

Twin Falls, Its New Railroad AND Big Celebration

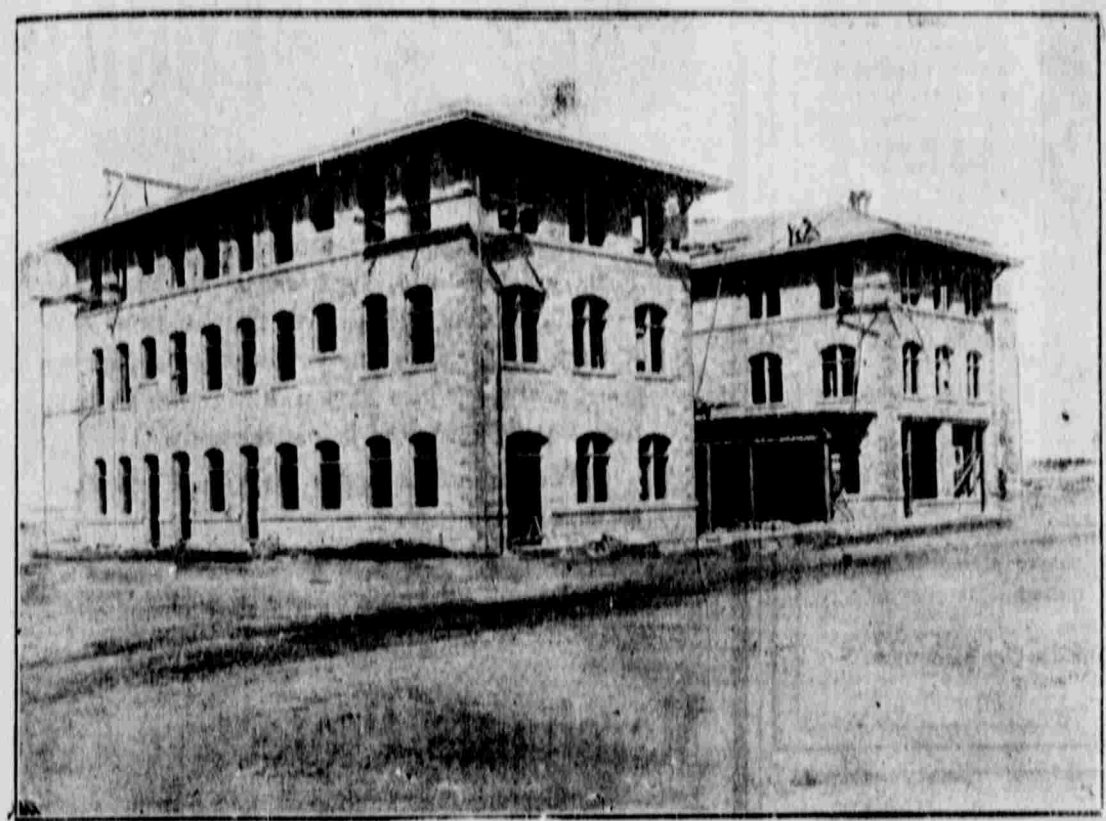
MONDAY, AUG. 7, will mark an important event in the history of the state of Idaho. The occasion will be of particular significance to the citizens of Cassia county, for that is the date fixed for a celebration in the new city of Twin Falls, marking the completion of the Minidoka Southern railroad, a branch of the Oregon Short Line, to that point. The last spike in the new road will probably be driven today; but the celebration does not take place till a little more than a week later.

The business men of Twin Falls are making elaborate arrangements to take care of the crowd and every assurance has been given that visitors will be most royally entertained. The Oregon Short Line has announced an excursion rate of one fare for the round trip from all Idaho points. A special train will be run from Minidoka to Twin Falls, arriving at the future metropolis of southern Idaho about 1 o'clock in the afternoon, when the keys to the town, after due ceremony, will be turned over to the guests.

Not only is the coming celebration intended to mark the completion of the railway, but it will also be in the nature of a fitting tribute to the empire builders who, through energy, pluck,

perseverance and great expenditure of money have been responsible for the great transformation that is taking place along the south banks of the Snake river. The celebration will be a happy climax to one of the grandest achievements in the history of irrigation. The world has never seen anything to compare with the Twin Falls irrigation project for through the construction of great dams and the subduing of the waters of the Snake at Milner, a region embracing approximately 270,000 acres of desert lands, covered by sage brush for centuries, has been made available for cultivation.

Today a greater portion of the tract is under the canal of the Twin Falls Land & Water company, which has been laid out for the purpose of adding several hundred miles more before the entire system is completed. A year ago nothing green could be seen throughout the broad expanse; but now there are many fields bearing a crop for the first time. The Twin Falls tract, as it is familiarly called, will become a garden spot as other places in the arid west have become through the simple application of water. It will be a populous section and 40 and 80 acre tracts will be popular with tillers of the soil.



HOTEL KIMBERLY IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION AT TWIN FALLS.

FATHER OF THE PROJECT.

About twenty years ago, a young man-a tenderfoot, fresh from a down east farm, landed in Idaho. He came in search of a fortune, for he wasn't rich. On the contrary, he was as poor as the proverbial fish. He had a few dollars and his stock in trade was a dogged determination to succeed. He pictured in his mind a long stage of hardships, a life of privation, but he was not deterred. He was looking for a place, a spot where he could make his money. He was looking for a place, a spot where he could make his money. He was looking for a place, a spot where he could make his money.

INTERESTING DESCRIPTION.

Chief Engineer P. L. A. Bickel has kindly furnished the "News" some interesting data relative to the construction of the dams and water ways. "The dams at irrigation falls, the name given to the falls created artificially at Milner," Mr. Bickel states, "each have a width of 20 feet on the crest, at a height of eight feet above high water mark in the canals. They are constructed of concrete and are 42 feet wide at base, having a minimum width of 150 feet at base, reinforced at the upper side with an embankment of earth having a base width of 300 feet, the total width of bottom being 400 feet, the upper slope being four to one and paved with rock rip-rap. The aggregate length of the three dams is about 1,100 feet, and the spillways are over 900 feet long, making a total length of 2,000 feet. The islands are used as spillways, to take care of the excess of water beyond the capacity of the canals. The top of the south island has been cut down to the bottom of the canals, and provided with a battery of 48 gates, 120 feet in clear, extending across the island, a distance of 530 feet. It is safe to say that no such assembly of gates arrayed in one continuous line has ever been used upon any irrigation works in America. These gates are held in place by steel frames inclosed in concrete, and are operated by means of the river and is built of heavy steel. In the first four miles of the canal there is considerable solid rock, but beyond that the excavations have been made in soft mud and loam.

CANAL DIMENSIONS.

The dimensions of the main canal are 80 feet wide on the bottom, 120 feet at the surface of the water when full, 20 feet in width. The main canal, 20 miles below the head gates, is divided into what is known as the high low line canal, which continues westward over the tract for about 45 miles. Nine hundred miles of canals and laterals will be required to complete the system and it will take several years more in which to build them. This will include waterways necessary to irrigate a tract of 50,000 acres or more on the north side of the river in Lincoln county.

WORK AND PRIVATION.

It took much hard work and years of privation on the part of Mr. Perrine to make his blue lakes ranch profitable. The country was new; there were no roads to build and a thousand and one other things to do. He was early into the possibilities of that country south of the river in Cassia county, where existed the broad expanse now irrigated by the canals of the Twin Falls Land & Water company.

DRY CHANNEL DAMS.

"The two dry channel dams were first constructed. Then the water was diverted through a tunnel cut under the south island below the normal level of the river while the north or main channel dam was put in. This tunnel was cut through the river in 20,000 feet, wide, eight feet high and 80 feet long, part of the distance through the island being an open cut. The tunnel is lined with concrete and divided into eight compartments, each closed at the up-stream end by a massive steel gate which is raised or lowered at will by a counterweight device placed on the platform on a level with the top of the dam. The dams contain 180,000 tons of concrete, 300,000 tons of earth and 6,000 cubic yards of cement.

NO FLUMES.

In the construction of the canals there is a conspicuous absence of flumes. One cyphon is used to convey the water across the Rock Creek valley and is built of heavy steel. In the first four miles of the canal there is considerable solid rock, but beyond that the excavations have been made in soft mud and loam.

THE OFFICERS.

The officers chosen were: President, P. H. Buhl, Sharon, Pa., vice president and general manager, W. G. Miller, Salt Lake; secretary and treasurer, Mr. B. DeLong, Ute, N. Y.; assistant general manager, Mr. M. M. Murtough, Milner, Ia.; chief engineer, Mr. L. A. Bickel, Helena, Mont. Mr. Frank Knox of Salt Lake also became interested in the company. James D. Schuyler, hydraulic engineer of Los Angeles, Cal., was appointed consulting engineer.

TOWN OF TWIN FALLS.

A year ago the town of Twin Falls contained one house. Except for the stakes left by the surveyors there were no signs of streets then. In fact, there was little to indicate that a town of large proportions was to be built there. The house referred to was built by the Twin Falls Investment company, and was put up for office purposes. This little place has been about the busiest in the town, which now has a population of about 1,500 people.

IRIGATION INSTRUCTION.

There being no many settlers from the states where little or nothing is known about irrigation, the officials of the Twin Falls Land & Water company early in the history of the project conceived the idea of providing means of giving instruction to the new comers. Accordingly the office of agricultural instruction was created, and James McPherson, who, for a number of years served the state of Idaho as horticultural director and pure food and sanitary inspector, was induced to give up his position with the state to accept the place made for him by the land company.

WHO SPEAKERS WILL BE:

Among the speakers who have been invited to participate in the Twin Falls celebration are Senator Heyburn, Congressman French, Gov. Gooding, besides railroad officials, officials of the Twin Falls Land & Water company and others. This will be followed by a barbecue, while races and other sports will be indulged in to complete the festivities of the day. Suitable prizes will be awarded for the best showing of farm products grown on the Twin Falls tract, of which there will be quite an elaborate exhibition.

MANUFACTURING CENTER.

Twin Falls seems destined to become a manufacturing city. It is shown in the Niagara of the west, and it probably will be, when the waters of the Shoshone falls, second only to the Niagara, are harnessed and placed under subjection. Power will be plentiful and cheap. The Shoshone Falls Power company is now constructing a plant at Shoshone Falls and within three months will be ready to deliver electrical energy to the town. The initial plant will be capable of generating 20,000 horsepower. This company also acquired an electric railway franchise and early next year will have a line in operation from the town to the falls. As the country settles up, rural lines will be built, and lighting will be built.

Mr. McPherson made a two years' contract with the latter and receives a salary of \$250 per month. Forty acres of ground were set aside, near the town of Twin Falls for experimental purposes. Here experiments are being made with the growing of all kinds of grains, vegetables, fruit, etc., the purpose of which is to determine what kind of crops can be most successfully grown on the soil and what kinds are the most profitable to cultivate. Mr. McPherson is in charge of this farm. The land was all overgrown on May 10th last, but no one would know it without being told now, for he is going to harvest a big crop, notwithstanding the season was well advanced before he could get the seed into the ground. He has a corn field that would be hard to excel in the corn states; a potato patch that would take the prize in any country. He has other things growing, including various kinds of grasses, which clearly demonstrate that the proper application of water to the soil and careful attention is about all that is necessary to get a crop in that portion of southern Idaho.

ORGANIZING THE FARMERS.

The most important duty devolving upon Mr. McPherson is the organization of the farmers throughout the tract. He has already organized five associations, and will organize many more as the country settles up. At these meetings matters pertaining to irrigation, stockraising, horticulture and other topics of interest to them are discussed. Farmers tell of their

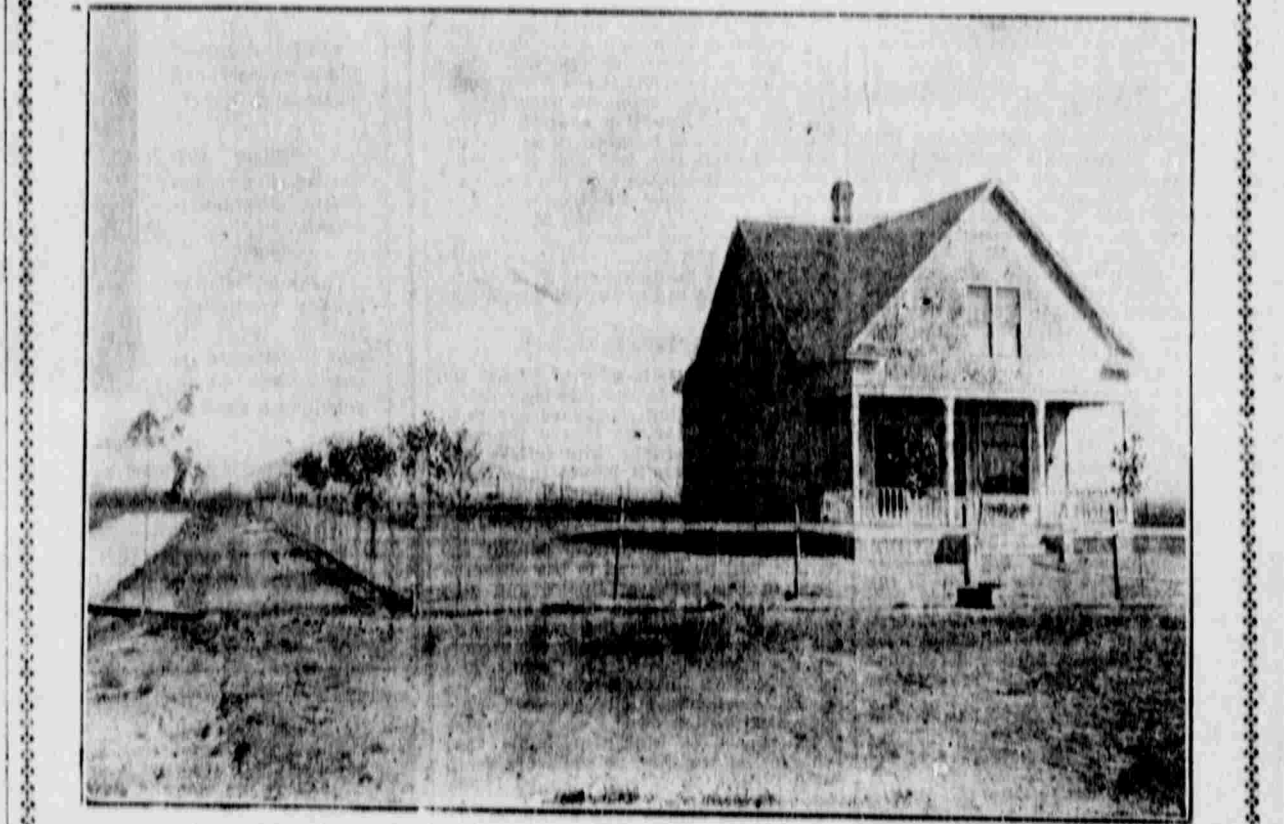
experiences and by coming together engage in a general exchange of ideas. Where one has made a failure in the raising of a certain kind of grain, vegetable, or something else, another will tell him just where he has made a mistake and how to remedy it. Mr. McPherson has delivered a number of lectures to the farmers at meetings of these associations, and many of his hearers have gained knowledge of how to farm in an irrigated country, which otherwise would have taken them years to learn.

WILL FORM FEDERATION.

The local organizations will lead to the formation of a federation made up of representatives of the lesser organizations. By banding themselves together in this manner the farmers will be better prepared to work unitedly to obtain legislation and other things that will work to their mutual welfare. The associations will bring the leaders, the master minds, to the front; the farmers will learn to do business, as Mr. McPherson expresses it, and when the time comes for them to take over the management of the canal system, they will know how to conduct it.

BIG BOOM COMING.

Upon the formal opening of the railroad into Twin Falls next month it is expected the town and country will enjoy a lively building boom. Many who have contemplated the construction of new buildings have deferred doing so until the coming of the iron horse with the expectation of making a great saving on the cost of material. Hereafter everything pertaining to the affairs of the company on the ground. His headquarters are at Twin Falls. He is a man of great executive ability and in every way fitted for directing of everything pertaining to the affairs of the company successfully.



RESIDENCE OF C. D. THOMAS, OF IDAHO LAND BOARD AT TWIN FALLS.

Tourist Stage Line

J. M. BURNETT, Manager,
Twin Falls, Idaho.



SHOSHONE FALLS,
TWIN FALLS,
BLUE LAKES.

And other points of scenic interest on the Snake river in Idaho are reached daily by Burnett's stages from Twin Falls City.

Do one week's bathing with our coal and you'll know where we get the name "That Good Coal."

BAMBERGER,
161 Meighan St.,
U. S. A.

DON'T BELIEVE
The man who tells you that we cannot issue a RELIABLE RATING BOOK, it will contain more names and be more accurate than any heretofore published in Utah.

AMERICAN MERCHANTILE & REPORTING AGENCY.
Top floor Atlas Bldg.
W. BENJ. PUTNAM, Mgr.

Our New Catalogue
JUST ISSUED.
Mailed Free to Any Address.

Deseret News Book Store.
6 Main St. Salt Lake City, Utah.

IF YOU ARE THINKING OF LOCATING OR INVESTING IN THE TWIN FALLS TRACT, IT WILL PAY YOU TO CALL ON OR CORRESPOND WITH

HILL & TAYLOR

REAL ESTATE, INSURANCE, AND RENTALS

TWIN FALLS, IDAHO.

Information Cheerfully Given in Regard to Farm or Town Property.

C. W. NIBLEY, President. **J. O. NIBLEY, Vice-President.** **C. B. CHANNELL, Secy. and Treas.**

Nibley-Channel Lumber Co., Ltd.,

LUMBER
And all kinds of Building Material. Builders' Hardware. Patton's Sun Proof Paint.

KEMMERER COAL.
TWIN FALLS, IDAHO, AND BURLEY, IDAHO.

GREEN, FANCY, IMPORTED AND STAPLE GROCERIES, FISH, CURED MEATS, POULTRY, ETC.

Telephone: Nos. 964-965-966.

W. S. HENDERSON,
267-269-271 South Main St.,
SALT LAKE CITY, - - UTAH.

WHOLESALE, RETAIL. **WHOLESALE TRADE ESPECIALLY SOLICITED.**