

# Heart of the Maywood Colonies Corning, California

# Everything We Need is Coming Our Way!

Yes, victory and national peace are rapidly approaching consummation. Then will come the realization of our President's FOUR FREEDOMS—freedom of speech; freedom of worship; freedom from want and freedom from fear.

Yes, the peoples of the earth must know and value the character of our Uncle Sam—that multiple man who is big enough and brave enough to challenge the injustice of those who traduce and violate human ethics, and to compel offending nations to recognize and realize the essence of the Golden Rule.

## YES, EVERYTHING IS COMING OUR WAY-

a multitude of stimulating factors are heading our way, among which are home-seekers from every other state in our union of states—California's human growth far leads that of any of her sister states. While the population of many of our states, during the last decade, has shrunken, California has attracted some 2,000,000 new inhabitants. Looks like our nation, as well as other nations, has focused its eye on California as the place of its ultimate occupancy. In the not distant offing I see a California with a population of some twelve to fifteen millions of polyglottous peoples.

Man, like the sun, moves westward, and the barrier of the Pacific commands him to halt in the valleys or the mountains of California, Oregon or Washington—states upon which Mother Nature has turned her plenteous cornicopia big end down.

YES, in California, with her current population of some 8,000,000—about the same as New York City there is room, and resources aplenty for 50,000,000 producing people.

I instance the coming and the beneficial operation of that great governmental contribution to California —THE CENTRAL VALLEYS PROJECT—ultimately destined to invigorate some 10,000,000 acres of sunwarmed and responsive soil. The key-stone of this modern soil and energy stimulus is that monumental concrete structure, now impounding water which during the centuries gone by, has run unused to the sea. In the release of this water for valley irrigation; reclamation of arid land; conservation of river-border land; Sacramento River navigation and the elimination of back-water salinity, it is automatically generating a volume of hydro-electric energy adequate to turn the wheels of factories to come, as well as to light, and cook, and warm, and cool for the millions who will some day set up their homes in the mountains, the foothills and the valleys of California. **STIRRING VISION OF** 

#### THE SACRAMENTO VALLEY

By Warren N. Woodson, under date of December 15, 1920.

Truly has it been said that "Where there is no vision, the people perish." Likewise that, "All great accomplishments are born of enthusiasm."

A mighty mountain amid snow-lands, on our north, towering sufficiently high to take from the skies a perennial mantle of snow; a summer's sun of sufficient warmth to transpose this snow into liquid gold; the life-giving element to a valley below; a wonderful impounding opportunity at the very gateway of our country both a geological and physical formation affording a safe and practical water diversion immediately at hand; thousands upon thousands of acres of thirsting soil; a summer season so long, and so warm that, through vitalizing influence of water, the latent resources of our land may be unlocked and stimulated to prodiguous production; and last, yet best of all, an intelligent and industrious people anxiously awaiting the coming of this miracle-working boon.

I contend that it is not within the ken of man to successfully gainsay that all of these elemental factors are no parts of a fore-ordained and comprehensive plan calculated to conduce to the higher and more ideal conditions of civilization.

Now, permit me to forewarn you that TIME is rapidly and dangerously running toward the loss of this inestimable and enduring natural asset—an asset which the Creator of All, in His wisdom, provided for the use, benefit and enjoyment of those of His children who live within the immediate zone of the influence of this proposed irrigation project.

The time is now for us to play our part in co-ordinating these elemental factors and moulding them into a workable whole.

The formation of an irrigation district is the initial step legally required to safeguard our water rights—this benefaction to mankind, worth more to humanity than can be estimated by the standard of

dollars and cents; for, from the intelligent application of water to our land will come plenty and contentment, without which dollars are but dross. Pardon me for urging upon you the vital necessity

Pardon me for urging upon you the vital necessity of early action. Arrange by phone for an early get together meeting and discharge this paramount duty before the demands of Christmas customs your time and attention.

Finally, let me ask you to enter upon this mission with the full conviction that you are RIGHT, and that those who oppose you are blinded by shortsightedness. Calmly endeavor to open their eyes to a clear conception of the beneficent results which obviously will come to them through general irrigation.

Go about this business prompted and fortified by that same spirit of public weal that actuated the master-mind of modern times to say, "I am willing, no matter what my personal fortunes may be, to play for the verdict of mankind."

Anticipating and appreciating your hearty and punctual cooperation in this connection, I am, Very truly yours, Warren N. Woodson, Chairman, Iron Canyon Project Land Owners Committee.

#### FORTY LONG YEARS

Forty long years of organized and active effort preceded the completion of the SHASTA DAM. Yes, it was in October of 1905, at a conspicuous banquet, spread at the old Tremont Hotel, Red Bluff, California, which was attended by the Irrigation committees of the U. S. Senate and the House of Representatives, accompanid by officials of the Department of the Interior, and of the U. S. Reclamation Department, that the need of and the opportunity for impounding, diverting and distributing the rain and the snow run-off of the Mt. Shasta region to be utilized for multiple beneficial purposes throughout the Sacramento Valley was made manifest.

In reviewing the history of the SHASTA DAM it should be known that the original petition and Federal engineering focused upon a river location, some 9 miles up the Sacramento kiver from Red Bluff, and was officially identified as the Iron Canyon Project. Further engineering investigation uncovered a much larger opportunity, and one which did not necessitate the submersion of productive soil, at a point on the Sacramento River some ten miles up-stream from kedding, Shasta County. Here was found a physical and geological formation affording a safe location for the erection of a dam of much greater economic service, as well as an enduring mark of the outstanding skill of the participating engineers and builders

ing skill of the participating engineers and builders. From this mental journey I can't side-track some of the details of this memorable banquet, not because of the viands and wines which were supplied and served by San Francisco caterers, but because of the promises, and the prophesies, and the verbal pictures painted by the participants in this all-night program. I incline to write them down before age obscures them from my memory.

John F. Ellison, superior judge of Tehama County, presided.

Governor George C. Pardee eloquently portryaed the future of the Sacramento Valley under the influence of irrigation.

J. P. Lippencott, supervising engineer, U. S. Reclamation Service, dealt with the areas which practically could be served by canal diversion of the IRON CANYON DAM site.

Gen. N. P. Chipman, president of the State Board of Trade, portrayed the commercial value of irrigation and the control of flood-waters.

At four o'clock in the morning, Will S. Green, patriarch of irrigation in the Sacramento Valley, was alloted five minutes for remarks. He replied that at that time of the day he could not express in words the pioneering and engineering work of a lifetime. He said, "doing my own surveying and paying my own expenses I located the head of the Central Canal, and the line of its construction. And, gentlemen, as I am on the décline of life, my hope is that some day I may stand on Pisgah and see a promised land for God's people in this valley. Then I will be ready to lay me down and die." Soon after this night of nights to him, realizing that the government was to further his work, he lay down and died.

Doubtful it is if anywhere else outside the halls of Congress was there ever a verbal battle, running from midnight till 2 a. m., comparable to the forensic debate between U. S. Senator Francis Newlands, of Nevada, author of the Reclamation Act, and U. S. Senator Frank Mondell, of Wyoming. Maybe the stimulus of wine intensified the fire of their eloquence.

During the 40 years of waiting for gravity irrigation by some governmental department, Corning, with its supporting community, so needed irrigation that it began the getting of water from local wells, with the result that at this date <u>3-20\_45</u>—558 wells, drilled to depths of from 75 to 200 feet, with 8 and 10 inch casing powered by low rate electricity, economically and satisfactorily, meet all local irrigation

needs. I approximate the combined cost of local pumping installations at \$750,000 in irrigating plants. Just how gravity water from the Central Valleys Project is to fit into the Corning water system is a problem for future determination. Meantime the thousands of acres of orchards of various varieties, together with gardens, alfalfa and landino fields are prospering to the satisfaction of the Maywood colonists.

And so, paraphrasing Maj. Bowes, "Round and round development goes, where she will stop nobody knows."

Today, FORTY YEARS AFTER THE PROPHETIC BANQUET at Red Bluff, from where the Federal BIG-WIGS were driven to, and shown what, was then, and yet is, the IRON CANYON DAM site; and, just as the finishing touches are being put on the SHASTA DAM, federal engineers are again surveying, and drilling, and testing the rock formation of this narrow IRON CANYON gorge, through which the Sacramento River has ground a slot, where in some places, the river is as deep as it is wide, with the idea of constructing there a dam to generate electric energy, and at the same time to divert, for valley irrigation, the water which is to be impounded at SHASTA DAM.

Chronologically viewed, the U. S. Reclamation Department began its studies at IRON CANYON site in 1905; Sacramento Valley land owners and business interest contributed money and cooperated with California Water Resources in 1920; SHASTA DAM construction began in 1938, and this dam was completed in 1945. Today the development circuit has, after forty years, swung around to the point of beginning —the IRON CANYON DAM site.

## Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation

Sacramento, California, March 7, 1945.

Mr. Warren Woodson, Corning, California. Dear Mr. Woodson: It is our recollection that you originally suggested, in your column in the Corning Observor, that the name of KENNETT DAM should be changed to SHASTA DAM in September, 1937.

Since the completion of the concrete work on the dam, our photographers have taken a photograph of SHASTA DAM from a hill about a mile to the south of it. This photograph with Mt. Shasta in the background helps to locate the structure geographically, and demonstrates the wisdom of the name SHASTA DAM.

In recognition of your original suggestion, we take pleasure in sending you under separate cover a print of this particular photograph. May we also take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of the Reclamation Bureau program for the development of the water resources in the Central Valley. Sincerely yours, (Signed) R. S. Calland, Assistant Regional Director.

### YES, MANY GOOD THINGS ARE COMING OUR WAY\_

As I tell this story, in March of 1945, the Superior Oil Company, one of the major producers of California, has just finished a gas well, two miles northeast of Corning, with a capacity of 1,000,000 cubic feet of gas an hour, or 24,000,000 cubic feet a day. This same company is programmed to drill 10 additional wells in the same vicinity. If these additional wells produce a volume similar to that of the first well, the program, so it is said, is that the Pacific Gas and Electric Company will pipe this gas to the San Francisco bay region to be used as a substitute for the oil now being used in the various building plants operating from Valleio south to Alamede

Tancisco bay region to be used as a substitute for the oil now being used in the various building plants operating from Vallejo south to Alameda. Rumor is current that Secretary Ickes appealed to the major drilling corporations of California to thoroughly explore the bowels of the Sacramento Valley to determine what they might contain in gas and oil resources. Since the exploratory well has been completed and controlled, it has become known that the gas field was found at a depth of some 1,700 feet, though the well went to a depth of 9,223 feet. Naturally, gas from this field, which field is practically in Corning, will be piped into Corning, together with other towns along the pipe line leading to the San Francisco district.

#### YES, SURELY GREAT THINGS ARE COMING OUR WAY-

County newspapers announce the construction of a \$3,000,000 building material plant just outside the corporate limits of Corning. At this writing a 20-acre log pond is approaching completion, into which to dump pine and fir logs, to be hauled in by truck and train. Adjacent to this pond is staked out a ply-wood plant, 1,000 feet long and 600 feet wide. Also is there staked out a by-products plant 600x200 feet in dimensions, from which is to come pitch and turpentine extracts, as well as alcohol and plastics.

On the opposite side of the log pond there is in process excavations for the concrete foundations of a modern saw-mill of a capacity to saw 200,000 feet of lumber a day. A planing mill and box factory have their lections close to that of the saw mill. The drying kilns and lumber stacking yards, together with a railroad spur have their places on the 130 acre manufacturing locations. Executives of these factories estimate that 750 hands will be required to operate these several plants.

This enterprise has been attracted to Corning because Corning happens to be the nearest railroad shipping point to a vast pine, fir and cedar forest in the Coast kange mountains, 40 miles west of Corning. Timber cruises develop an estimate that this virgin forest will aftord a lumber cut or 50,000,000 feet a year for a period of 50 years.

But for this planting by nature, at this place, Corning would never nave enjoyed this promised activity.

Yes, for 25 years past, MUCH IN THE WAY OF EMPLOYMENT AND PROSPERITY has been arriving at Corning. Corning is looked upon as the state center of the BIG BLACK OLIVE—the olive of Seville—consequently known as the Seviliano olive. Seville, as you have heard in song, was the homeplace of the Barber of Seville; likewise the place in which Carmen rolled cigarettes and drank, and sang, and danced until an opera was written around her. Now you will know where this big olive hailed from. The olives grown at Corning, supply seven active canning, and olive pressing plants. The definition of Gethsemane is OLIVE OIL PRESS but the olive presses of Corning are without the pathetic traditions which surround the Gethsemane of Palestine.

While, during the autumn and winter months, most country towns are quiet, because of lack of pay-rolis, Corning, because of her olive harvest, and processing, and canning, and making olive oil, is a busy burg.

Around 750 men and women find employment at olive picking, earning from \$5 to \$10 a day. Women in the factories, sorting, canning, bottling and labeling olives earn 70 cents the hour. Something like 300 women are so employed for some six months of the year. Men are paid according to the class of labor performed.

Independent of gas wells or lumber mills Corning's progressive future is underwritten by the large, yet rapidly expanding olive production. Here the olive finds ideal soil and climatic conditions for its perfection. Olive exports from Corning exceed \$2,000,000 annually. An increasing demand for olives is vouchsafed by the broad introduction of the olive through the U. S. Army. Literally millions of young men in the armed services have discovered the ripe olive of California. Merchants along the Atlantic coast from Portland, Maine to New Orleans who, for the past 100 years have only known the green imported olive from Spain, Italy, France and Tunisia. Being unable to get these olives during the war period, they have accepted the California pack, and are now large consumers. And hence the old saw that "It's an ill wind that blows no one good." The war is the one thing that made a place for our olives on the shelves of these eastern merchants.

The profit to the grower of olives in the Corning district is so unusual that its statement challenges veracity, and presumes upon credulity so your story teller will simply say, as have the Italians for centuries past, that "AN OLIVE GROVE IS A GOLD MINE ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH." The Spaniard has written it down that "AN OLIVE GROVE IS A COMPETENCY THROUGH LIFE, AND A PAT-RIMONY AT DEATH." And so it is at Corning. THIS COUNTY\_TEHAMA COUNTY\_

stretches across the most northern end of the floor of the Sacramento Valley—to the point where the valley land merges into the foothills, which lead on up to the Sierra Nevada and Coast Range mountains which enclose the northern end of the Sacramento Valley. She is in size 80 miles from east to west, and 40 miles from north to south, containing 3,200 sections, or square miles, or just about 2,000,000 acres, nine-tenths of which is grass or range land, while about ten per cent of her area is tillable.

And this is why Tehama County is the leading fresh meat producin, county in California-beer, lambs, hogs, turkeys and chickens.

Located as is Tehama County she enjoys more perennial streams than does any other county in the state. The run-off of the Mt. Lassen area, and the snow-receiving ridges to the south, finds its way to the Sacramento River through the eastern slope of Tehama County. These mountain streams furnish the trout fishing play-lands, while the Sacramento River affords the salmon and bass opportunity—only five miles from Corning—ten-minute trip. The convenient mountain slopes on either side of the valley present the deer hunting regions, while pheasant, quail, dove and duck abound in the floor of the valley.

W. N. WOODSON Promoter of MAYWOOD COLONIES CORNING (Sacramento Valley) CALIFORNIA