## THE MORNING OREGONIAN, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1906.



401. The seal with which the officers of this department and the Department of Justice are looking into these matters is constantly uncovering new cases that are startling in character, but it is the policy of the Admin-istration to continue these investigations and prosecutions until a proper respect for the property rights of the Government and regard for the law are established through-out those sections of the country in which such laws apply. such laws apply. The importance of our great public domain

The importance of our great public domain to the people cannot be overestimated. It is the Nation's heritage, and every available rod thereof should be regarded as sacredly dedicated to the purpose of providing homes for the homeless. The laws enacted for the protection of the lands should therefore he rigidly enforced, and this has been the car-dinal principle of my administration.

rod fiereof should be regarded as succedy of over \$200,000 in sularles and other current to homeless. The laws emached for the rigidly entoreed, and this has been the cardinal principle of my administration. **Politics Hampers Justice.** It is to be regratted, however, that the efforts made to release it from the gran of the and so, 1000, the total number, powerful influences have been met by very emainers on the of the fiscal year. June 30, 1000, was 085,071, a net loss of 12,470 from the problex have been the hand of the law; even local land-office officials have been to commanded to weaken the hand of the law; even local land-office officials have been and the punishment imposed by the courts axis, in many cases been so conspicuously inadquate as to encourage rather than deter violations of the law. Whether this official is due in any degree to local political linguages at this time, it being sufficient to state that it is a deplorable fact that it is a deplorable fact that to estimate to reacher that the same first at the rest of the state that it is a deplorable fact that it may make to rescue the public domain from oil at the close of the year contained the same time by death were 43,300, and dependents, and 570 arm ourses. The presion of the Wat of 1812 there are estill one widow and three to a same dimens of 700,904 soldiers, 253,488 widows and dependents, and 570 arm ourses.

serious peril. In the discharge of my duty under the law. I have proceeded without the slightest prejudice for or against any person or per-ons interested. In such efforts as have been made to protect the service under my uppervision from the ravages of inordinate greed. I have not considered either the sta-tion or the power of the rulity. Apparently

made the examination as a step in working out the theory of the police that

Mr. Hitchcock, in speaking of the work done by Pension Commissioner Warner, SAYS:

The administration of the affairs of the The administration of the affairs of the Pension Bureau during the year merits my special commendation. The number of pend-ing claims has been largely reduced, not-withstanding the filing of more than 200,000 new applications during the year, and the work of the bureau has been brought to a current date, a condition that has not ex-isted for many years. This result has been reached by a careful adjustment of the force of employes, warranting a large de-crease in their number, and with a saving of over \$200,000 in salaries and other cur-rent expenses.

The report says of the Patent Office: The report says of the Fatent Office. The report of the Commissioner of Pat-ents on the business of the Patent Office for the facent year ended June 30, 1006, shows that there were received during that year 56,619 applications for mechanical patshows that there were received during that year 56,619 applications for mechanical pat-ents, S21 applications for design patents, 172 applications for reissue, 1938 cavents, 10.888 applications for trademarks, 943 ap-plications for labels and 438 applications for prints. The number of patents granted, including reissues and designs, was 31.837, and there were registered during the year 10,408 trademarks, 741 labels and 354 prints. The number of patents which expired was that he was going to marry her, although he was married at that time and had two children It developed that two of the Vrzal children, Ella and Bertha, narowely escaped asphyxiation on two occasions under cir-cumstances that point to murder. The number of patents which expired was 20.682, and 5193 applications which had been allowed were forfeited by operation of law for nonpayment of the final fee. The total receipts of the office from all sources amounted to \$1.811,297.84, and the total expenditures were \$1.535,149.40, leav-ter a surplus of receipts over expenditures WEAK POINTS IN INSURANCE ing a surplus of receipts over expenditures of \$273,148.44, which surplus was turned return, care and counting of ballots; into the tre

seven members of the family were murdered by Herman Billik. Four more bodies of members of the family supposed to have been poisoned by Billik soon will be examined

Billik, in the role of a necromance amid nature, a conjurer who made red fire spring out of a forest copse and who was a master of a magical black box, was pictured today in weird situations by young "Jerry" Vrzal, the 17-year-old son

of the ill-fated family, most of whose members, the police charge, were killed off by the hypnotist. "Billik took us to Riverside and, when in the woods, caused a lot of red fire to

spring from the ground, and then took a box from his pocket and looked into it." said the boy informant. He told me he could see what everybody was doing at our house. He said my sister Emma was sitting down eating and that my mother was pouring out the coffee."

On another occasion Billik obtained a large sum of money from Martin Vrzal, the father of the family, for invoking an alleged spell on a business rival. Martin Vrzal conducted a milk depot and feared a rival who started business on the next "I will cause the other milk dealer to

sell out," declared Billik. He sent one of the children to the rival dairy for a bottle of milk. When it was brought to the Vrzal home, he put it on the stove and set it to a boil. He then called for a piece of cheese and, cutting it into a fantastic shape, dropped it into the milk. When the milk and cheese were at the boiling point, he pulled a mysterious book from his pocket and began to chant incantations and make weird moves over

the boiling pot. It was not long before the milk dealer actually did go out of business. Then Billik collected \$50 from Vrzal. Another death mystery has entered the

Billik case and the police are searching for information regarding a Bohemian girl who is alleged to have died suddenly in a Halsted street furniture store, where she had gone with Billik, the police say, to pick out furnishings for a home. Billik, according to the police, had told the girl

(Continued from First Page.)

the public. The offer should be taken advantage of

by any who wish to avail them-of It and it will hold good until instruments have been moved to the pressure to a satisfactory enough reduce point.

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definitely determine the rights of such policyholders in the accumulated surplus.

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greed, I have not considered either the sta-tion or the power of the guilty. Apparently they are all on the sime footing, in my judgment, however, the higher the offender the greater the crime against society and law, hecause of the force and influence of the higher example. It is not possible for persons and corporations of great influence and power to maintain inclosure of the public lands in open disregard of a criminal statute, without thereby encouraging others to do likewise; and here it may be prop-erity noted that reports on file in the de-partment indicate that approximately 500, 000 acres and more of the public domain in certain states and territories are by un-tawful means appropriated to the exclusive us of private interests for private gain.

## Keep Right on Prosecuting.

Keep Kight on Prosecuting. lintil, therefore, the opportunities afford-d for the fraudulent acquisition of public ands by the timber and stone sot, the evert land acts and the commutation lause of fac homestead law are removed i y the repeal or modification of those meas-tres, the Government may expect to expend its money and energy in apprehending and onvicting those seeking to defrand it out f its public lands. I accordingly repew he recommendations that I have consist-ntly made for the past five years, that the bove-mentioned laws be repealed or modi-led.

lessness will be so rigotous as to enable my successor to successfully administer the

## Value of Black Sand Shown.

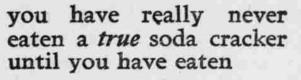
From the Geological Survey report the following is taken:

following is taken: The investigation of black sands, author-ized by Congress and mentioned in my last report, was pushed vigorously during the year at Portland, Or., where exceptional fa-cilities were offered by the Lewis and Clark Exposition. The results of the investigation have been gratifying and may lead to the development of an important industry In the utilization of the black sands of the country as a source of gold, plaintum, iron ore and some of the rare metals. It has been shown that by concentrating the black sands on concentrators of the shaking-table class, practically all the values in the sand can be saved by mechanical means without the use of quicksliver, and tt is probable

report be made by all companies of all bills affecting their interests, names and

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