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ing ditches have been dug.

has set aside \$2,740,000 of the tion. "Reclamation Fund" for the initial work, and by the time this has been expended about 100,000 acres will be under canals, and the settlers will be returning in anknown as Lake La Hontan; it was nual payments the original investfor land has been divided into them Lake Bonneville of which farm units of 80 acres, and the the Great Salt Lake was the deep- cost of reclaiming will be \$26 per La Hontan in Nevada are found Nevada soil. Future plans inin Pyramid Lake and and a pum- volve the draining of Carson Sink, ber of other small inclosed lakes 25,000 acres in extent, which overwhich were the deepest portions flows in years of heavy rainfall, of the ancient lake. Since these and the reclamation of lands in the large pre-historic lakes were land- upper Carson and Truckee vallocked and did not overflow, it lies. As these large areas are follows that the rainfall which fed gradually brought under irrigation them was much heavier than it is a greator water supply will be required and nine additional reser-DROWNING OUT THE MORMONS, voirs will be constructed with a Should conditions revert, many combined storage capacity of over of the important points situated in a million and a quarters acres feet. the Great Basin would be hope- An acre foot equals one acre, one lessly flooded, such for instance as foot deep,

YIELD ABUNDANTLY.

The soil under this project is These pre-historic lakes are said such as apples, pears, peaches, to be of very recent origin-that grapes, all the berries and vegetis recent by the geologist's count ables produce luxuriantly. Oats, -perlmps 30,000 or 40,000 years wheat, potatoes and alfalfa are the old. Fossils have been found staple crops. The lands are tribushowing the presence of primitive tary to the Southern Pacific, the man along their ancient shores Nevada, California and Oregon, and embankments, which in many and the Virginia and Truckee instances, are as perfect in contour railroads and the recent enormous and as distinct as it the waters activity in gold and silver mining had receded only a few years in Nevada insures a nearby and since. These lakes included such profitable market. At the same arid and fear inspiring localities of time the supply of food products today as the Black Rock desert, will greatly reduce the cost of Skull Valley and Death Valley, living and further stimulate minand a score of other places where ing development.

the bleached bones of man and The fact that a very large animal attest to an awful lack of portion of the lands included in this project belong to the GREAT GOVERNMENT IRRIGATION government and have been withdrawn from speculative entry un-The first irrigation work of the der the desert and other land laws, national government, which is to is a matter for congratulation.

be celebrated by the turning of Nevada's past history has been the water into the gigantic ditches one of land monopoly. In fact it next month, is the largest project has been said that the State was which has been definitely out- long since stolen by land bears. lined and approved under the irri- In area Nevada is three times the gation act-known as the Truckee- size of Indiana, but her population Carson project. When completed is scarcely sufficient for a single it will involve the expenditure of small county. The popular vote approximately nine million dollars of last year was but little over and will reclain 350,000 acres of 12,000. The bulk of the inhabitdesert land. That portion of the able lands are in the hands of a system now completed consists of few great land owners, while the a canal 31 miles long to take opporttnity for settlers and inwater from the Truckee River and creased population has never been convey it to the Carson River, extensive. Nevada's land history where a large storage reservoir is is one which can be studied with projected. Just below this reser- profit by those who are searching voir site, the waters of the two for light on the question of proper streams will be led out upon the administration of the public doplains by two canals, with a com- main. With exception of the inbined capacity of 1,900 cubic feet flux of immigration due to mining per second. Some 50,000 acres excitment, the population is at a are to be irrigated this Spring for standstill and must continue to rewhich 200 miles of small distribut- main so until farm lands are thrown open to settlement in small The Secretary of the Interior tracts through government irriga-

STEALING AWAY THE STATE. When the State was admitted to the Union, in place of receiving the usual donation of alternate school sections-16 and 32 in each township-she secured a flat grant one of several great pre-historic ment. The money thus received from the government of two milwill be used as a revolving fund lion acres of public land to be located wherever her law-makers saw fit. The State Legislature passed as much as desired of this acre, Work is being commenced great and valuable resource into times greater than the Great Salt, this Spring on regulating gates at private ownership of stockmen, at or almost as large as Lake Michi- the outlet of Lake Tahoe, located as low a figure as 25 cents an acre. in California, but whose waters These lands have been located up The contracted remains of Lake will be used to reclaim the fertile and down the sides of every river and stream and around every spring and water hole in the State, so that while Nevada has today some sixty million acres of public land, there is not a quarter section of it upon which a homesteader cound make a living. The land granted to the State for school purposes-disposed of by the State for a mess of pottage-controls the lands of the State.

The government's irrigation, when worked out, will immediately double Nevada's population; it will provide a new life blood of the Mormon Temple, which would FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND GRAIN settlement and citizenship for a region of unsurpassed agriculture.

This great reclamation scheme very fertile, and delicious fruits for the rebuilding of Nevada is being carried into operation by Engineer L. H. Taylor, under the supervision of Frederick H. Newell, Chief Engineer of the Reclamation Service. It will afford the first practical example of the operations of the new national irrigation law. -GUY E. MITCHELL.

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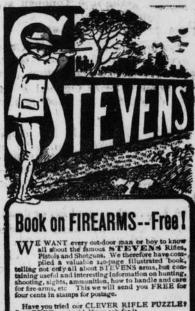
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