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10 PAGES—LAST EDITION. WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1904. SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH. FIFTY-FOURTH YEAR.

## Solving the Water Problem For City and Valley.

### THE UTAH LAKE PROJECT FAVORED.

Big Meeting of Irrigators Takes Decisive Action at East Jordan Today.

### ORGANIZE FOR THE WORK.

Professor Newell Makes Strong Talk and Clears Up Many Points Heretofore Misunderstood.

### SESSION MOST ENTHUSIASTIC

It Was Attended by About 500 Men Including Many Prominent Irrigators—What Was Done.

The Utah lake project is a "go." This much was decided upon at a meeting held in East Jordan this morning, at which 500 representative water users were present. The session was called to order at 10:10 a. m. President Angus M. Cannon in the chair. Among those in attendance were Prof. F. H. Newell, chief of the reclamation division of the U. S. geological survey; Gifford Pinchot, chief of the forestry department; Prof. G. L. Swenson, government expert for Utah; President Angus M. Cannon, Col. E. P. Holmes, State Engineer A. F. Doremus, George C. Lambert, City Engineer Kelso, President Hewlett of the Salt Lake city council, Councilman E. H. Davis, Mayor W. M. Roylance of Provo, J. F. Murdoch of Charleston, B. W. Rose of the government reclamation service, Idaho, Representative White of Piute county, State Senator Benning of Vernal, County Commissioner Wilson and County Assessor Ben R. Eldredge.

The meeting was enthusiastic throughout, and after being called to order by President Cannon, State Engineer Doremus was introduced and in a few well chosen remarks explained the object of the meeting. He then introduced Prof. Newell, who delivered a masterly address, making plain the position of the government in such matters and inviting questions touching any phase of the proposition. The invitation was quite generally accepted and Prof. Newell was freely interrupted, clearing up many points not hitherto understood by those present. The speaker then introduced Prof. Pinchot, who addressed the meeting on forest reserves. He asked for an expression of those present as to the policy of the government on this question and a vote being taken all but four signified their being satisfied with present conditions. It is supposed that the four negative votes were registered by sheepmen, who are known to have not very kindly feelings towards the government on this question.

By unanimous vote it was decided to appoint a committee to go ahead with the organization of the water interests of this valley so as to be ready to do business with the government on the Utah lake proposition. The committee referred to will be composed of seven persons, one representative from each of the five canal companies and two members-at-large, who were elected at the meeting. They are State Engineer A. F. Doremus and Col. E. P. Holmes. The meeting adjourned at 12:30 after which the various canal companies caucused to select their committee.

**STATE ENGINEER DOREMUS.**  
At 10:10 o'clock President Angus M. Cannon called the meeting to order and introduced State Engineer Doremus, who stated the object of the meeting. He said that the arid land reclamation commission appointed by the governor under an act of the last legislature, had organized and submitted the Utah lake project to the government and that Prof. Newell had had his men in the field here last summer and they were ready to report as to whether it is a feasible proposition. They are here and will tell you what the possibilities of Utah lake are with reference to a water supply for this valley. He then introduced Prof. Newell, who spoke in part as follows:

**MR. NEWELL TALKS.**  
"Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, it is a great pleasure to me to address you on this important subject. What I will say will be very brief. What we want is to hear from you on this matter. President Cannon, on June 17, 1902, signed a bill appropriating \$10,000,000 for reclamation of arid lands. This amount was set aside for those works to be repaid by the treasury in 10 annual installments by the water users. For instance, if it cost \$20 per acre, we will charge you \$2 per acre per year for 10 years until the fund is returned.

**UTAH LAKE THE BEST.**  
Utah lake is one of the best possibilities for water in the west. Several thousand acres can be reclaimed. This is a plain business proposition and not a philanthropic or paternal project. The government asks money and interest but it does ask nothing in return; that farms be established and finally that you take the project into your hands afterwards. There is a great amount of water flowing into Utah lake from the surrounding mountains. The great problem is to prevent the area of the lake and to reduce a vast amount of evaporation down the channel of Jordan river and run it out into the lake. That will mean pumping, to the high line canal. The plan is feasible but the greatest obstacle is legal rights. It



**POSTMASTER A. L. THOMAS.**  
Against Whom a Vigorous Fight is Being Waged in Washington.  
A most determined effort is under way at Washington for the summary removal from office of Postmaster A. L. Thomas of this city. Charges were preferred against him months ago, but no action has been taken on them until the present time when they have been brought to light again. So long did they remain pigeon-holed that it was thought they had been considered groundless by the department. And even now friends declare there is nothing of serious consequence in them. Nevertheless Mr. Thomas finds his presence in the capital essential, having been cited by the president to appear. It is a known fact that Senator Kearns and ex-First Assistant Postmaster General Heath are both bitterly opposed to Mr. Thomas and that they will do all they possibly can to bring about his dismissal from the service. Whether they will be able to succeed remains to be seen. Meanwhile the contest will increase in rancor and the outcome will be awaited with interest.

**IN THE HANDS OF THE PRESIDENT.**  
Washington, Jan. 20.—Senator Smoot and Representative Howell of Utah, and ex-Gov. Thomas, postmaster of Salt Lake City, had a conference with the president today with reference to, it is said, charges filed against Postmaster Thomas. An investigation of the charges was made by postoffice inspectors who reported to the department. The report is in the hands of the president who is giving it consideration. No decision in the matter has been reached.

is really for you to get together and show us how you can reach an agreement so as to insure the rights of none. I think and hope you can do that. Then we can do business with you. It was done in Salt River valley, after considerable wrangling. After they were served leave, a water users' association was formed, officers were elected, they insured us how much water they could take and what they would pay for it and we could deal with those directors and depend upon them. "Of course here you have well organized canal companies, you have the willingness, ability and means to do it; we want to meet you half way and see what can be done. Before I close, there is another matter I wish to speak of—that is, in regard to the forest reserve. Prof. Pinchot is here to discuss that with you, and he would be glad to hear from you any suggestions which you might make in regard to forest reserves. He and I have talked over this matter at Portland, Reno, and other places and have come here to talk to your governor and the land here to the proposition."

**PROF. PINCHOT AND FORESTRY.**  
Prof. Pinchot said that the government had withdrawn various tracts of forest lands in this state for the purpose of protecting watersheds, the timber and the grazing interests. He said, "we will be withheld until we discover what interests it will best serve. Here the primary object is the preservation of the watersheds; but in doing that we must not overlook the secondary objects of the reserve. I would like an expression from you as to whether or not you are satisfied with the policy of the government with regard to forest reserves. I will therefore ask all those who are satisfied with that policy to raise their hands."

All present at the meeting, with the exception of four, raised their hands. It was suggested by President Cannon that those four men were probably sheep owners. **GENERAL DISCUSSION.**  
President Cannon then called upon all present who desired to express their opinion as to the reserve project. After a few minutes of silence, he called upon Vice President N. A. Nelson of the East Jordan Irrigation company. Mr. Nelson said that to his mind it was the very thing to be done, and that it was a chance to get one million dollars invested in irrigation, and if it failed the farmers are not the losers. He said that in one season alone the farmers lost \$300,000 on account of lack of water, and that in 1902, on his small farm, he lost \$1,500. He thought the scheme the best proposition ever placed before the public, and he would advocate it every day. Mr. Bergen wanted to know how it was to pay for the water when it is delivered. If it is not delivered, what settles it. But he was certain that there was plenty of water there. He said also, that he wanted to impress

**RIVER LOST EVERY DAY.**  
E. L. Bergen wanted to know from Prof. Newell where all of this water is at the present time. In answering, Prof. Newell said that the water is below the level of the lake, and that the supply would be increased by seepage, and by drawing down the area of the lake so that much evaporation would be saved. He said that a good sized river of water is going into the air by evaporation every day. Mr. Bergen wanted to know how it was that the farmers would not be the losers should the project fail. The professor stated that the farmers only obligated themselves to pay for the water when it is delivered. If it is not delivered, what settles it. But he was certain that there was plenty of water there. He said also, that he wanted to impress

### CHICAGO FIRE INSPECTORS.

Manager of "Bluebeard" Tries to Show Them up in a Bad Light By Comparison.

### NEVER EXAMINED THE EXITS.

Never "Annoyed" by Them Coming Around During Performances to See if They Were Open.

Chicago, Jan. 20.—Edwin R. Price, manager of "Mr. Bluebeard," at the Ironquois Inquest today, showed up the work of Chicago building inspectors in a bad light, compared with inspectors of other cities. Manager Price said he frequently has seen inspectors examining exits in other places during the progress of performances, but never at the Ironquois. The manager's evidence was designed to exonerate Klaw & Erlanger from all responsibility for the fire, and to lay the blame on the theater management. Mr. Price gave his occupation as "manager for Klaw & Erlanger." He said that Mr. Erlanger put on the "Bluebeard" show and hired the members of the company. Asked if he had known where the fire escape exits were, he replied: "I know where they were because I saw them before the disaster so much discussed were put up." "In other cities," he said, "we often were annoyed by inspectors who came around during performances to see that the exits were open." "Were you ever annoyed by inspectors in Chicago?" "No." Mr. Price described the fire in Cleveland last October. He denied that similar conditions existed in Chicago.

### FLAMES CAUSE LIVELY TIME.

Two Hundred Chicago Theatrical People Nearly Caught in a Hotel Fire.

### PANIC WAS BARELY AVERTED.

Halls Soon Filled with Excited Men and Women—Many Wanted to Jump from Windows.

Chicago, Jan. 20.—If fortune of Chicago theatrical people during the last few weeks was again in evidence at a fire in the Grand Pacific hotel, Indiana and Clark streets, early today, nearly 200 members of theatrical troupes being driven into the streets by the flames. It was with difficulty that a panic was averted and the frightened men and women assisted from the structure in safety.

The fire originated on the second floor, supposedly from crossed electrical wires and was carried quickly up the elevator shaft by a draught to the top floor. Joseph Northrop, a guest, saw the smoke and notified the night clerk, who immediately started awakening the guests. Northrop stepped into the elevator, ran upward through the smoke and flames and helped arouse the guests on the top floor. The halls were soon filled with excited men and women. The cooler guests were compelled to force their way back from the windows and fire escapes to a rear stairway, down which they escaped. Prof. Newell told him what had been done elsewhere in similar projects. He said a call for a mass meeting should be made, and the matter talked over until the farmers talked themselves out. Then form a waterusers' association, elect officers, take subscriptions for water certificates, have certificates issued, pleading the holder to take a certain amount of water at a certain rate. These certificates are a lien on the land, and the association sees that

**THE GERMAN EMPRESS.**  
Augusta Victoria Has Varicose Veins.

Berlin, Jan. 20.—Empress Augusta Victoria has varicose veins in one of her legs and is obliged to keep it extended



**GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN.**  
Famous Business Man, Writer and Traveler Whose Death is Announced From New York.

George Francis Train, famous, eccentric character that he was, he had many friends in Utah. He paid several visits to Salt Lake in territorial days and often raised his voice in defense of the "Mormon" people. It was one of his visits to this city that the photograph from which the above cut was made, was taken. The photographer was C. H. Savage, who knew Train well and occasionally wrote to and received letters from him. Probably no man outside of the "Mormon" Church was a more ardent admirer of President Brigham Young than was Train, who openly and boldly proclaimed the noted Pioneer to be one of the greatest men of modern times.

### SALT LAKE'S SUDDEN DEATH.

Newark S. Dawson Meets His Fate While Working in Mississippi Lumber Camp.

### SERVED IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Came Here From England Twelve Years Ago and Volunteered in War With Spain.

Word has been received here of the death at Winter City, Miss., of Newark S. Dawson, a well known Salt Lake boy, while working at a lumber camp in that vicinity. Whether his death was due to an accident, tragedy or natural causes is not stated, so that on this point information will be waited with interest. Newark Dawson came to Salt Lake 12 years ago from England. When the war with Spain broke out he was among the first to volunteer for service and enlisted in company L, Fourteenth Infantry, then stationed at Fort Douglas, leaving here with the troops he sent to the Philippines, accompanied by Charles Evans, Leonard Foster and others of this city, and after serving 17 months, during which time he took part in a number of spirited engagements, he returned home, where he remained until seven months ago, when he went to St. Louis and from there to Greenwood, Miss.

The news of his demise was received here yesterday by his brother, G. F. Dawson, the tailor. The letter bearing the sad intelligence came from Eliza B. Sigman, proprietor of a rooming house at Greenwood, where young Dawson had lived prior to going to the lumber camp.

Dawson was about 23 years of age and unmarried. He has also a sister in this city, Mrs. Beatrice Seal, who lives at 235 south Fifth West street. His parents, however, are still in England. He was a member of the Utah Society Army of the Philippines and was very popular with his comrades and friends generally, who will be grieved to hear of his untimely taking off.

### TALK OF LYNCHING.

Negro Attempts to Assault Twelve-Year-Old Girl Near Laramie.

(Special to the "News.")  
Laramie, Wyo., Jan. 20.—Frank Wigfall, a burly negro, attempted a criminal assault upon Helen Krapp, a 12-year-old girl on the outskirts of the city last night, but was frightened away by the child's mother before he accomplished his purpose. Wigfall struck the girl in the mouth and drew blood and also lacerated her wrists. The girl positively identifies him. A dinner pail known to be the property of Wigfall was found near the scene of the assault. There is talk of lynching and extra guards have been placed over Wigfall at the county jail. The negro stoutly declares his innocence but is covering in his cell in abject fear of being lynched. Wigfall recently served a term in the penitentiary for holding up and robbing a blind man.

### WHERE SNOW FELL LAST NIGHT AND HOW MUCH.

Richfield—Cloudy and threatening; one-half inch of snow.  
Heber City—Nine inches of snow; very windy.  
Park City—Cloudy and cold; one foot of snow yesterday.  
Tropic—Clearing up; eight inches of snow here; between two and three feet in the foothills.  
Salina—Snowing; two inches has already fallen.  
Beaver—Bitter cold; one-half inch of snow.  
Parley's canyon cold—Eight inches of snow fell this morning; one foot of new snow in the hills; still snowing.  
Goreau's Canyon—One foot of snow; cloudy.  
In that section on Tuesday. At Goreau's canyon there was a foot of snow early this morning. Similar reports come from different sections of the state, so that the outlook for a fairly good water supply for next summer's use is a little more encouraging. The prediction from the local office of the Weather Bureau is, "clear and colder; fair Thursday." The following reports, received by the "News" this morning, show to what extent the state was visited by the recent snowfall:  
Logan—Cold and clear; half inch of snow last night.  
Panguitch—Three inches of snow; still snowing.  
Manti—Four inches of snow; still snowing.

### FRANCE DECLINES TO HELP RUSSIA.

Refuses to Give Her Assurance of Armed Support Should War Come in Far East.

### RUSSIAN - FRENCH ALLIANCE.

It is Quite Separate and Apart From the Questions Which Are Now Pending.

### UNITED STATES IS INTERESTED.

St. Petersburg Papers Pretend to See a Desire on Its Part to Take Part in The Quarrel.

Berlin, Jan. 20.—The German government has become privy to the fact that France declines to give Russia any assurance of armed help should war be the outcome of the far eastern differences, even should Great Britain aid Japan. It is understood here that Russia asked France to define her position in the contingency of Great Britain actively participating in a Japanese attack on Russia and that the French government replied that France must remain militarily neutral as the Russian-French alliance was quite separate on the question now pending. This resolution of France, it is believed here, deeply affects not only the situation between Russia and Japan but the Franco-Russian alliance.

### UNITED STATES INTERESTED.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 20.—The attacks on Japan in the Russian press are ceasing. The newspapers print prominently reports to the effect that the acute phase is passing and they continue to assert that mediation is unnecessary. A confusion of Olomampo in Subig bay, near Manila, with Yonagumo, on the Yalu river, has led the Russian press into a curious attack on the United States. The statement that Rear Admiral Evans' squadron was to proceed to Olomampo was either garbled in transmission or misunderstood, for it was reported here that the destination of the American ships was "Yonagumo." This error was made the basis of an attack on the motives of the United States by the Novoye Vremya and Listok, both papers pretending to see in this move the entrance of the United States in the quarrel. The Novoye Vremya remarks: "At least America will be an open enemy, which is preferable to a secret one."

### RUSSIA CONSULTS FRANCE.

Paris, Jan. 20.—There is strong reason to believe that exchanges of communication are now going on between France and Russia concerning the position Russia will finally adopt in response to the last Japanese note. Long Delcasse and M. Neldoff, the Russian ambassador, are being held almost daily. Prior to these Russia had not consulted France, and M. Neldoff went to Cannes for an extended stay, telling his diplomatic colleagues that he hardly had no part in the Russo-Japanese negotiation. Following the presentation of Japan's last demands, he says M. Neldoff gave up his vacation and began frequent conferences with M. Delcasse. It is expected that the exchange of views will exert a strong influence in shaping the course Russia will adopt. Among the officials and diplomats it is understood here that the exchanges will have the following results: First, Russia, appreciating the decisive nature of the latest presented in Japan's last note, desires to exercise her influence to prevent a war in which she might become embroiled. More particularly France has begun to realize that she ought to be consulted concerning Russia's course in China, as Russia and France jointly promulgated the note of March 19, 1902, setting forth that they would act together concerning the integrity and free development of China. "Concerning Russia's wish to consult France, it is said that the Russian foreign minister, Count Lamsdorff, has a high regard for M. Delcasse's prudence in the difficult situation. One of the most prominent diplomats said today that Count Lamsdorff's task in answering the Japanese note is one of the most difficult he ever observed, owing to Russia's dilemma due to her determination to firmly maintain her position and at the same time comply with the czar's desire for peace. M. Delcasse's talks with members of the diplomatic corps during the last few days revealed his extreme desire for the maintenance of peace, and his advice to Russia undoubtedly followed the same line. It is the general impression here that if war breaks out the best diplomacy may not succeed in keeping France out of the imbroglio. Therefore, M. Delcasse, considering the self interests of France as well as of the Franco-Russian note of 1902, is counseling pacific adjustment. Concerning Russia's wish to consult France, it is said that the Russian foreign minister, Count Lamsdorff has a high regard for M. Delcasse's prudence in the difficult situation. One of the most prominent diplomats said today that Count Lamsdorff's task in answering the Japanese note is one of the most difficult he ever observed, owing to Russia's dilemma due to her determination to firmly maintain her position and at the same time comply with the czar's desire for peace. M. Delcasse's talks with members of the diplomatic corps during the last few days revealed his extreme desire for the maintenance of peace, and his advice to Russia undoubtedly followed the same line. It is the general impression here that if war breaks out the best diplomacy may not succeed in keeping France out of the imbroglio. Therefore, M. Delcasse, considering the self interests of France as well as of the Franco-Russian note of 1902, is counseling pacific adjustment.

### SENOR ROBIE IS LOOKING UP VICIOUS BOVINE CONTESTANTS.

The bullfight that is being arranged for at the Salt Palace arena is gathering interest as the time approaches for its coming which will be on Saturday afternoon next, beginning at 2 o'clock. Senor Robie, the Spanish torero who expects to be the hero of the hour has been spending the last few days in attempting to get a half dozen or so vicious bulls. From their number he expects to select two or three that will make matters lively on the sabbath. This afternoon he went down into the country to look at an animal that he thinks is wild enough for all purposes. During the day men and teams have been at work scraping the snow out of the saucer and making preparations for the exhibition on Saturday. While it is not expected there will be a fight such as can be seen in Spain or Mexico it will, it is stated, be the nearest approach to it that the law will allow.

### DEATH OF YOUNG PROVO GIRL.

(Special to the "News.")  
Provo, Utah, Jan. 20.—Miss Selvia Serre, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roswell Serre, passed away late last evening after a lingering illness of seven days. She was 21 years of age. The funeral will be held at 11 a. m. tomorrow from the Fifth ward Relief Society hall.