

## IRRIGATION CONGRESS

Opens at Boise City, Idaho, Monday.  
More Than a Thousand Delegates Present

More than one thousand delegates representing about half of the states of the union were present Monday when the National Irrigation Congress assembled for its fourteenth annual session. California's delegation of about sixty was third in point of numbers.

Vice-President Fairbanks, who arrived at Boise before daylight Monday morning, was escorted to the theater in Riverside Park at 11 o'clock and received a hearty welcome, the audience standing and applauding for fully a minute.

Immediately after the arrival of the Vice-President the congress was called to order by L. W. Shurtleff, of Ogden, Utah, first vice-president. George C. Pardee, of California, president of the congress, was detained in California and was not present.

James A. Pinney, mayor of Boise, and Gov. Frank R. Gooding welcomed the delegates to the capital of the Gem state. Gov. Gooding spoke at some length of the several great irrigation projects now in course of completion in Idaho.

The convention was roused to applause when Gov. Gooding referred to President Roosevelt, stating that it was at St. Anthony, in the state of Idaho, where the president six years ago made his first promise to the west to give his support to the movement for the enactment of a national reclamation law. The great irrigation works in Idaho now nearing completion, he said, were the fruition of this promise made the president.

On behalf of the congress brief speeches were made by United States Senator Carter, of Montana, and Gov. George E. Chamberlain, of Oregon. Gifford Pinchot, of Washington, chief of the Forestry Department, of the Department of Agriculture, who was announced as the bearer of a letter of greeting to the congress from President Roosevelt, was introduced.

President Roosevelt's letter follows:

### THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

"To the officers and members of the Irrigation Congress, Boise, Idaho:

"Operations under the Reclamation Act, which I signed on June 17, 1902, have been carried on energetically during the four years since that date.

Construction is already well advanced on twenty-three great enterprises in the arid states and territories. Over 1,000,000 acres of land have been laid out for irrigation and of this 200,000 acres are now under ditch, 800 miles of canals and ditches and 30,000 feet of tunnel have been completed and 16,000,000 cubic yards of earth and 3,000,000 cubic yards of rock have been moved.

"Detailed topographical surveys have been extended over 10,000 square miles of country within which the reclamation work is located and 20,000 miles of levels have been run. To bring all the projects to this point will require upward of \$40,000,000, which amount, it is estimated, will be available from the receipts from the disposal of public lands for the years 1907 and 1908.

### DANGER IN GREED

"The pressing danger just now springs from the desire of nearly every man to get and hold as much land as he can, whether he can handle it profitably or not and whether or not it is for the interest of the community that he should have it. The prosperity of the present irrigated areas came from the subdivision of the land and the consequent intensive cultivation. With an adequate supply of water a farm of five acres in some parts of the arid west or of forty acres elsewhere, is as large as may be successfully tilled by one family. When therefore, a man attempts to hold 160 acres of land completely irrigated by government work, he is preventing others from acquiring a home and is ac-

tually keeping down the population of the state.

"Speculation in lands reclaimed by the government must be checked at whatever cost. The object of the reclamation act is not to make money, but to make homes. Therefore, the requirement of the reclamation act that the size of the farm unit shall be limited in each region to the part which will comfortably support one family, must be enforced in letter and in spirit.

### MONEY TO BE RETURNED

"You should, and I doubt not that you will, give your effectual support to the officers of the government in making the reclamation law successful in all respects, and particularly in getting back the original investment, so that the money may be used again in the completion of other projects and thus in the extension of prosperity in the west.

"By the side of the reclamation service there has been grown up another service of not less interest and value to you of the west. This is the forest service, which was created when the charge of the forest reserves was transferred from the interior department to the department of agriculture. The forest policy of the administration, which the forest service is engaged in carrying out, is based, as I have often said, on the vigorous purpose to make every resource of the forest reserves, contribute in the highest degree to the permanent prosperity of the people who depend upon them.

### CARE FOR THE FOREST

"If ever the time should come when the western forests are destroyed, there will disappear with them the prosperity of the stockman, the miner, the lumber man and the railroads, and, most important of all, the small ranchman, who cultivates his own land. I know that you are with me in the intention to preserve the timber, the water and the grass by using them fully but wisely and conservatively. We propose to do this through the freest and most cordial co-operation between the government and every man who is in sympathy with this policy, the wisdom of which no man who knows the facts can for a moment doubt.

"The long-standing and formerly bitter differences between the stockmen and the forest officers are nearly all settled. Those which remain are in process of settlement.

"The sales of forest reserve timber to settlers, miners, lumbermen and other users are increasing very rapidly and in that way, also, the reserves are successfully meeting a growing need.

### LANDS OPENING RAPIDLY

"Lands in the forest reserves that are more valuable for agriculture than for forest purposes are being opened to settlement and entry as fast as their agricultural character can be ascertained. There is, therefore, no longer excuse for saying that reserves retard the legitimate settlements and development of the country.

"On the contrary, they promote and sustain that development and they will do so in no way more powerfully than through their direct contributions to the schools and roads. Ten per cent. of all the money received from the post reserves goes to the state for the use of the counties in which the reserves lie, to be used for schools and roads. The amount of this contribution is nearly \$70,000 for the first year.

"Finally a body of intelligent, practical, well-trained men, citizens of the west, is being built up—men in whose hands the public interests, including your own will be safe. The forest policy of the government in the west has now become what the west desires to be. It is a national policy, wider than the boundaries of any state and larger than the interests of any single industry. Of course it cannot give any set of men exactly what they would choose. But the interests of the people as a whole are, I repeat, safe in the hands of the forest service.

### BENEFIT OF THE PEOPLE

"By keeping the public forest in the

public hands our forest policy substitutes the good of the whole people for the profits of the privileged few. With that result none will quarrel, except the men who are losing the chance of personal profit at the public expense.

"Our western forest policy is based upon meeting the wishes of the best public sentiment of the whole west. It proposes to create new reserves wherever forest lands still vacant are found in the public domain and to give the reserves already made the highest possible usefulness to all the people. So far, our promises to the people in regard to it have all been made good and I have faith that this policy will be carried to successful completion, because I believe that the people are behind it.

"Sincerely yours,

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

As soon as the applause which followed the reading of the president's message had subsided, Vice-President Charles W. Fairbanks was introduced. The assembly arose and it was several minutes before the vice-president could be heard.

I have 160 acres of good land in Water Co. No. 1 and 160 shares of water stock all for \$20 per acre. Cash payment of \$500. Pay the balance in work, leveling and putting in crop on adjoining land. See me at once.

D. H. CHAPLIN,  
El Centro, Cal.

Wheat for your chickens. Desert Grain Co., Imperial.

FARMERS—Do you want to buy a twenty-foot-cut Combined Horse Harvester, good as new, easy terms, and guaranteed to give satisfaction? For information, address Geo. H. Griffiths Jr., Covina, Cal.

If you want to take home a few loaves of bread we keep it; none better. Also we can supply you with meat as we are nicely fixed in our new quarters now. You can see the sign, just back of Franklin hotel.

320 acre farm, good soft soil and well improved, 3 1-2 miles from Imperial. Price \$30 per acre; terms. See Wilson about it.

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D. A. Brown, Prop. Staad Cor. Ninth and Imperial Ave. Phone Res. 159.  
Trunks 25c in city, 35c outside. All orders carefully attended to. Trunks stored; 25c a month.

It will pay you to see Wilson for the best bargains in the Imperial Valley, or I have the best trading list in the Valley. Go out and look them over with me. I keep rigs for that purpose and will offset my time against yours. Office Commercial Hotel, Imperial, Cal.

### El Centro Bakery and Meat Market

The bakery and meat market is now completed and we invite all to call in and see us. Special attention will be given to the cantaloupe packers and growers to call on us and get your supply of bread and meat and if you want a pie we have it. Don't forget the place, back of the Franklin hotel.

## Meat Market

W. W. Masten has made arrangements to supply meat to customers from the Hotel Franklin for the time being. A meat shop will be arranged for shortly by Mr. Masten. Fresh meat always on hand at the

Hotel Franklin,

El Centro, Cal.

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We have agents in every city in the United States that can handle and sell satisfactory car lots of cantaloupes and these sub-agents distribute to reach all smaller points accessible.

We are the original distributors of the Rocky Ford, Colorado, cantaloupes, and opened up and established them on all Eastern markets. We have contracted with the old original Rocky Ford Association of Rocky Ford, Colorado, to distribute their crop of 1906, making the 8th season we have been appointed by unanimous vote, their selling and distributing agents. We also have contracts with Manzanola, Weitzer, Newdale, Fairmount, La Junta, Granada, Amity and Holly, making NINE Associations, covering the original territory, comprising the Rocky Ford Cantaloupe District of Colorado.

NOTE—Our Mr. L. M. Lyon will take personal charge of the Brawley office on May 10 and remain during the shipping season, and until May 1 his address will be 330 Washington Street, New York City. Mr. Peter P. Hovely is in charge of the Brawley office until Mr. Lyon arrives.

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