



An Oklahoma oil-well.

Two Territories of the New West remain to be admitted. These are New Mexico and Arizona. These Territories have a population large enough for statehood, and the day seems near at hand when they, too, will join the Union. Their admission will mark the last event in the great Westward Movement.¹

¹In some of the States of the New West, as in South Dakota, Utah, Montana, and Oklahoma, the people engage personally and directly in the business of making laws. They do this by means of a political device known as the *initiative and referendum*. The initiative enables a certain per cent. of the voters to propose to the legislature a bill which that body must enact as a law; the referendum enables the voters to vote upon a law which they have commanded the legislature to refer to them. This system of direct legislation is also in operation in Nevada, Missouri, and Maine.

QUESTIONS ON THE TEXT

1. In what three ways did Congress encourage the development of the New West?
2. Give an account of the building of the Northern Pacific Railroad. What was the early history of Nebraska? Of Colorado? Of Wyoming? When and under what circumstances was Utah admitted into the Union?
3. What hastened the development of the New Northwest? What part did the steamboat play in the development of this region? What Indian troubles occurred during the development of the New Northwest? Give an account of the growth of the New Northwest after the building of the Northern Pacific Railroad. Describe the nature and extent of the resources of the New Northwest.