

NO TIME TO ACT ON LAND REFORM

Congress Will Defer Whole Subject to Next Long Session.

NEW DEAL TO COME FIRST

Garfield Will Succeed Hitchcock and the House Committee Will Be Strengthened—Timber and Coal Are Hard Problems.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, March 1.—Lack of time, as much as anything else, will prevent any modification of the public land laws this session of Congress.

Before there can be satisfactory reform of the land laws the complexion of the House committee on public lands will have to be changed. As now constituted, that committee is not in harmony with the President.

Can Stifle Army Bill

But there are other obstacles in the way of land legislation this session. A number of Western Senators do not concur in the views of the President, either in regard to the coal-land laws or the laws permitting the use and development of public timber land.

The cause of land-law reform has suffered to a great extent because few men in Congress are enthusiastic on the subject. Some will join the President whenever the time comes for action, but not many are sufficiently sympathetic with the reform to take the initiative and push through bills that will so modify the laws as to reduce the opportunities for graft.

Hitchcock Aroused Antagonism.

One great difficulty about reforming the land laws is to arrive at a common consensus as to what kind of legislation will best serve the purpose sought by the President. Not many Senators and not many Representatives are opposed to reforming the land laws because of any desire to permit the continuation of graft.

It can not be denied that Secretary Hitchcock has been an obstacle in the path of land-law reform. There was never a Cabinet officer more unpopular with Congress than the present Secretary of the Interior, and time and again Congress has legislated contrary to his recommendations.

When the next Congress assembles there will be a new Secretary of the Interior, who has not aroused the enmity of Congress and yet who will be an enthusiastic advocate of land-law reform. This very fact will aid materially in bringing Congress around to a reasonable view of the situation.

New Secretary, New Committee.

With a new House committee on public lands, and a new Secretary of the Interior and a general desire to get together on land-law reform, there is some prospect for remedial legislation next session. The next session will be a long one; there will be ample time to consider the various bills in connection with the findings of the Public Lands Commission and the recommendations of the President, and ample time to readjust the conflicting views of Western Senators and Congressmen.

Timber Land Problem.

How to solve the timber problem is a question that will have to be worked out. Recently the Public Lands Commission recommended a bill proposing to reserve every remaining acre of public timber land and provide merely for the sale of the timber at not less than its stumpage value.

THREE SHOT IN RANGE WAR

One Man Expected to Die as Result of Encounter on Montana Ranch.

HELENA, Mont., March 1.—A report has just been received here telling of the shooting scrape between ranchmen 20 miles north of Helena. Three were shot, among them being Paul Reiburg, who was injured in the heart and will probably die.

and quality of the timber. The most practical idea yet advanced is the sale of the timber at its stumpage value.

If the land, as well as the timber, is sold, much of the objection to the pending bill would be removed for few men object to a change in the law which will permit the Government to recover something like the actual value of the timber land disposed of.

States Must Have Taxes.

If the Government timber land is sold, it becomes subject to taxation as soon as it passes to private ownership. But, if the land remains in the Government, as proposed by the pending bill, the land will never be subject to taxation, and the counties will be deprived of a certain amount of revenue.

So it may be set down that the present timber-land act will ultimately be repealed and that in lieu thereof Congress will substitute a law providing either for the sale outright of timber land and the counties to receive the proceeds, or the reservation of public timber land and the sale of only the timber.

Coal Land Hard Problem.

The coal-land problem will be as hard to solve as the timber problem. There is a wide range of opinion as to the best method of controlling the remaining public land which contains marketable deposits of coal, oil, lignite and gas.

May Raise Cost to Consumer.

The opponents of land-law reform, or at least the opponents of radical land reform, point out truly that if the Government raises the price of its coal land and increases the price of its timber land, the price of lumber and of coal will naturally take a rise on the market and the consumer, or the common people, will pay the difference.

As pointed out above, both these problems are of such vast importance that they cannot be adjusted in a week or a month, and the probabilities are that when the next Congress opens, the Representatives and Senators from the West will get together, as they did in framing the National reclamation law, and agree upon a system of land-law reform that will be mutually satisfactory and acceptable alike to the President and to Congress.

USUAL PLEA IN DEFENSE

STROTHERS' LAWYERS CRY EMOTIONAL INSANITY.

Whole Day Spent in Framing Question for Submission to Expert. Rebuttal Evidence Begins.

CULPEPPER, Va., March 1.—Commonwealth's Attorney Keith today began the presentation of his evidence in rebuttal in his attempt to shatter the plea of justification advanced by the defense for James and Philip Strother, on trial here for the murder of William F. Bywaters, their brother-in-law.

Although the names of the witnesses for the rebuttal have not been announced, they will be called mainly to show that when Bywaters married Viola Strother, he made full reparation for the wrong he is alleged by the defense to have done her, and that the shooting was therefore not justified.

Dr. C. H. Clark, of St. Elizabeth's Government Asylum for the Insane in Washington, was the first witness called today.

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HAVE NEW FRIENDS

Beveridge and McCumber Unpopular Senators.

TILLMAN SITS ON HOOSIER

McCumber's Threat to Speak Causes Adjournment—President's Power Over Congress Shown—Jews Who Have Been Senators.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, March 1.—There are two men in the United States Senate who are practically without friends and certainly without admirers—Senator Beveridge, of Indiana, and Senator McCumber, of North Dakota.

Mr. Beveridge is unpopular because he is so domineering and so self-important. Mr. McCumber is disliked because he is a nuisance. Mr. Beveridge holds the record for rapid talking, and Mr. McCumber breaks all records in the other direction.

Since the statehood bill was packed on ice, Mr. Beveridge has deemed it a part of his duty to participate in the important legislation of the Senate and he makes a speech on every bill that comes up.

Mr. Beveridge has the nerve to question the legal knowledge of such men as Senators Knox and Spooner. Naturally, his continual interruptions are annoying to men of acknowledged attainments.

Cold Snub to McCumber.

Mr. McCumber on the same day received as cold a snub as ever he dealt to any Senator. The agricultural bill was up and the Senate was discussing an amendment to increase the salary of Chief Forester Pinchot.

"Does the Senator mean by that that he is going to speak?" asked Senator Proctor, in charge of the bill.

"That would be a proper interpretation of my meaning," replied Mr. McCumber.

President's Strength Shown.

If any one doubts that the President is as strong with Congress as he was a year ago, he need only observe little incidents that happen around the Capitol from time to time. The House committee on public lands began its work early in December on the public coal-land problem, its intention being to gather information which would enable it to frame a bill for the proper regulation of the remaining public coal land of the West.

Sixth Jewish Senator.

Simon Guggenheim of Colorado will be the sixth Jew to occupy a seat in the United States Senate. He will not be the only Senator of that race, for Mr. Rayner of Maryland is of that faith and is now in office.

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Not Bothered by His Boom.

Secretary Taft does not look like a man who is being sleep over his presidential boom. During the past few weeks the Secretary of War has been an almost daily visitor at the Capitol.

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THERE'S A McKibbin dealer in the nearest town. Ask him for 'The Standard of Hat Value.'

TEHUANTEPEC ISTHMUS.

Steady Stream of Freight Now Flowing Both Ways.

Mexican Herald. The Mexican Isthmus route, lately inaugurated under such auspicious circumstances is entering upon its career as a great artery in the transportation channels of the world with a volume of business surpassing to the layman and living up to the expectations of the men who had a hand in the creation of the facilities, the value of which will not be long in becoming known to shippers.

THE MONEY WE HAVE.

Eight Dollars More a Head Than in the Year 1896.

Harper's Weekly. "Have we enough money?" meaning, of course, as a nation. In 1896 the amount of money in the United States was equivalent to \$25.53 a head, while only \$21.44 of this was in actual circulation.

The Capture of Santa Anna.

"The Mexican War." In the Metropolitan. Early in the action, Santa Anna, seeing his men falling on every side, had mounted his horse, crying: "D—n these Americans; I believe they will shoot us all."

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YOUR LITTLE GIRL will look very sweet in one of the many Smart frocks shown in the March issue of THE DELINEATOR. This number shows a large selection of exquisite designs. Get it. You will be sure to find something that will please you. ALL BUTTERICK PATTERNS 10 Cents and 15 Cents NONE HIGHER. MRS. OSBORN OF NEW YORK. Creator of fashions for women of fashion, contributes an illustrated letter to The Delineator every month.

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The enormous and ever increasing demand for Ghirardelli's Ground Chocolate is conclusive evidence of inherent goodness.

Ghirardelli's Ground Chocolate

The Ghirardelli process of preparation preserves all the nutritive quality and delicate flavor, and renders it most delicious and satisfying.

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Old Forester Whisky High in Quality and Price

Tucker Whisky Best Value on the Coast

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Bow, strings, rosin and case included, or a \$25.00 PHONOGRAPH

And six records, with a year's subscription to The Daily and Sunday Oregonian, all for \$25.65, on very liberal installments.

FORM OF CONTRACT I hereby subscribe for The Daily and Sunday Oregonian for twelve months, for which I will pay on demand 1/3 cents a month, and I am to receive a \$25 Violin with case complete, or a \$25 Phonograph, and six standard ten-inch records (my selection), all for \$25.65. I agree to pay \$1.96 on delivery of the machine and six records and 60 cents a week on the machine until all payments have been paid in full.

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Ayer's Cherry Pectoral REVISED FORMULA

If he says, "The best thing for colds," then take it. Do as he says, anyway.

The new kind contains no alcohol

We have no secrets to hide! We publish the formulas of all our medicines.

J. C. AYER CO., Manufacturing Chemists, Lowell, Mass.