Australia's Great River

The Great Murray River, which reaches down from the Alps to the sea, separates Western Australia from Northern Australia. South Australia and the Murray fill up itself in the west. It extends lakes known as the Coorong, which fences under all its almonies by which groups. From theseTumut, rivers and the Murray, rise islands through its long course from the growing confidences to the little ones. Carp and goldfish, it was an ever-speeding stream, in these habits with fish that made the year with years as to Dynasty. When 1903, it ran 9,600
barnes or...
Murray Works

The total cost to South Australia of Works on the Murray, he proceeded, would not be the actual cost of such works, but one-fourth of the total cost of all the works under the River Murray Agreement, which must not exceed £12,000,000. South Australia’s share would, therefore, approximate £3,000,000 and would include its interest in the Hume storage. The total area in South Australia under irrigation from the River Murray was about 40,000 acres, and about 710,000 acres were served by town and district water supplies. With the exception of the reclaimed swamp areas in the lower reaches (8,500 acres), which were watered by gravity, the water had to be pumped to varying heights, the greatest lift being 138 ft. at Waikerie.
RIVER MURRAY COMMISSION

Chairman's Views On Disposal Of Water

Goolwa, March 3.

On the general question of South Australia's share of Murray waters the chairman of the River Murray Commission (Mr. T. Hill) said today that the quantities of water allowed to each State were clearly defined under the River Murray Act. How each State dealt with its supply was entirely a matter for that State to decide, and the suggestion of means of giving upper northern districts a permanent water supply was in the hands of the South Australian Government.

After staying at Goolwa last night members of the commission visited the Mundoo and Boundary Creek works this morning. Mr. L. R. East, a representative of Victoria, was with the party, which was conducted over the works by the engineer for construction (Mr. E. R. Lawrie), and the resident engineer (Mr. H. G. Oliver). The engineer-in-chief of the Mundoo works (Mr. Anderson) met the party at that point.

At the Mundoo works the chairman also reported good advancement. The concrete works at the sluices had been completed, and the coffer dam moved. The approach bank from Hindmarsh island was well in hand. When this bank is completed, access will be given to conduct material to the works farther on at Boundary Creek and Towtcherie Channel. The steel and timber decking for the roadway across the piers is expected to be at hand during the next two weeks. At Boundary Creek works, it was noticed that the earth and coffer dam had been completed, and a beginning was made with the foundations for concrete openings at the piers. The approach banks at each side were also in the course of construction, and the chairman expressed satisfaction at the progress made. From this point of the scheme borings have been taken, and the commission discussed with the constructors the designs for the structures to be erected at Ewe Island Creek and Towtcherie. This work will then shortly be put in hand. When the work is begun there will be a free run for trucks and all other vehicles to carry material right to the scene of operations. This should be accomplished in two months.

There are at present 250 employees directly employed at the barrage works, and about 30 indirectly employed. Members of the commission again sat in conference at Goolwa, and then left for Adelaide.
WATER SUPPLIES FROM MURRAY

Minister Considers Scheme Premature

COST ASPECT

Future Of City Storages

Referring to suggestions which have appeared in the public press and correspondence in the press to pump water from the Murray River for distribution to metropolitan areas, the Commissioner of Public Works has stated in a recent circular that the Murray scheme has been a failure. The Commissioner has put in immediate steps to cut out all such schemes and has ordered the pipeline and pumping plant to be removed. The time at which all the supplies available from the Murray River were exhausted.

Levy Ranges were utilized, some sum of which would be available. The Minister said that the entire supply has been exhausted for use in the absence of further supplies after this matter had been settled. He also stated that the financial aspect of such a project was not warranted.
MURRAY WATERS
S.A. SHOULD GET HER SHARE

To the Editor

Sir—Having just returned from an extensive inspection of the enormous storage of water, which, when completed, will be capable of storing the entire flow of the Murray River and a large amount of that of the Mitta Mitta River, I desire to call attention to the fact that South Australia is entitled to her share of the storage as much as any other State.

The storage is being constructed by a joint company of New South Wales and Victoria, but it is to be operated for the benefit of all the States. The water is to be stored in the Murray and Mitta Mitta Rivers, which join the Hume Weir in South Australia. The storage is to be used for irrigation purposes, and the water is to be supplied to the farmers and stockmen of all the States.

I therefore urge that South Australia should not be denied her share of the storage, which is essential for the development of the State's agriculture and pastoral industry. The storage will provide a means of storing water for use in times of drought, and will also provide a means of regulating the flow of the rivers to prevent flooding.

J. H. PERK
Seacombe Road, Seacombe.
Dawn Reflections on the Murray

PROBABLY there is little in the great Australian Bush that inspires the spirit of romance more than the great River Murray, which in its season transports the produce of the far-flung areas of Australia's fertile lands and irrigate the otherwise idle spaces that stretch for miles on either side of its tortuous path.

One night I camped beside the Murray. It was warm, and after vainly trying to sleep, I left my bed and strolled along the river bank. I found a fallen tree and sat down.

It was dark and the pin points of light in the heavens were reflected in the waters of the river. The trees that lined the further bank were but dimly visible, but one could sense the mighty volume of water that flowed between, making its way without flurry but inevitably to its natural outlet in the sea.

I VISUALISED the sources of these waters of the Murray. From countless tributaries that have their rise in mountain ranges and snow-clad heights, hurrying in creeks and rivulets to join the bigger streams, till finally they were gathered to the bosom of Old Mother Murray and went on to the sea.

The eastern sky still held a billowing curtain of clouds, which slowly rolled aside to let the first rays of sun-light peep through. Daylight cast a film over the heavens and blotted out the stars, which like sentinels had kept watch over a sleeping world.

With the coming of light the wonderful Murray mirrors made their magic once more. The smoothly running waters made no ripple and reflected with marvellous clarity in their un-ruffled surface a picture of the further bank, every detail of which seemed to drop into the river and stay there upside down.

A herd of cattle came to drink and dipped their nostrils in the cooling stream, while below them were the ghostly images of themselves. They passed up the bank and went back to their pasture and their reflections hid away till they should return. A little skiff passed lazily by propelled by a fisherman inspecting his lines.

The strengthening light was now glistening on the broad surface of the river, and I stood and watched the flow of the mighty stream irresistibly sweeping on to the sea.

I walked back to my camp slowly. At the water's edge, here and there, trees had fallen and their boughs stretched out into the current caused a ripple in the water as though in expectation that the serenity of their flow should be checked.

Rounding a bend of the river bank I came to where an abandoned houseboat languished at the water's edge. A rusty chain passed round a tree trunk still held it. Sometimes when a paddle steamer passed near the bank, the derelict rocked to dancing waves, but now it seemed to move detached and undisturbed. It appeared as though it were meditating on other days when it braved the current, carried happy parties on their holiday quests. With joy and laughter might have resounded in the tiny cabin, what cheeriness may have been sung. What tales Love and Romance may have been...or maybe, at some time, there have been sorrow, sadness, even gadly. Who can tell? Its secrets its own.

Garth Ov