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FULTON'S VIEWS ON DOMAIN

(Observer Special)

Washington, Feb. 16.—Between the two government purposes of holding grazing land as public domain until taken by homesteaders, and the declared policy of preventing timberlands from being acquired by private interests in any manner, Oregon is threatened by a more radical reversal of old conditions than by any other event of recent years. To both of these propositions the federal administration is committed. Both are yet in the committee stage, where the contest for and against has been waged, but the time seems near when perhaps both will be open questions before House and Senate.

The first assured general discussion is timberland. The Senate committee on public lands has shown its purpose of repealing the present law by which land may be taken for its timber, and preventing homestead entries of such. Such progress as the policy has made in committee has been strenuously opposed by Senator Fulton, of Oregon. He has contended that in the Pacific coast country there are vast areas of timberland, which, although the most valuable of all existing forests, will be of far greater value when reclaimed to agriculture, as will be the case if the natural course of development is not thwarted.

In connection with this argument, Senator Fulton has produced figures on what forest land will yield to any community, which are opening the eyes of many Easterners. He has shown that the average annual yield per acre of the Yellow Pine region of Eastern Oregon is not to exceed ten or fifteen cents, assuming the reforestation of commercial timber may be accomplished in 50 years. The average in Western Oregon will not be but little above 50 cents per acre, taking the same period for reforestation, and the very best Oregon timberland cannot be expected to produce more than \$1.00 to \$1.10 a year per acre. Against this rate of wealth production for the commonwealth, the very lowest figures that are

ever expected from any form of agriculture or horticulture, have been placed for comparison. The Oregon senator asked the committee to contemplate some of the best yields, as at Hood River, or in the Willamette hop fields, where \$800.00 to \$1000.00 per acre annually is not infrequent, and pass from these forms of industry to the dairying industry, where verdant coast country is being utilized for grazing, and promises to uphold the greatest dairying trade of the continent.

The senator will fight the matter on the floor of the senate, after leaving this committee, and is gathering data from all parts of the state that will enable him to present the Oregon side of the question fully and fairly.

The grazing problem is in House committee, and may get no further this session, although it is believed that administration influence will take the issue to the floor of that body. The most generally accepted plan, discussed so far, is to lease the public domain range land to individuals, giving the leases annually to the highest bidders, and providing for taking leased land as homestead at any time during the period of a lease, by bona fide entrymen who prove their purpose of making a home there.

HEARS TAGGART'S CASE

(Scripps News Association)

Wooster, Ohio, Feb. 16.—Taggart appeared in court today. He said he didn't know where his wife is. He said he is able to care for the boys as soon as he learns where they are. The court said he would extend clemency to Mrs. Taggart. The court heard the major's side of the case today and will hear hers later. As soon as she gets to the states. At the close of Taggart's testimony the court awarded him full custody of the boys, allowing the wife the right to visit them. The judicial custody remains with the court and the court can at any time take the boys from the father.

OFFERED A POSITION

(Scripps News Association)

Indianapolis, Feb. 16.—Daniel Storms has been offered the executive position of the Empire Investment Company, owners of mines in Nevada, at a salary of \$12,000 per year. Storms is now secretary of the state of Indiana and became involved in a controversy with the governor recently and he may resign and go west.

COURT RECEIVES WRIT

(Scripps News Association)

Paris, Feb. 16.—A writ was served upon Count Boni de Castellani today making him defendant in the separation proceedings brought by his wife.

DOUBLE HANGING IN CHICAGO

(Scripps News Association)

Chicago, Feb. 16.—Robert Newcombe, a triple murderer was hanged in the county jail here this morning at ten forty five. Newcombe was a negro who murdered his common law wife, Florence Poor, a negroess, and Walter Blus, also colored and Police Sergeant John Shine. The sergeant was killed while Newcombe was arrested. Immediately after Newcombe was pronounced dead and the body was removed the gallows was prepared for the execution of John Muller, who was convicted of the murder of his wife and two children. Muller set up the plea that he is somnambulist and committed the fiendish act while asleep. While the final preparations were in progress for his hanging former Judge Barnes appeared and asked that Sheriff Peters who was in charge of the execution. He said that he had just been employed in the case and that he would attempt to prove that Muller was insane. A stay until eleven thirty was granted to permit a lawyer to appeal to the court. At noon Sheriff Peters announced from the gallows, "Mueller's attorneys have applied for a stay of execution until the jury can inquire into the case. Two of them refused to grant the stay and the third suggested that they ask the sheriff to allow an examination by a mental expert." Mueller is now being examined by Dr. Hugh T. Patrick, professor of nervous diseases at the Northwestern University medical school. It will take some time to make the examination.

HANGED AT TWELVE FORTY

Mueller was pronounced sane and was hanged at 12:40 today. It is said that when Dr. Patrick pronounced his verdict, Mueller said, "Very well, if that is the doctor's opinion I'm ready to hang. I killed my wife and children and am ready to hang for it."

As the black cap was being placed on Newcombe's head the clerk rushed in with a telegram which read, "Stop hanging." The sheriff said it was the work of a crank and proceeded with the execution.

READY FOR THE WEDDING

(Scripps News Association)

Washington, Feb. 16.—The police arrangements of the Longworth-Roosevelt wedding was perfected today. Major Sulvester, the commander of the city police will detail a squad of mounted men to regulate the carriages and foot officers will guard the gate. Not even the chief of police has been taken into the secret of the couple as to their destination after the ceremony. Much speculation is manifest but none are sure. Many think that they will go south for a week at Mrs. Roosevelt's Virginian cottage.

GETTING READY

(Scripps News Association)

Washington, Feb. 16.—Miss Roosevelt spent most of the day with girl friends superintending the decorations of the bridal altar and inspecting the presents which continued to arrive.

PAT CROWE OUT

(Scripps News Association)

Omaha, Feb. 16.—The jury in the case of Pat Crowe, who was charged with kidnapping Gudaby's son, the rich packer, returned a verdict this afternoon of not guilty.

UNION PLANT ABSORBED

(Observer Special)

Union, Ore., Feb. 16.—Walter Pierce arrived in the city this morning and closed the deal whereby the Union Electric company, which has been operated for several years by the Hutchinson sisters, becomes the property of the Granda Ronde Electric Company. For the present, or until the purchasers can secure transformers, the Union plant will be operated, but in a few days will be connected with the Cove and La Grande power stations. Our citizens hail with delight the absorption of the Union plant as it insures us a better light and gives us an opportunity for power for manufacturing purposes in both small and large quantities at a small cost.

PROTECTING AMERICANS IN CHINA

(Scripps News Association)

Washington, D. C., Feb. 16.—Military measures for the protection of the lives and property of Americans in China were inaugurated today by Secretary Taft. This was done with the full consent of the President and Secretary Root. As a matter of fact Secretary Root originated the suggestion that the Chinese situation justified the increase of the force in the Orient. The war department has a complete and authentic source of information regarding conditions there. It is rumored that General Weston will command the Chinese expedition and it is also thought if an expedition is made that General Wood will also be given a command.

NO GAMBLING

The senate committee on the territories have ordered a favorable report on the bill prohibiting gambling of all kinds in Alaska, Arizona, Indian Territory and Oklahoma. Also a bill authorizing a railroad company to build a line from Cordova Bay to Eagle and the Yukon. The subsidy feature was stricken out.

POISONING MYSTERY

(Scripps News Association)

Stockton, Cal., Feb. 16.—The poisoning of the Barnett family becomes deeper. Coroner Southworth is making a chemical analysis of the stomach of Jas. Barnett today and says no results of the analysis can be obtained until evening. He declares positively that Barnett's death and probably that of the two children was caused by some irritant poison. A strange feature of the case is the entire family including Mrs. Barnett's sister and brother partook of the same food and that the three who died and the nurse, Mrs. Hartley were the only ones made ill.

PICKS UP CREW

(Scripps News Association)

San Francisco, Feb. 16.—The Pacific mail liner, The City of Panama, arrived from the lower coast this morning. It brought eight members of the crew of the bark Ariadne, Captain Krager, which went ashore. The bark was totally wrecked at Mazatlan on the night of Jan. 31. The vessel was bound to Port Townsend. Eight other members of the crew arrived a few days ago on the steamer Mora.

ARMOUR ON STAND

(Scripps News Association)

Chicago, Feb. 16.—Charles Armour, president of the Armour Company, appeared today to sustain the packer's plea of immunity. Arthur Meeker and T. J. Conner were also witness.

MCALL'S CONDITION SERIOUS

(Scripps News Association)

Lakewood, N. J., Feb. 16.—McCall's condition is desperate, but his physicians refuse to say that there is no hope, but they admit that he is in a critical condition.

CHRISTIAN TO BE BURIED

(Scripps News Association)

Copenhagen, Feb. 16.—King Christian's body was taken to Roskilde island to Zealand, the ancient capital of Denmark, where it will be interred Sunday beside the dead monarchs of the past.

JAPANESE STEAMER WRECKED

(Scripps News Association)

Yokohama, Feb. 16.—The steamer Kure Maru was wrecked today off the coast of Japan.

MENELIK IS ILL

(Scripps News Association)

London, Feb. 16.—Dispatches say that Menelik is critically ill and is considering the appointment of a successor.

CHINESE QUESTION DISCUSSED

(Scripps News Association)

Washington, Feb. 16.—How to exclude the Chinese and at the same time remain in favor with the Chinese government is the rather difficult problem now confronting the House committee on foreign affairs. President Roosevelt has requested—and this is equivalent to a command—that the committee prepare a bill which shall smooth down the fur of the angry celestials and at the same time keep out the millions of coolies who want to break through the lines. In order to get all the light possible on the subject a subcommittee composed of certain members of the foreign affairs committee has now begun to hold hearings on the subject. Anyone who is interested or who can furnish information upon the subject is welcome to appear before the subcommittee, and if it is impossible to come, to write his views and send them to Representative James B. Perkins, the chairman. Through some strange oversight of Speaker Cannon, not a single western man is upon the foreign affairs committee. The most western member is Congressman Robert Cousins of Iowa. Possibly the speaker, who hails from the sucker state, is of the opinion that brains grown west of the Father of Waters cannot size up subjects of international importance.

"I don't suppose that we can please the Chinese government whatever we do," said Chairman Perkins, discussing the subject. "The only thing that would satisfy China would be to throw down the bars altogether and let in half a million coolies a year. But we'd better lose all our Oriental trade. The bill that we will frame will probably provide for examination of Chinese at certain Chinese ports, there to furnish the eligibles with the proper papers, and to 'turn down' those who are excluded by our laws. By this means the undesirable class will be saved the long and expensive journey to this country, and the work of the immigration officials simplified in San Francisco and other Pacific ports."

T. S. Harris visited Pendleton yesterday.

GREAT SALE OF Mill Ends

We place on sale today 5000 yards of Mill ends, consisting of Gingham, Percales Dimities, Batistes, Cotton Voils, Chambrays and Lawns. A lucky buy enables us to offer these mill ends at a very substantial saving.

12½c Ginghams, the yard 9c
12½c Percales, the yard 9c
12½c Outings, the yard 8½c

And hundreds of yards of mill ends in summer wash goods, suitable for dainty summer dresses, at a little more than

ONE HALF REGULAR PRICES.

New Dress Goods
New Laces

New Skirts
New Embroidery

New Shirts
New Shoes

READY FOR YOUR INSPECTION

The Fair
THE PLACE TO SAVE MONEY

OUR BODIES WEAR

Every time we move a muscle we destroy some tissue. Our entire bodies, including the vital organs, are constantly wearing out. If repair does not keep up with the wear, something serious will happen. The remedy is best that supplies the best material for rest, and with least tax on the organs of indigestion.

Newlin's Beef Iron and Wine.

Affords in a single dose more real body building material than you might get from half a dozen meals; and it is material ready to give you strength and energy immediately after taking.

Price 75c a pint

NEWLIN DRUG COMPANY
La Grande, Oregon.