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AN UNFAIR ATTACK

When Representative Culin of New York City launched his public attack upon the reclamation policy of the government he was unfair to such developments as the Vale and Owyhee irrigation projects which are on the road to completion in such a manner as will insure their ultimate success. He told half truths and declared that the taxpayers' money is expended on reclamation.

Had he forgotten that only last week Senator Steiwer of Oregon explained in detail from whence came the reclamation fund, from royalties on oil lands of the west, from payments from reclamation projects and public lands of the west? We believe Representative Culin must have known better but would prefer that the reclamation fund go for such works as the development of waterways in the east.

It is only because of low prices on farm commodities that moratoriums were granted on repayments into the reclamation fund but such moratoriums have depleted the reclamation fund. The loan of \$5,000,000 which has been asked of the Reconstruction Finance corporation for tiding reclamation over will not only provide employment but will aid in the completion of the great developments over half finished in this area.

More than \$10,000,000 has been expended on the Owy-

hee. If this year's appropriation can be secured, gravity water can be supplied for the relief of farmers who pump their water at a high cost per acre. Another million will complete the Vale, bringing its entire acreage under water. The amount of the loan sought is a pittance compared to less deserving expenditures of the government and R. F. C.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, THE FIGHTER

As a symbol of fighting hope, the inauguration of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 31st president of the United States, took place Saturday in Washington.

The throng saw a man who smiled cheerfully and spoke with determination. They saw a man who is himself a fine example of a comeback. Reduced a few years ago by a physical breakdown to the point that would have left most men beaten, he fought his way back undismayed. In the same spirit, he argues that a country endowed with immense resources and the will to work has the power of redemption.

President Roosevelt set to work with a suddenness that brought new hope to a nation burdened with talk, argument and delay—first by securing immediate approval of his cabinet appointments which made it possible for a new machine of government to function at once.

President Roosevelt assumed vigorous leadership in the banking crisis which confronted the nation after several years of fear, strife and bank failures. "In the best interests of all depositors, a period of respite is provided with a view to preventing further hoarding of coin or speculating in foreign exchange and permitting the application of appropriate measures to protect the interests of our people," reads his proclamation. It is a golden message of assurance. To first consider banking legislation, a special session was called and convenes today. All eyes will be fastened upon this assembly, and it seems that a much needed guarantee on bank deposits is near.

Capable hands guide the ship of state. We possess an abundance. What can there be but pledge that our Nation will, as Mr. Roosevelt says, "endure as it has endured, will revive and will prosper."

MEN ARE MEN STILL

Sometimes we hear that civilization has spoiled us, that men no longer possess the courage that took the early settler across the plains of the frontier west.

But, isn't that a false presumption? There are men as strong and militant as men ever were. There are men as true and fearless. Is it not a fact that many men are builders today—builders as fixed in their purpose as were the standard bearers of a hundred years ago.

Nor has the old pioneer spirit departed. Men all over the country are meeting their problems with squared shoulders and a smile, in a very courageous spirit. In Portland they have gathered in Shanty town. They are not tramps but are homeless unemployed. When work comes their way, as it occasionally does, they work.

At Centralia, Wn., 50 families were given 100,000 acres of logged off land. They cleared and prepared it for small crops. Small houses were built, some of cedar shakes made from the logs on the land. They erected a cooperative shingle mill and now are independent and comfortable.

Right here in Malheur county, needy men have asked the county court for a cooperative farm where food can be raised for themselves and their families during the coming season.

Many men are doing the best they can. The are still red-blooded.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

Many people in the West are asking about the new secretary of the interior. Mr. Ickes is not a resident of any of the public land states, where reclamation is the necessary method of agriculture. He comes from Illinois. But geography need not control a man's attitude.

President Roosevelt made the pledge that his secretary of the interior would be a Western man with broad grasp of Western problems, particularly of reclamation. To Mr. Roosevelt, a citizen of Illinois would be a Western man. That he did not make his pledge lightly was shown when the president stated to a representative of The Journal last month that he would like to see half of the 12,000,000 unemployed in America placed upon Western reclaimed lands, not for speculation, and not particularly to make money, but to make homes and to find happiness.

On a national power policy in the public interest, Mr. Ickes' position is definitely and favorably known. He is a man who may be expected to forward toward realization the promise made by Franklin D. Roosevelt in Portland, namely, that the Columbia should be the next large enterprise of federal development.

The feeling of concern in the West that the secretary of the interior shall deal justly with great Western interests is altogether proper. Federal and other values totaling millions are involved. But President Roosevelt is starting his administration for the people and not for their disappointment.—Oregon Journal.

EDITORIAL TABLOIDS

By Clark Wood

Patronizing bus lines isn't fare to the railroads.

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Beer is promised by July, which will be a good month in which to plant a keg at third base during Busch-league picnic games.

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Around the Country

Thomas J. Walsh, 74, senator who had been appointed attorney-general by President Roosevelt, dropped dead last Thursday. He was married five days before in Cuba. Walsh represented Montana in congress many years and gained wide fame when he ferreted out government officials of the Harding administration who were responsible for the theft of oil lands from the government in the Teapot Dome scandal.

Carried 15 yards down the side of a Snake river canyon, near Rogersburg, Ore., by a snowslide while on a horse, Joseph Euscher sustained a broken arm, leg, and sprained back and injured chest and then dragged himself three miles for help, freezing both hands.

The huge Reichstag, housing Germany's parliamentary and cabinet offices, was partially destroyed by fire last week, said to have been set by a Dutch communist. It was built in 1894, cost 25,000,000 marks.

The longest single span suspension bridge in the world will be that officially started in San Francisco to cost \$35,000,000 known as the Golden Gate bridge.

Anxiety as to who will be U. S. district attorney, collector of internal revenue and marshal, became keen upon the arrival of Walter M. Pierce, congressman-elect and Democratic committeeman for Oregon, in Washington. Anxiety of Portland's candidates may arise from the fact that La Grande, Pierce's home city, may have equally as competent men for at least one of the jobs.

One accomplishment of the lame duck session of congress was its voting of greater executive power for the President, a club which every President since Taft has been trying to obtain. On 60 days' notice President Roosevelt may transfer, abolish or consolidate any executive branch, except an entire major department. He will be able to save the country millions by pruning out waste which has contributed so much to the extravagance of government.

Andrew Mellon with others are defendants in a suit filed in District of Columbia court for \$220,000,000 for alleged connivance by foreign steamship

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