than has ever been temporarily  
inundated by a flood. Little of the  
soil in the state is suitable for irri-  
gation, but the irrigation plan pro-  
posed would mean a lien on each  
farm and a fixed water charge  
whether the farmer used the water  
or not. To cap the climax, it is high-  
ly improbable that enough water  
could be stored during dry years to  
provide continuous electric power,  
so coal powered generating plants  
would have to be built.

South Dakota citizens also argue  
that high dams are not the solution  
to their state's flood problem, and  
that improved watershed manage-  
ment and intensified soil conserva-  
tion programs, along with a series  
of low retention dams, will produce  
far better results than the huge,  
incredibly expensive mainstream  
structures.

This is representative of a type of  
thinking that is gaining more and  
more adherents in all the regions  
where multi-purpose dams are  
urged. In case after case, it has  
been shown that such dams might  
actually lead to more land loss than

they would conserve. Had all the  
Pick-Sloan dams been in existence,  
they would have been valueless in  
controlling some of the most des-  
tructive recent floods. Past ex-  
perience proves that the initial cost  
estimates, by the Army Engineers  
and the Reclamation Bureau, are al-  
most always far less than the true  
final cost. And, last but not least,  
many of the big-dam advocates are  
primarily interested in socializing  
the electric power production of this  
nation, and deceptively use land re-  
clamation and flood control to cam-  
ouflage that intention.

The big-dam craze is a brutally  
expensive phony.

### Prin. Meyer's Message Given to Elem. Graders

Principal Meyer's message to  
Elementary children of Central  
Point are as follows:

#### CHRISTMAS JOY AND GLADNESS

All last month our hearts were  
singing songs of thanksgiving to our  
loving heavenly Father for His  
many blessings to us, His children.  
We thanked Him again and again  
for our good health, our loving  
parents, our brothers and sisters,  
and our many good friends. We  
thanked Him for our churches where  
each of us could go, without fear,  
and learn to love and obey Him;  
for our good schools where kind and  
helpful teachers are glad to teach us

the many things we must know in  
order to live happy, useful, success-  
ful lives.

Now with the coming of December  
we shall sing a new song, a song of  
joy and gladness because God so  
loved us that He gave us the most  
wonderful gift ever given, His dear  
Son, Jesus Christ. When Jesus was  
born in Bethlehem on that first  
Christmas night, He brought so  
much joy into the world that even  
the angels sang, and He has been  
bringing joy to the world ever since.

When Jesus had grown to man-  
hood He began His work of bringing  
joy and gladness to the people by  
teaching them to know God as their  
loving heavenly Father whose will  
toward them was only good. Be-  
fore Jesus was born they had  
thought of God as a God who might  
at any time become angry with men  
and withhold rain from the earth  
to destroy their crops or bring sick-  
ness or other trouble upon them.  
Then Jesus came teaching that God  
is a Father who loves all of us, His

children, dearly, who asks us to obey  
Him because only through obedience  
to Him do we keep well and happy.  
He taught us to love one another  
because only when we love one an-  
other are we happy in our work  
and in our play.

The teachings of Jesus Christ have  
been set down for us in the Bible,  
and through them He is still bring-  
ing joy and gladness to the earth.  
Because we love Him, we celebrate  
the birthday of Jesus by giving  
gifts, and by doing all the kind and  
loving things we can do to help

bring joy and gladness to our fami-  
lies and our friends, and to every-  
body we reach with our gifts and  
loving thoughts.

Sincerely,  
C. A. Meyer

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