

was little more than a strip of land ten miles wide and three hundred miles long, which would have been a desert had not the Nile's waters been conserved and utilized each season following the annual floods. The Columbia river basin, alone, under the program of development on which your Inland Empire is bent, will be made the seat of a greater, incomparably more rich and varied empire of industry and agriculture, than was the Egypt which served as granery for imperial Rome. Not once, but a hundred times over, will we reproduce here in the plains and mountains and valleys of our West the wealth and productivity which enabled the Pharoahs to