

# GREAT DRAINAGE SYSTEM FOR THE IRRIGATED LAND

### Government at Work Reclaiming Over-watered Land—Drainage an Important Factor.

Twice within the last few years 110 acres of land near Nampa have been reclaimed by the efforts of engineers of the United States.

Years ago, when the land lay within the vast arid desert of the state, water was brought to it and it was converted into a fertile garden and a valuable orchard.

Today, after the water has soaked and saturated the soil, and after the water table under the earth has risen to a height that ruins the orchards and kills off vegetation, the engineers have installed a drainage system that lowers that water table at the rate of an acre foot a day.

Strange as it seems, drainage is rapidly becoming an important factor even in the arid countries of the great west. Wherever irrigation flourishes, the drainage engineers are at work. A few years of constant soaking of the soil and seasons of irrigation, unscientific and unnecessary, bring the ground water closer and closer to the surface, attracts the alkali to the top of the soil, and kills off the vegetation that has been growing there.

**Soaked Soil Reclaimed.**  
This was the case at Nampa. Now a drainage system has been installed on the land at a cost of not more than \$23 an acre and the soaked soil is being drained of its superabundance of water, the water table is being rapidly lowered, and the soil made once again to produce the valuable crops of apples and prunes that it did a few years ago.

The government engineers superintend the work of installing the system, the first of its kind in Idaho. The tile pipes were laid seven and eight feet into the ground and right in the bed of the water table that was running the crops. For 1200 feet, the tile piping carries the water away from the land and out into a slough and part of that distance the line had to be tunneled through a hill in order to reach its outlet.

**Construction Difficult.**  
Though this was the first drainage system that has been installed in southern Idaho, it is probably the most expensive that will be used. The ground through which the engineers worked was hard when the tunnel that had to be put in was through old rock. All of this cost money. Other systems that are now planned will probably not cost as much and the rate can be lowered by the engineers materially.

On the ground where this system was installed, the water had killed off 3000 trees that had been planted last year. The alkali had been creeping toward the surface. Now, the government is taking away the water at the rate of an acre foot a day and its pipes are carrying a constant stream of this under water away from the

soil. The engineer who did the work, W. G. Sloan, in charge of the drainage investigation in this state, believes that the system is an insurance policy against further troubles of the kind and that it will make the land as productive as once it was.

### Purchases Victoria Cafeteria.

H. L. Morrison and J. M. Fluharty, owners of The Home Bakery-Cafeteria, have purchased the Victoria Cafeteria. They will make it a first class place, using only the very best foods to be had in the market, and giving the best possible service. It will still be run under the name of Victoria Cafeteria. Mrs. Calloway will be kept in charge, and will be pleased to see all former patrons. Adv. D26

## FINAL PROOF NOW EASIER TO OBTAIN

### New Form for Affidavit Received at the Boise Land Office.

The filing of a new affidavit, the form for which has just been received at the Boise land office, will give the settler on reclamation projects the right to a final certificate even before the completion of the works on his project.

The instructions that have been received here by the land officers carry out the provisions of an act of congress of Aug. 9, 1912, enabling the settler to get his final certificate without waiting for the finishing of all of the works of the project. This will apply to all settlers on lands where water is being delivered in part and where enough of the water is being delivered by the project to raise satisfactory crops.

The showing that all of the requirements of the law have been met and its provisions complied with will enable the settler to get his certificate and later his patent. He will now not have to wait for the finishing of that project. If he has paid all of the assessments against his property and has made the water payments that have become due and has in every other way met the provisions of the statutes, the register and receiver are instructed to grant him his final certificate and to give him title to the land without waiting, possibly for years, before the completion of every part of the project itself.

The new law is of material interest to every settler on reclamation projects in the state. It means that they get the certificates and patents possibly years sooner than they would otherwise and that the title to the land is obtained before it would have been under the old laws governing such projects.

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### The Weather.

**FORECAST FOR BOISE AND VICINITY**—Probably fair tonight and Thursday.

**DAILY REPORT**—Highest temperature yesterday, 34; lowest temperature this morning, 19; mean temperature yesterday, 24. Total precipitation for the 24 hours ending at 6 a. m., .50 of an inch.

## GIPSON SEES THE PARTING OF WAYS FOR DEMOCRATS

### Progressive State Chairman Declares That Lines Are Being Drawn—Tells of the Progressive Conference.

(Capital News Special Service)  
Caldwell, Dec. 25.—The cast has no charms for a native of Idaho, declares J. H. Gipson, Progressive state chairman, who returned Monday from Chicago, New York and Washington. While in Chicago Mr. Gipson attended the conference of Progressive leaders and is enthusiastic over the future of the new party. He says the Progressive cause is growing rapidly throughout the east and that four years hence the Progressives will be in control of the government.

Speaking of his trip, Mr. Gipson said: "Chicago is a mighty busy place. Washington looks like the great capital of a wealthy and populous nation which it is, and New York is a great city, without doubt; but I was mighty glad, just the same, to get back to Idaho. After one has lived here 29 odd years, as I have, he misses the sagebrush plains and the mountains. Southern Idaho looks mighty good to me.

"We had a wonderful gathering at the Progressive conference at Chicago. More than 1500 delegates were present. Every state had some in attendance, and the enthusiasm and confidence in the future manifested by every one, the leaders as well as the rank and file, was wonderful indeed. In fact it was mighty hard to realize that these men were the representatives of a defeated political party. The tone of the meeting would have led one uninformed to conclude that we were attending a love feast held to commemorate some notable political triumph.

**Lauds Colonel Roosevelt.**  
"I had the pleasure of personally meeting a number of our national leaders, including Colonel Roosevelt. The colonel demonstrated his right and title to the position which he occupies in the hearts of his followers, in the judgment of the thinking men of the world today. He is truly a great man, built along truly great lines. Some of us are prone to sadly misjudge the colonel, which I presume is not strange for people are tempted very often to measure contemporaneous great men with the same yard stick they use in sizing up an ordinary citizen—a task much like surveying Mt. Hood with a pair of dividers. I believe his place in history is absolutely secure. He will go down as one of the three great presidents.

"One of the things that impressed me while in Washington was the apparent influence of Senator Dubois among the prominent politicians. He seems to possess the confidence of a great many influential Democrats, and I am of the opinion that he will have considerable voice in the national administration so far as Idaho affairs are concerned.

**Democratic Parting of Ways.**  
"There seems to be a general impression in Washington that the next two years will witness the parting of

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the ways in the Democratic party. Wilson is a big man, but it hardly seems possible for him to reconcile the different ideas of Murphy and Bryan. Underwood and Burke, the Democracy of the south and east is generally recognized as ultra conservative. Of the west radically progressive. Whoever faction controls the other will be dissatisfied and with party lines sitting as lightly as they do now a split seems inevitable.

"I was naturally greatly gratified at the esteem in which I found Senator Borah held everywhere. On the trains and in the hotels the first remark invariably was, 'You have a big man out there in Senator Borah.' More than once I heard the remark that he was of presidential caliber. In fact the general impression concerning him was that he would land in the president's chair if he succeeded in steering a true course through the troubled political waters for the next four years.

### THEFT OF

(Continued from First Page.)

tenced to two and a half years' imprisonment. He later was pardoned by Governor Oswald West on promise that he would disclose where the gold was hidden. He led the detectives to a field near Newburg, Ore, where \$7500 in bullion was dug up. He alleged that the balance had been removed while he was in jail.

Caveness later was arrested at San Francisco, and a large portion of the loot, approximately one-fifth of it, was found in his possession. Caveness received a sentence of 15 months' imprisonment.

The recent stealing of \$50,000 from a steamship plying between Liverpool and Havre after the Humboldt fashion is thought to afford a clue to Kane, one of the quintet of robbers, who after running a soloon in El Paso, Texas, went to New York, where trace of him was lost.

For two years detectives have worked on the case, the United States officers co-operating with a private agency employed by the company which insured the gold and suffered the loss. The gold was consigned by Fairbanks, Alaska, banks to a Seattle, bank.

Cantata by Immanuel Church. "Santa Claus' Greeting," by Charles H. Gabriel, was given to a large and appreciative congregation at the Immanuel Methodist church last evening,

and was a huge success. A chorus of more than 150 voices, together with many special solos suitable for the occasion, were so well drilled that many present pronounced the evening's entertainment as being the best Christmas exercises they had ever seen.

An unusual amount of talent among the scholars of the Sunday school was exhibited, and the success of the evening's entertainment was due first to their support, second to the aid of their teachers, and third to the time and labor of the program committee, consisting of M. J. Church and Mesdames Wotoring, Farmer and Robinson and Miss Dirks, pianist.

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

We are pleased to announce the winners in our Guessing Contest as follows:

First prize won by Mrs. F. E. Canon, 408 Jefferson street; her guess, 2 years, 6 months, 5 days, 10 hours, 13 minutes, 5 seconds.

Second prize won by Alice R. Haycraft, 437 South Tenth street; her guess, 3 years, 6 months, 5 days, 13 hours, 20 minutes, 6 seconds.

Third prize won by Veva Tinsley, 1719 North Seventh street; her guess, 3 years, 6 months, 5 days, 2 hours, 15 minutes, 30 seconds.

The age of the doll as given by Santa Claus in the envelope attached to the doll was, 3 years, 6 months, 5 days, 11 hours, 45 minutes, 7 seconds.

We wish to thank our friends and customers for the interest shown in this contest, and for the liberal patronage given us, and wish you all a Merry Xmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

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