

REAL ESTATE NEWS

U. S. WILL RECLAIM VAST WESTERN LAND

Irrigation To Make Columbia River Basin Larger Than the State of Massachusetts

Spokane, Wash.—The irrigation of a vast desert land, larger in area than the state of Massachusetts and more fertile than any in the United States, in eastern Washington, is to be accomplished when water is turned upon 1,750,000 acres of the land. This known as the Columbia river basin, land has heretofore yielded a large crop of sagebrush. The great sanded tract has waited since the beginning of time for the ingenuity of engineers to quench its thirst. The plans for the irrigation of the Columbia basin have been completed by A. J. Turner, veteran reclamation engineer, and have been approved by state and federal authorities.

The watering of the desert land of the eastern Washington valleys has long been the dream of its settlers. Acres of ruined orchards and wheat fields gone to waste attest the hardy efforts of farmers for decades to make the great basin productive of wheat.

Solve Great Problem

The engineers looked to the Columbia river, winding its swollen flood for centuries at the very doors of the great basin, but they were unable to raise the water from the river bed to the plains above. They looked to Lake Crelan, one of the largest bodies of fresh water in the world, but there were insurmountable difficulties presented here. But modern engineers looked farther to the great Pend Oreille river, fifty miles north of Spokane, and saw the water that is soon to course through an intricate system of canals and now over the Columbia basin, hit the burning plains and make it possible to produce there enough wheat, corn and alfalfa to feed the world.

The Pacific northwest looks upon the reclamation of this great arid tract as one of the most important events in its history.

Fifty-six miles of concrete-lined main canal will be built; thirty-four miles of tunnels, eight in number, the longest of which will be fifteen and three-quarter miles and the shortest one mile. Forty miles of artificial and natural lakes will be utilized along the route. The vast plan of distribution calls for 10,000 miles of concrete-lined lateral canals branching from the mains.

Tunnel Under City

The tunnels through which the water will flow will be double, each thirty-three feet in diameter. One of these sets of tunnels will penetrate beneath the city of Spokane. The maximum demand capacity of the canal will be 20,000 cubic feet of water per second, and the irrigation season will be seven months. The Pend Oreille river, which is to be tapped for this irrigation purposes, now has an annual flow of about 19,000,000 acre-feet. Only one-third of this, or 6,000,000 acre-feet will be needed to irrigate this tremendous desert.

Soil expert Guy C. Finlay, in federal reclamation work for twelve years reports that the soil of the Columbia basin, a volcanic ash, is twelve feet deep. The value of the land can be determined when it is known that the great Yakima country, where 300,000 irrigated acres yielded crops valued at \$45,000,000 last year, has a soil depth of only four feet.

Federal Undertaking

The great Pend Oreille is flowing across a countryside today to no purpose. The irrigation project is a federal undertaking. Western members of congress and the senate are going before the congress at the next session to ask for the suitable appropriation.

Experts who have investigated the project and all who have seen the basin believe the proposed reclamation of these 1,750,000 acres of twelve-foot deep volcanic ash land to be one of the greatest undertakings ever conceived.

Sure Thing.

Naggsby—"What would you think if you got a letter containing the most abject praise of yourself and which ended without asking any sort of favor?" Wagsby—"I should think I was asleep and dreaming."—Fasm Life.

SAYS ALASKA WILL AID PAPER FAMINE

Washington, D. C.—That the shortage of newsprint will be overcome by new paper mills in Alaska was predicted by Col. W. B. Greeley, chief of the forest service, who has just returned from a month's inspection of timber and water power on the Tongass national forest. "The national forests of Alaska," said Col. Greeley, "contain resources sufficient to produce 1,500,000 tons of paper annually in perpetuity, and a paper industry in the territory is now assured." Col. Greeley believes that the administration of Alaska's great resources should be put in the hands of men on the ground, but it opposed to the transfer of all federal interests to a local commission.

A sale of 100,000,000 feet of pulp timber has been made, and a second sale of 1,500,000 feet, which will supply a large paper plant for 30 years, is now being arranged. "The national forests of Alaska," said Col. Greeley, "offer paper manufacturers an ample supply of pulp timber, available under long term contracts at low prices and subject to very simple and reasonable cutting requirements. The forest service is doing its utmost to develop this resource of the territory. We will not only make Alaska one of the greatest sources of paper for the United States, but we will make the industry permanent, as it is in Norway, by keeping the cut of timber within what our forests are growing. Paper manufacturers who go to Alaska can count upon an assured supply of raw material indefinitely."

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

The term "collective bargaining" means that wage-workers shall have the right to organize, and through their chosen representatives, make bargains with their employers concerning wages and other phases of their work. During the war this method of governing employment gained full official recognition, and former President Taft was chairman of the War Labor board that put teeth into the enforcement of the principle in industry. Railroad employers and wage-workers reached the progressive viewpoint that the government should be taken into consideration as the logical protector of the public interest, and more than two million railroad men agreed with their employers to an adjustment of wage relations by the federal government. Other industries have been asking the government to adjudicate their affairs, and through the plan of "collective bargaining" the process has been making rapid progress.

The coal miners have been persistent in their demands upon Washington, and the government has been rendering the fullest assistance in settling the troubles that have arisen. However, it appears to be up to the coal miners to rid their organizations of anarchists, bolsheviks and I. W. W.'s since that element is prominent in leadership among them. And public opinion has passed the point where it will sustain such leaders.

WRECK IVERSON GARAGE

Wreckers were engaged this week in razing the Iverson building, known as the Iverson garage, on Gage street, Hubbard Woods.



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NORTH SHORE REAL ESTATE MOST ACTIVE IN COUNTY

Realty Dealers Claim Greater Number of Sales Have Averaged \$25,000 in Price

It is claimed by some of our north shore real estate brokers the north shore real estate has been more active during the past few months than real estate in any other section of Cook county. The greater number of sales have been homes ranging in price around \$25,000. The largest sale of the season was the Blackwood home located at 334 Warwick road, Kenilworth, to E. L. Essley of Rogers Park. Consideration said to be around \$60,000. This deal was consummated by Hill and Wheeler who report a waiting list of buyers willing to pay from \$50,000 to \$150,000 for north shore homes. Hill and Wheeler also report sale of Old English home on Sheridan road and Forest avenue to Edward W. Flanagan for a consideration of \$25,000.

BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED TO WINNETKA RESIDENTS

The following building permits have been issued to Winnetka residents by the Village Department of Public Works:
W. H. Anderson, 555 Provident avenue; garage.
W. F. Wallace, 915 Mt. Pleasant road; garage.
William Remy will build a residence and garage valued at \$20,000 at 203 Sunset road.

BUYS NEIMANN RESIDENCE

Arthur Randolph, 671 Willow street, has purchased the Carl Neimann residence at 1040 Willow street and will take possession October 1.

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