

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LARGE TRACTS ARE WITHDRAWN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 damsite 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 it is hoped 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 Harman 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 Industry, 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 600,000 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.

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 \$16,000,000 against Santo Domingo, and their attitude towards the agreement is of great importance.

Commission on Port Arthur's Loss.

St. Petersburg, March 31.—(1 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 Reuberg, of the engineers; Giebenkooff and Kamaroff, of the infantry; Denionkoff, Krijanorsky and Bogaviesky, of the artillery; and Admirals Dikoff and Doubassoff. The sitting will begin at the middle of May.

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. Barr, 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 Elliott 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 reservation throughout the West.

JUDGE JOHN H. REAGAN.

Last Survivor of Cabinet of Confederacy
Passes Away.

In the death of Judge John Henninger Reagan, which occurred at his home in Palestine, Texas, there passed from earth the last surviving member of the Confederate cabinet. Judge Reagan was 80 years old and had been in ill-health for a year or more.

The late Judge was the only cabinet officer captured with Jefferson Davis, and for many months he was confined in Fort Warren. He was born in Sevier County, Tenn., and, like so many American youths who have grown to famous men, as a boy he worked very hard and had little time to indulge in the gayety and sports dear to young people. Among his occupations were plowing, chopping wood, running a fatboat and bookkeeping. As a mill owner he earned money, which he devoted to his education. He went to Texas when a young man. He became a lawyer, colonel of militia, probate judge, legislator and district judge, in which latter position he was a terror to the desperate evil-doers of the frontier.

In 1856 Judge Reagan was sent to Congress, and in 1861 was elected to the State Convention, where he voted for secession and where he was elected to the Provisional Congress. He was appointed Postmaster General of the Confederacy, was reappointed to that place and was acting secretary of the treasury for a short time near the close of the war.

Judge Reagan took an active part in the reconstruction, counseling protection and rights for the negro. He was returned to the Federal Congress, serving there for ten years, and took his seat in the United States Senate in 1887. After leaving the Senate he became chairman of the State Railroad Commission of Texas, from which position he retired two years ago. At the time of his death Judge Reagan was engaged in writing his autobiography.

STUDYING OUR METHODS.

H. Rider Haggard, the Novelist, on a
Mission to This Country.
H. Rider Haggard, the English author, whose stories of African life long ago gave him an international



H. RIDER HAGGARD.

reputation, is now in this country on a special mission. He has come as an agent of the British government to study the conditions and character of the agricultural and industrial land settlements organized in this country by the Salvation Army, with the view of applying the system, if it is found satisfactory, to South Africa. The trustees of the estate of the late Cecil Rhodes are defraying the expenses of the inquiry.

Her Ruse Was Successful.

Miss Oakley was serving tea in her studio one afternoon when the word "ruse" came up, says the Philadelphia Record. Every one had some episode about an odd and successful ruse to narrate. Miss Oakley said:

"I, too, recall a ruse that succeeded wonderfully, an unexpected and original ruse that a friend of mine employed."

"My friend, a Philadelphia woman, had recently for a visitor an elderly uncle from the country. He was a good old man, an intelligent and sensitive old man, but his table manners were not—ahem—up to the mark."

"My friend could not think of taking her uncle to task about his table manners; if she had it would have broken the poor old gentleman's heart. Instead of taking him to task she employed a ruse upon him. Her ruse, which was quite successful, culminated like this:

"'Mary,' says the uncle at dinner, 'this here knife of mine tastes soapy.' 'Very well, uncle. You shall have another.'"

"The second knife came. The uncle, with a grimace, again remarks: 'Soapy, too, Mary, just like the first knife was.'"

"My friend frowned. 'It's too bad, uncle,' she said. 'But city servants are so careless. Try eating with your fork. Maybe that's clean.'"

In Water Ten Hours.

A Belgian swimmer made a wager recently that he could stay in the water ten hours, swimming the whole time. He won the bet, performing the feat at the Antwerp baths.

A man may have enough money to keep him out of heaven and still not have enough to get him into society.

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."

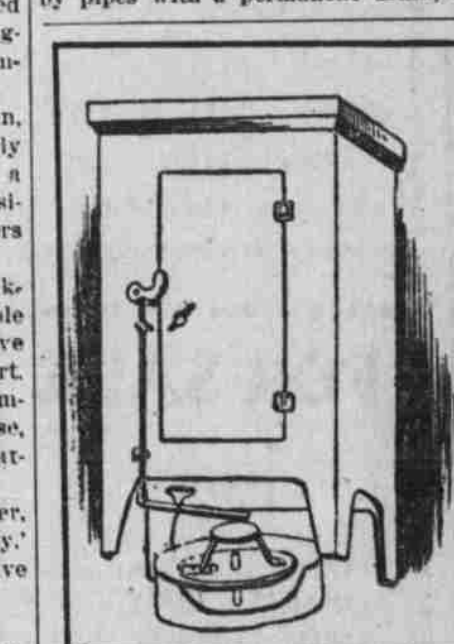
King's unimpeachable honesty and undoubted loyalty led to his appointment to the post of minister to England. His mission had to do chiefly with the questions of the right of search. Through the unpleasantness that finally culminated in the war of 1812 King acted with discretion and the most earnest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

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 frate investor. "I believe I have been bunked 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?