

works built in connection with these lands. The enunciation of these vital principles in the laws of five different states is another event which renders the past year remarkable in the history of the irrigation movement. But in spite of all that has been accomplished, difficulties have arisen in the practical application of the Carey law. Grave differences of opinion as to its meaning have developed between state officials and officers of the interior department at Washington. While it was evidently the desire of Congress to have these lands reclaimed and settled under state auspices, the law has apparently failed to confer the necessary power upon the states. One of the most encouraging developments of the past year was the action of Secretary Smith of the interior and Secretary Morton of the agricultural department in countenancing the formation on the part of a number of specialists in their respective bureaus of the body known as the "board of irrigation, executive departments." The most gratifying feature of the matter is the evidence it affords of a growing recognition in official circles of irrigation as a national question.

The most conspicuous irrigation statute in the United States is the district law of California. In connection with this law there has recently occurred an event of far-reaching importance to both the economics and practice of irrigation. I refer to the decision of Judge Ross in the United States district court of Los Angeles to the effect that the Wright law is unconstitutional and that millions upon millions of securities issued in compliance with its provisions are invalid. If this decision be accepted in its full meaning, it is a calamity of the largest proportions. It would destroy in a breath the usefulness of the great system of canals wholly or partially constructed, and would plunge into chaos the industrial machinery of large and thickly settled districts, and would give to irrigation in general a bad repute in financial circles, scarcely to be outlived in a generation. It remains to be seen whether the United States Supreme court will confirm the astounding decision of Judge Ross. The best legal opinion, apparently, believes it will.

I believe I express the sentiments not only of this congress, but of men of arid America throughout its length and breadth, when I say the holders of the aforesaid security need not fear any loss on their investment, whatever will be their legal status.

Since the adjournment of the Denver convention, the cause of irrigation has been systematically presented to influential men and newspapers, and the public at large, in the great eastern centers. Everywhere we have found four of the most potential elements of eastern life ready to co-operate with us upon any broad line of action, which has for its object the relief of the pressure upon the great cities in the East, and the expansion of the national greatness in the West. These four elements are first, the Press; second, the Clergy; third, the College and fourth, Organized Labor. The time is ripe for a vast movement of the population from the crowded centers throughout the world. Colonization is the watch word

of the hour, not only here, but everywhere. Colonization from all old countries to new is the price of domestic tranquility and national expansion. In the United States this movement will flow either to the South or to the arid region of the West. We cannot disguise the fact that the South today is our aggressive competitor in the matter of attracting new population. With the superb enterprise and opportunity it is pushing for people, but the Anglo-Saxon still tends naturally to the West and the claims of irrigation are supreme.

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M., Sept. 16.—Col. Carr, of Illinois, made a neat little speech putting in nomination Mr. Jesse R. Grant, of Arizona, the youngest son of the late great general, for temporary president. The nomination was seconded and, on motion of ex-Governor Prince, was carried by acclamation.

J. W. Cooke, of Iowa, was elected temporary secretary and the usual committees were provided for.

The afternoon session was opened promptly at 2 o'clock by the report of the committee on rules and order of business. The committee decided to close the session on Wednesday evening, and in order to do that had arranged three sessions per day, from 9 to 2:30, 2 to 6 and an evening session.

Governor Thornton then gave his address of welcome, branching off into a eulogy of New Mexico and an enumeration of her resources.

The report of the committee on permanent organization was then read and adopted, as follows: President, Col. John E. Frost, of Kansas; secretary, Fred L. Allen, of Los Angeles; general vice president, George Q. Cannon, of Salt Lake; and one district vice president from each state and territory represented.

President Frost addressed the delegates, thanking them for the honor conferred upon him, more especially as he saw before him a body of men who were thoroughly informed in all the questions pertaining to theoretical and practical irrigation.

Col. Carr of Illinois then presented the following resolution: "Resolved, that the provisions of the Carey act be extended to the territories, and that Congress be urged to expedite the matter."

National Lecturer Emery then gave a witty and masterly address on the subject of "Irrigation through individual effort." The speaker after forcibly impressing upon his hearers the advantages to be derived from individual effort, quoted Boyce's words: "The West is the most American part of the continent. The confidence of the American people is superb. Nature and time seems to have conspired to make the Missouri valley what it is." The speaker spoke of the prophecy that the center of the English-speaking race would be in the Mississippi valley, and pointed out that irrigation was fast bringing this about. After dwelling upon what had been done in his own state for the cause, the speaker closed by exhorting the members to make individual efforts for the advancement of irrigation.

A statistical paper was then read by E. P. Harroun, C.E., of New Mexico.

## WEBER COUNTY GRAIN.

HARRISVILLE, Utah, Sept. 16, 1895.

In my perambulations I find the grain crop of Harrisville and Far West precincts brings the average yield of wheat a trifle over 24 bushels to the acre, and of oats a little over 39 bushels to the acre.

The correct returns threshed out by R. Hayes, 8,716 bushels of wheat from 361½ acres; 2,824 bushels of oats from 75½ acres; 68½ bushels of barley from 3 acres; by the Skeen boys, 2,754½ bushels of wheat from 114½ acres; 1,906½ bushels of oats from 44½ acres. This gives a total of 11,470½ bushels of wheat from 475½ acres; 4,730½ bushels of barley from 120 acres; 68½ bushels of barley from 3 acres, a grand total of 16,269½ bushels from the sixty-six jobs threshed from 598½ acres, making an average of 246½ bushels to the job, and a trifle over nine acres to the job. This is a little increase from last year's returns which was 15,004 bushels from sixty-three jobs, constituting of 538 acres or a trifle over 8 acres to the job.

The population of Harrisville and Far West may be considered about stationary in numbers, about 700 souls. Not but what advantage has been taken of emigration facilities, but her sturdy sons of toil may be found as a valuable acquisition to the Snake river country, in the state of Idaho, where her boys and girls are gathered in settlements made and built up from Harrisville progeny, many of whom are in the foremost ranks of industry, progression and go-aheadativeness, and are a credit to their venerable sires and matrons. Yours, P. L.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL JUBILEE.

RED CANYON, Wyoming,  
Sept. 14, 1895.

The Sabbath school children of Evanston and Almy held a grand jubilee in the temple of Honor hall, Almy, this afternoon. The hall was well filled and a very interesting and instructive program was rendered by the children.

Bishop James Brown, of Evanston, gave some valuable and timely instructions to the parents and teachers. He defined the different methods of teaching them in the Sabbath schools of this age with the methods of teaching them in early days. In early days the teacher held his pupils spellbound to long readings and left them to find as best they could the true contents of the subject it contained; but in our day the Sabbath school children were trained to short readings, with full explanations of the subject between them; so that instead of the child worrying its mind to find out the true meaning of what he had read in early days, in our day, he is anxiously waiting full information from the teacher.

The Bishop gave also a brief address to the parents of the children and teachers on the evil habits of smoking, drinking and the use of low, distasteful language, and pointed out to them that they should be worthy examples to the rising youth in our schools and homes that will be worthy of their imitation.

Refreshments being served around to the company, the children and their friends returned home well paid for their visit to the hall.