

The River Press.

Published every Wednesday Morning by the River Press Publishing Company.

DEVELOPMENT OF IRRIGATION.

The very earliest attempts to construct complicated machinery were for irrigation purposes, and the systems of irrigation in those distant days in the far east, in Babylonia and in Egypt, dating back in the last named country to twenty centuries before Christ, furnish as important a chapter in the history of invention as in the story of agricultural development.

In those primeval days the water was hoisted from the wells and streams by means of water wheels and ditches to the cultivated fields. Often the water wheels were turned by man, sometimes by cattle, and later by the water power of the stream itself. Thus the stream was harnessed to do the work of man, and for the first time power, other than flesh and blood, became known. To this day a number of old water wheels, modeled almost exactly like those long since gone down to dust, can be seen operating in Arabia, Egypt, Mexico and in the Philippine Islands.

The irrigation systems of India and Egypt are now controlled by the government, and for the most part modern machinery is used. Across the Nile, at Assouan, a great dam has been built to store water against the dry season. In Europe irrigation has been widely adopted in northern Italy, southern France and throughout Spain. The British holdings in South Africa and Australia are also greatly benefited by irrigation.

In America irrigation was practiced thousands of years ago by the prehistoric town-building Pueblo Indians in New Mexico and Arizona. The descendants of these Indians still cultivate lands which were tilled by irrigation when the treasure-seeking Spaniards came up from the south, and even now practice many of the customs of their ancestors. High along the steep cliffs in the canons of the southwest still cling the ruins of the former homes of the extinct race of cliff dwellers, ruins of their stone dams and irrigation canals—all that is left to tell the story of America's first agriculturists.

The first systematic application of irrigation to be made by the whites in the United States was inaugurated by the Mormons on the shores of the Great Salt Lake in 1847. The Mormons found Utah anything but the promised land for which they had hoped. From necessity they resorted to irrigation and soon made the barren site of Salt Lake City one of the most prosperous communities in the west. A few years later the placer miners in California utilized their placer washing streams for irrigation purposes and raised large crops of vegetables and grain. However, irrigation did not make any extensive headway until after the civil war and during the early '70's when the great tide of immigration turned toward the west.

In the modern history of irrigation the great desert lands engineering feats have been accomplished which are the wonder of the world. To accomplish these feats mountains have been tunneled, streams carried hundreds of miles out of their natural courses; lakes have been tapped; whole rivers diverted and huge storage reservoirs constructed.

Irrigation has grown with such leaps and bounds that natural gravity alone cannot be depended upon to supply the water where needed, and electricity is now being used to drive the mammoth centrifugal pumps raising the water to unusual heights.

From the old hand wheel of prehistoric man to the modern motor driven centrifugal is a long cry, but it fully demonstrates the progress of power and complicated machinery from the start to the present. Who knows what the future will be?

OUR NATIONAL BIRTHDAY.

The story of the birth of the United States has often been told, but it is one of such interest to patriotic American citizens that most of them welcome a repetition of the narrative. A recent contribution upon the subject to the Butte Inter Mountain by F. J. Haskin says in part:

One hundred and thirty-one years ago a half-hundred earnest men representing thirteen oppressed and restless colonies declared those colonies free and independent states. It was a great step to take, but England's king had forced it upon them by continued enactment of oppressive measures, and by disregarding the rights that the Magna Charta guaranteed all subjects of his realm. On June 7 Richard Henry Lee, representing the people of Virginia, the leading colony of the new world, rose in the old state house in Philadelphia where congress was sitting and moved, as instructed by the general assembly of his colony, "that these united colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown; and that all connection

between them and the state of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved; that measures should be immediately taken for procuring the assistance of foreign powers, and a confederation be formed to bind the colonies more closely together."

Hardly had he finished reading before John Adams of Massachusetts, for many years an advocate of American independence, rose to second the motion. Next day the motion was taken into consideration and referred to a committee of the whole. On June 10 it was voted that the consideration of Lee's resolution be set for Monday, July 1, and a committee be appointed to draft a declaration to the effect of this resolution. On June 11 the committee was named. It consisted of Thomas Jefferson, chairman; John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman and Robert Livingston. Since Richard Henry Lee had made the resolution he should have been named as chairman of this committee, but his wife growing suddenly ill, he was called home the evening before. Some hint that there was politics back of it, too.

Jefferson was appointed by the other members of the committee to write the important document which would set forth to the world the specific reasons why the colonies should throw off the yoke of England. He repaired to the home of Mr. Gratz, on the corner of High and Seventh streets, Philadelphia, and after a small wooden desk was made for him, began the task of voicing the sentiments of the people of the colonies in as brief a paper as possible. Mr. Jefferson worked in a front room on the second floor of the Gratz residence, and was from June 11 to June 28 in writing and revising this memorable document. When completed the declaration contained 1,042 words.

When the instrument had been finished by Jefferson he submitted it first to Adams and Franklin, who revised it to some extent, changing or striking out about 100 words. It was then offered the rest of the committee, who took it as the three had framed it.

On June 28 the Declaration of Independence was presented to congress, read and ordered to lie on the table. On July 1 congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole and resumed its consideration. There was some discussion. Through the motion of Rutledge, of South Carolina, further voting was postponed. On July 2 Richard Henry Lee's motion was adopted, making the day really the independence day of the nation, for in that motion independence was formally declared. July 3 and 4, as well as much of the night of the 3d were spent in discussing the paper that the committee had framed. At 2 o'clock on the afternoon of the 4th, the declaration with sundry amendments was adopted.

Much controversy has arisen over the first expressions of independence in America. Massachusetts claims that Christopher Gadsden urged independence when speaking against tyranny under the old Liberty Tree in 1744. Virginia claims that Patrick Henry first voiced it when making his famous speech in old St. John's at Richmond in March, 1775. North Carolina presents her Mecklenberg resolutions of May 20, 1775, and points to the first armed resistance against England in the battle of the Alamance in 1771, when North Carolina regulars went out against Tryon's men. The first step to advocate a general Declaration of Independence was made by North Carolina when, on April 22, 1776, she instructed her delegate to congress "to concur with those in the other colonies in declaring independence."

Luxurious Living of Our Time.

The fact is, the laborer of today has luxuries that neither Queen Elizabeth nor King George of our great grandfathers' time ever dreamed of—daily mail, telephone, street cars, electricity for domestic purposes, homes well lighted, well plumbed and well heated, to say nothing of the thousand and one articles that we daily use and not regard as luxuries—for example, matches. Nowadays contagious diseases do not devastate our cities; because state and municipal laws unite to enforce protective sanitation. Never were homes so clean and well cared for as by the housekeepers of today.

Peculiar and Pertinent.

The British government owns 25,000 camels.

Nearly half of the railroad mileage of the world is in the United States.

The female brain begins to lose weight at the age of thirty, but that of the male not until ten years later.

The races of the world are numbered at 72, making use of 4,000 different tongues. There are about 1,000 religions.

HELENA, July 3.—Bert G. Shorey and Cabot T. Thomas of Billings, who were indicted last February for illegally fencing 16,000 and 32,000 acres of government land, respectively, were arraigned in the federal court this morning and pleaded not guilty. They were both released on giving \$500 bail for their appearance next month.

WASHINGTON LETTER

(Special Correspondence.)

The locality of squares 723, 727 and 728, east of the capitol grounds and north of the Congressional Library, possesses much historical interest from a national as well as local viewpoint. With the library and the office buildings for the senate and house of representatives the area known as the capitol grounds is inclosed by marble walls, with the exception of that portion fronting on First street between East Capitol and B streets, northeast. Doubtless at no distant day the government will take the squares first named as the site of a temple of justice for the accommodation of the supreme court of the United States.

Historic Ground.

Should a building be erected there for the highest judicial body it would be peculiarly appropriate, for after the burning of the capitol in 1814 the head of the judicial system sat for a number of years in the building at First and A streets. The quarters mentioned were thus occupied from 1816 to 1820. The old circuit court of the District was also in this building from 1816 to 1825, when quarters were provided in the city hall for the local court, together with offices for the clerk, the marshal and other officials.

During the civil war it became, under the name of the old capitol prison, a noted place, and here not a few executions, some by gallows, others by shooting, occurred. Captain Wirtz of Andersonville was hanged there. All traces of it are now obliterated, and instead is a block of fine residences, in one of which the late Justice Field long resided.

The New Railway Station.

Washington's new Union station, erected jointly by the Pennsylvania and the Baltimore and Ohio under certain concessions granted by the government, is now more than three-fourths completed, and Baltimore and Ohio trains will run into the new structure within a short time. Architecturally the building will be one of the most magnificent in the city. Its dimensions are truly stupendous. Altogether 160 acres will be occupied by the new terminal facilities. The north approach includes a train yard of thirty-three tracks, power plant, express building, coach yard having a capacity for about 750 cars, engine and repair yards, with engine house and shop facilities.

Finest Building of Its Kind.

The tunnel under Capitol hill is the feature of the south approach. The station site when the work began was on ground less than twenty-five feet above the tide of the Potomac. More than 2,500,000 cubic yards of material were excavated and deposited to transform it into an eminence nearly sixty feet above tide, with gently sloping approaches. If this material were deposited on an average size city block it would form a shaft higher than the Washington monument. To move all this material would require about 60,000 standard gauge commercial cars, which, if coupled together in a single line, would extend 600 miles, a greater distance than from Washington to Columbus.

The general waiting room of the new depot will of itself cover 130 by 220 feet, or two-thirds of an acre, a greater area than is occupied by the average city station. The roundhouse, shops and engine yards will cover fifty-five acres, the coach yard sixty acres, the train yard thirty-one acres, the station proper and a portion of the plaza nine acres.

Professional opinion has it that it will be the most beautiful station building in the world.

A Remarkable Structure.

Within a few weeks the Connecticut avenue bridge will be completed and opened to the public. In fact, there remains unfinished little more than the decoration of the bridge. The bridge itself is a remarkable structure.

It is 1,421 feet long, 53 feet wide and consists of five 150-foot arches and two 82-foot arches. It is built of unreinforced concrete throughout. The stone for the concrete work was taken from a quarry about 400 feet from the site of the bridge, which saved a haul of 80,000 cubic yards of stone.

Largest Concrete Bridge.

This is the largest concrete bridge in the world and is unique, in that it is not reinforced with steel. The bridge is apparently trimmed with granite. These trimmings are made of concrete, cast in blocks on the ground, and instead of using sand for the mortar stone dust was used, which, when dressed down, gives an appearance of granite. The main false work of the structure, which consisted mostly of Georgia pine lumber, cost the District \$24,000. It required 1,500,000 board feet of lumber for this work alone. It is probable that the entire amount of lumber required to complete the bridge was in the neighborhood of 2,000,000 board feet.

Street Signs.

The commissioners will not be able to erect signs on the public thoroughfares throughout the city as contemplated because of lack of an appropriation. They have appreciated the necessity of such signs as "drive slow," "keep to the right," "walk your horses," etc., particularly so when a pedestrian meets with an accident due to careless driving. Several months ago at the suggestion of the superintendent of police they asked for samples of signs of various shapes and sizes, and the superintendent of police furnished a list of streets and street intersections most in need of posted instructions to drivers.

It was decided to erect about 200 signs, but when the question of purchasing and erecting the same was investigated it was found that there were no funds. CARL SCHOFIELD.

TOLD PINKERTON SECRETS.

Witness In Heywood Trial Gives Story of Detective Work.

BOISE, July 1.—The archives of the Pinkerton detective agency, so far as they concern the Western Federation of Miners, were laid bare this morning when Attorney Darrow, over the objection of Senator Borah, introduced as evidence the reports of a dozen or more Pinkerton "operatives." Almost the entire morning session of court was consumed in the reading of these reports by Darrow, as they were identified, one by one, by Witness Morris Friedman, formerly stenographer for James McPartland.

Never before in the entire history of the great secret service agency has there been such an expose of the methods it uses for securing information and the use and purposes to which the reports of the "operatives" are put. The reports placed before the jury are important in this case under the counter-conspiracy theory which the defense has put forward. The reports, Attorney Darrow insists, show that no conspiracy could exist within the union to destroy property or to wreak vengeance unless the Pinkerton detective agency, through its "operatives" were cognizant of it.

More than half of the court's day was occupied in reading to the jury copies of the documents which Friedman took from the Pinkerton records. These were chiefly the daily reports of secret agents, operating as spies among the unions and union men at Cripple Creek, Victor, Globeville, Colorado City, Trinidad and Denver, and these showed complete surveillance of the Western Federation of Miners and the United Mine Workers of America, during the labor troubles in Colorado in 1903-04.

None of the reports or letters that were produced by Friedman and read to the jury by Clarence Darrow contained other than general reference to the collateral issues of the trial, but they were offered in substantiation of the counter claim of the defense that the Pinkerton agency conspired for the destruction of the Western Federation of Miners and the lives of its leaders. The prosecution offered no objection to any of the features of Friedman's testimony and no opposition to the introduction of any one of the documents that the defense obtained through him, and when Friedman was turned over for cross examination it endeavored to ascertain if Friedman had any more reports of letters bearing on the general issue.

It attacked Friedman on the ground that he had played the Pinkertons falsely, had violated his pledge to them, and had stolen the papers.

Will Sue Hill Roads.

WASHINGTON, July 1.—Attorney General Bonaparte has ordered suits begun against the Great Northern, the Northern Pacific and the Washington & Columbia River roads, for violation of the law requiring safety appliances. Actions of like nature were ordered against about 60 other roads.

Two Cent Law In Effect.

CHICAGO, July 1.—The 2-cent fare law went into effect on all railroads in Illinois today. The general passenger association and the Western Passenger association, which include nearly all lines in the state, announce that the rate provided by the law will be effective on all state traffic. Interstate rates now in effect, however, will remain so until a new tariff sheet is prepared.

Litigation, so freely predicted at the time the law was passed, will at least be delayed so far as the railroads are concerned, until the new rate has been tried for several months. It is said that the officials of the various roads affected by the law have agreed to submit to the new rate for several months and then to carry the law into the courts with a showing of a deficit, should there be any, that will support a plea that the 2-cent rate is a loss to the roads.

There is a grain of comfort in the Illinois law to the railroads, as it gives the companies the right to charge a 3-cent rate where passengers have neglected to purchase tickets at stations that are open for the sale of tickets at least half an hour before train time.

Pickpockets Get Big Haul.

MONTREAL, July 1.—A gang of pickpockets which has been operating in Montreal for the past few weeks, made their biggest haul on Saturday when they got away with \$1,500. Gerald Murray, a messenger of the Canadian steamship line was sent to the bank to draw out the week's pay for the employees.

On returning to the office, Murray and the man accompanying him found their way blocked in the revolving door by two well dressed men attempting to leave through the compartment which Murray was entering. There was some jostling, which ended in the men drawing out and apologizing for their mistake.

Murray went to deliver the money to the cashier, but found that the

large envelope in which it was contained and which he carried in his inside pocket was gone.

Evangelist Murphy Is Dead.

LOS ANGELES, July 1.—Francis Murphy, the noted apostle of temperance, is dead. The end came peacefully yesterday forenoon at the residence of his daughter in this city, where for three weeks he had been ill.

For more than a week all hope of recovery had been given up and the one effort which the physicians made was to sustain life until members of his family could reach here. The immediate cause of death was diabetes.

The Coldest June.

WASHINGTON, July 1.—The weather bureau announces that the month just closed was the coolest June on record in Washington in the last 15 years and that the same is probably true of New England, the Middle Atlantic states and the lower lake region. In other parts of the United States the temperatures were also lower than usual.

Much Land Is Unoccupied.

WASHINGTON, July 2.—Uncle Sam's unappropriated and unreserved land open for the American homesteader amounts to 792,238,707 acres, not less than four acres for every present inhabitant in the United States. While much of it is arid or mountainous land which is little fit for cultivation,

there are millions of acres which can be made to produce untold wealth and all it takes is the industry of the American farmer.

The land department shows that the arable land in the United States is far from being exhausted. Remoteness from railroad is to blame for much of the good land being left unoccupied. More railroads are needed in building up the country.

There are millions of acres of choice lands included in Indian reservations not yet open to white settlers. Some of the important reservations to be opened within the next year or two are as follows:

- Lower Brule reservation, in South Dakota, containing 56,560 acres.
- Flathead reservation, in Montana, containing about 1,000,000 acres.
- Colville reservation in the state of Washington, comprising over 1,000,000 acres.
- Yakima reservation, in the state of Washington, containing approximately 1,145,060 acres.
- Coeur d'Alene reservation, in Idaho, aggregating over 310,900 acres.
- Rosebud reservation in South Dakota, containing not less than 1,000,000 acres.
- Blackfeet reservation, in Montana, containing an equal amount of land.

For Sale or Exchange.

Fifty-two copies of the WEEKLY RIVER PRESS for \$2.00 spot cash, or its equivalent in bankable paper. Goods will be delivered in regular weekly installments during the twelve months following receipt of remittance. Satisfaction guaranteed. Address THE RIVER PRESS, Fort Benton, Mont.

W. M. DAVIS & SONS

Have moved to their new location in the Murphy-Maclay building.

In our new store will be found a complete stock of supplies needed by residents in town and country. Our stock includes

STAPLE and FANCY GROCERIES

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

Tobaccos and Cigars Nuts and Candies.

We also carry a large assortment of

NEW CHINA, GLASSWARE AND TINWARE

And other household necessities.

FRONT STREET - - FORT BENTON

HAVING REOPENED my Drug Business in Fort Benton, I would respectfully solicit a share of your patronage

FRESH DRUGS AND MODERATE PRICES GUARANTEED.

W. J. MINAR,

FORT BENTON, - - MONT.

Opposite Grand Union Hotel



Grand Union Hotel...

Fort Benton, - Montana.

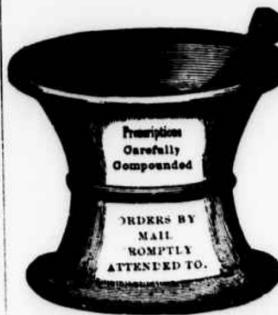
First-class. All Modern Improvements.

- Electric Lights
- Steam Heat
- Rooms Single or en Suite
- Baths and Closets on Each Floor
- Commodious Sample Rooms
- Barber Shop and Reading Room
- Cuisine Unsurpassed

Rates: From \$1.50 to \$2.50 per day

All guests are assured of a cordial welcome and first-class service

W. L. ROWE, Sr., Proprietor.



D. G. LOCKWOOD, DRUGS AND JEWELRY.

A Complete Line of Watches, Jewelry and Silverware on Hand.

Repair Work on Jewelry and Watches solicited. Every job personally guaranteed.

D. G. LOCKWOOD, - Front Street, Fort Benton.