

TALK ON IRRIGATION

Utah's Representation in the Denver Congress

DISCUSSED BY MR. WATLAND.

We Secure Some Good Points on Irrigation Matters for Utah People to Consider.

HALT LAKE CITY,
August 24, 1894.

Editor Deseret News.

The thanks of the irrigation commission are due to you for your editorial in yesterday's *News*, referring to the address recently issued to the people of Utah concerning the Irrigation Congress to be held at Denver during the first week in September.

It is strange but true that it seems necessary now to urge upon the people generally the importance of this question, so remind them of the prestige already gained by Utah in this great work, and of the urgent necessity that now, at the critical time in the history of the new State, great advantages can be gained if we can continue to take the lead in this direction and to formulate the plan which it is believed will soon be finally decided upon as the one great method which the mountain states are ready to support entirely and uniformly until success is attained.

Since the last session had the question been discussed from all standpoints and in all directions. Three years have passed and yet no settled policy has been decided upon. The last, at last, seems to recognize the need of irrigation, and the use of water power to meet their share of taxation which otherwise would grow heavier in the near future.

Interest in the coming congress is becoming great. It is for many reasons that the irrigation question of the West has not been settled.

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has introduced a bill to the state legislature, for the purpose of giving the state power to regulate irrigation and storage in the lower waters.

Utah's opinion—Utah's laws and customs are binding in the rest of the country. Located now as we have, among the most arid lands in the world, by far the best suited for irrigation by any method, we must be well represented at the Denver congress.

The study of the early struggle in Utah, where water was available in the southwest quarter of section 28, township 2, section 3, territory 3 south, range 4 west.

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The importance of a question which means nearly \$50,000,000 worth of irrigation, is so great, that the leading men of the intermountain states may well take a joint interest in discussing it. The question is being asked by the general committee and the members of the executive committee, "Can the West grab a great opportunity?"

Let us answer that Utah people can do the same and do well their part in the cause of irrigation. The results of that work were submitted to the Utah Legislature of 1893, while the concerned Congress is in favor of the execs plan.

The executive committee of this commission to argue for or against the action already taken by Utah's representatives and legislators. An subsequent communication I shall be glad to state the arguments which have been generally used during the past few weeks concerning the execs plan.

The congress held at Los Angeles in 1893 was not well attended from the mountain states, but was essentially a California convention, although a strong number were in attendance from other sections of the country. Much valuable information was furnished at this convention by Major P. W. H. Dutton, of the U. S. Survey, representing government interests. The conflicting opinions of the delegates in attendance at this convention could not be reconciled in many respects. Valuable work was performed, however, in the effort to approximate some communication from each of the 17 states, mostly interested, also to provide for six commissioners charged with the duty of investigating the conditions and interests of each state and giving a report in the next Congress, from which report it was hoped a settled policy could be devised upon and a bill presented to the next Congress of the United States. The reports of the commissioners were expected to be so complete that permanent recommendation could be made for

laws and regulations for the state legislature.

State commissioners are now working out a plan and report the same to the commission, which they hope will be valuable and the delegations from the various states will be large and active. From this it must be seen that Utah must be up to date in this important interest having her party represented.

The Los Angeles congress adopted a series of resolutions, some of which were radical and with which Utah people can not now agree. The delegation were most unanimous in the condemnation of vested water rights of public use and unearthing the division of interstate streams under Federal authority, which I think many many Utah people would object to.

The Denver congress will take up the question in a vigorous manner. Now, regardless of past theories, all can agree upon the great importance of this question, upon which the whole nation makes a motion whether the government should make the law to the states public lands would need to be converted into private property, and the other states, as the people of the West, should receive the lands of the Indians.

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BROUGHT DOWNS FROM BUTTE.

Captain Donovan Returns with a
Tartorous Negro Prisoner.

Captain Donovan and wife returned home from Butte today, whence they went on a quiet visit about a week ago.

The captain brought back to Salt Lake with him John Hanley, the notorious negro who several months ago was induced by the great fury in Butte to commit a most dastardly act of violence, and who was then arrested and confined to the state prison, where he received the hands of the lawmen.

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Land Office.

The following filings have been made in the land office under date of August 22:

Harold F. Drury, of Idaho, Tooele county, final proof of desert entry of 144 and the south half of the northeast quarter of section 28, townships 2, section 3, northwest quarter of lots 1 and 2, the south half of the northeast quarter of section 2, township 3 south, range 4 west.

Johnman T. Johnson, of Colorado, final proof of desert entry of 144 and the south half of the northeast quarter of section 28, townships 2, section 3, northwest quarter of lots 1 and 2, the south half of the northeast quarter of section 2, township 3 south, range 4 west.

James M. Tamm, of Tooele City, final proof of desert entry of 144 and the south half of the northeast quarter of section 28, townships 2, section 3, northwest quarter of lots 1 and 2, the south half of the northeast quarter of section 2, township 3 south, range 4 west.

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