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BALLINGER AND HIS DUTY

**SPEECH IS PREVIOUSLY GIVEN
TAFT'S O. K.**

**SECRETARY PLACES DUTY
AT DOORS OF THE STATES**

In speech in St. Paul Secretary Ballinger explains details of the coal and oil lands in Alaska—Once title is given to coal and oil lands monopoly cannot be prevented says the secretary boldly.

St. Paul, Minn., March 16.—In an address before the Minnesota Conservation Convention, Secretary of the Interior Ballinger gave his interpretation of the national obligations regarding the public domain and its disposition. The speech according to reports from Washington had the personal O. K. of President Taft.

The greater portion of the burden of conserving the natural resources of the country were laid by Secretary Ballinger at the doors of the states.

"There has been, and is," he said, "a grossly exaggerated notion among some people as to what the general government can do in conserving the natural resources that lie in the deposits of minerals and are contained in the soils and streams. For the most part they have passed into private ownership and are under the municipal jurisdiction of the states.

"Any national conservation policy must be predicated on the policy affecting the public domain, since for the most part the states are sovereign within their own spheres of jurisdiction. Therefore I believe a greater obligation rests upon the state than upon the national govern-

ment to inaugurate laws to prevent waste in the utilization of natural resources."

Referring to the duty of the national government in this connection he regarded it as essential that the public domain be studied and surveyed and an "adequate scientific classification of the remainder of the public lands be made."

He scored the "idealistic conservationists" heavily for tackling the proposition "without a sound knowledge of conditions."

"I grant you some people are for the most part sincere, but their very sincerity gives them such a vigor of imagination and predication that it is oftentimes hard to combat their vagaries except through practical demonstration."

"Then, too, give them their due," he added. "They have this virtue, that they do not let us forget that extremes often prove fruitful of sound reason to those who may be over optimistic."

Of his own stand in the latter, Secretary Ballinger said.

"I am as earnest an advocate of sound conservation as the most radical, but it must be wise conservation to appeal to me. It must simply be as full and free a development of our natural resources as is consistent with our civilization and needs. It may mean the reservation from use for limited periods of certain of our deposits of coal, of mineral oils and gas, of phosphates or of timber, to protect against the inordinate greed of men who wish to exploit the present with no regard for the future or the general welfare, and when it becomes necessary it is a national duty to make such reservations out of public lands.

"But we must not forget that we are not through with the policy of development, of building up new communities and settlements, even in far off Alaska. We have not realized that period where we can say the remainder of our public lands shall be auctioned off to the highest bidder to increase the revenues of the national treasury.

"Congress is now struggling with the problems relating to water power and other measures designed to retain in the government the power of control and supervision."

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BOTH SIDES MARKING TIME

**MEDIATORS ARE HURRYING TO
CHICAGO**

**FIREMEN WILL ADMIT OF
NO DELAY BY PRETEXTS**

Neil and Knapp are hurrying to Chicago to take up the strike question. Firemen say no pretext for delay will be stood for and strike will be called unless the mediators come to business at once.

Chicago, March 16.—Officials of the railroads and the firemen are marking time today, awaiting the arrival of Chairman Knapp and Commissioner of Labor Neil who will attempt to avert the threatened strike of 27,000 firemen in the West. The government officials are expected tomorrow and are ready to take up the questions at issue immediately.

President Carter of the Union said today that he will not countenance delay under any pretense. If arbitration fails the strike will be called immediately.

CAN'T END TROUBLE

Philadelphia, March 16.—Efforts to end the street car strike here apparently are falling through today. The State Federation of Labor is preparing for a state wide strike which officers say seem inevitable. The unions were ordered today to take an immediate vote upon the question.

All Passengers Drowned, Maybe
Havre, March 16.—Wreckage found off Belle Isle today leads to the belief that the Dutch steamer Wilhelm was wrecked with 52 passengers and the crew drowned.

BOOST GERMS STREWN HERE

**BOOSTER TOM PLEADS WITH
LARGE AUDIENCE**

**MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN
HAVE GREAT WORK TO DO**

Speaking from religious rostrum, Mr. Richardson blends morality discussion with booster pleadings and one of the most instructive and result producing speeches in years is the result of the meeting.

At the tabernacle last night a large and appreciative audience listened to a talk by Tom Richardson, the well known Oregon booster. His speech was replete with timely hints and valuable information for all of those interested in making Eastern Oregon, and the City of La Grande, in a spiritual, financial, moral and social way a better place in which to live.

Mr. Richardson addressed his hearers in the order of their power for community benefits. First to the business men; whom he characterized as the most able, earnest and untiring workers in the building up of any community. He said in part that each should post himself on the productiveness of the community and to never miss an opportunity to spread the facts through the East and the great Central West the praises of Oregon are being sung more loudly than ever before. More people came to Oregon last year than to either Washington or California.

Oregon's greatest asset is her vacant land and to make La Grande bigger, better city it is necessary to get more acres under cultivation. For the benefit of those easily discouraged ones whom we sometimes call "knockers," he quoted statistics in support of the assertion that the Northwest may produce ten times as many apples as she does today without reducing the price one cent.

The busy business man supplies the wherewithal and the support of all living activities and the necessities of the public. He is the foundation of the public enterprises, the churches, the Y. M. C. A., the Y. M. C. A., the hospitals, the parks, etc. Mr. Richardson strongly emphasized the formation of a stronger Commercial Club in La Grande and showed the importance of it as applied to the public good. He instanced Portland, which by means of her organization did not stop a wheel in the panic of 1907, but protected the employees who could not stand the loss a stoppage of business would entail, by an agreement among the employers themselves to assume it. The people had the work, the helpless were protected from the panic until it was tided over.

Next to the ladies he suggested the forming of an auxiliary to the Commercial Club for the purpose of meeting in a social way, the families of those who come to make their homes here. This plan has proved a great success with other towns in the state and would undoubtedly be of great benefit here.

Lastly, he urged the children to cultivate that highest form of patriotism which is the boosting of one's home town and the spread the news of Oregon's growing greatness in every letter written to the East.

Mr. Richardson declared morality has reached a higher plane in Oregon than in any other state. There are greater possibilities for the state as yet undeveloped; irrigation has added 530 millions of wealth to the United States in the last 15 years. In Europe they use corn in 64 different ways. The corn lands of the United States will be worth \$250 an acre in

16 years. We are the people who are to raise the apples for the world. In 1884 there were produced in the United States one billion eight hundred million bushels of corn and it was worth 15 cents; in 1909 two billion four hundred million bushels were raised and it was worth 45 cents. There is an area in Oregon larger than the state of Illinois waiting for the settler. Oregon is the same size as Japan which supports a population of 45,000,000.

Mr. Richardson was introduced by President Collier of the Commercial Club as the man who is doing more for the upbuilding of Oregon than any other man in it.

Interest in Meetings
The musical attraction of the evening aside from the regular and able choir, were a violin duet by Messrs. Greene and Jackson, and a solo by Prof. Gray.

Interest grows all the while and as evidence of it were seen among the out-of-town guest attending, Sam Emerson, J. A. Richardson and Willie Hunter of Summerville; Rev. C. H. Zimmerman of the Anti-Saloon League, Portland; Rev. J. E. Youel of the Presbyterian church of Union and Mrs. F. A. Palmer of the Home Missionary Board, New York City.

Taft Off for a Long Journey

Politicians Watch his trip through a Turbulent Region

Washington, March 16.—President Taft will begin an eight days trip of 2500 miles today when he left Washington for Chicago and politicians are intensely interested in the journey because he will swing back through New York and make three speeches in that state which just now is in a seriously complicated political condition. Whether the president will seek to pour oil on the troubled waters, or will come out in favor of the reforms advocated by Governor Hughes and Senator Root is the subject of speculation.

JAPAN CHANGES ITS FRONT

Now Wants Uncle Sam to Help in the Open Door Troubles

Washington, March 16.—Unofficial announcement was made today that Japan has decided upon a sudden change of front and is now planning to submit a proposition to the United States Government in the nature of an invitation to assist Japan in guaranteeing an "Open Door" policy in the far East.

It has both startled and pleased diplomats here. According to members of the Japanese embassy here new plans will be made known to Knox in a few days.

It is understood the Mikado is arranging to make the United States an informal ally in the domination of the Orient.

The commercial equality of all nations will be guaranteed, it is said.

SUCCESS OR FAILURE NOW

**ECCLES' OK HAS
NOT COME**

SIGN NOW OR NEVER

**CONTRACT EXACTLY AS WANTED
BY REPRESENTATIVES OF
WATER USERS**

**FARMERS CONTROL THE SESSIONS
CAMPAIGN THAT MEANS FAILURE
OR SUCCESS STARTS NEXT
MONDAY MORNING**

No longer time to permit of more study on the contracts—Entire proposition is up to farmers.

One final and decisive struggle to get water users' contracts to finance the Grande Ronde Irrigation Project will be inaugurated next Monday, when the campaign commences, according to the final decision of the board of directors at a meeting held last night. The time and the hour has come for the farmers to say whether or not they want irrigation; if the farmers want it well and good—they can sign the contract prepared by themselves. If they refuse to sign up for the land, then the project will "throw up the sponge" in the prize-fight parlance.

What was thought to be apathy on the part of the board of directors during the winter months, was really a condition forced by circumstances, but the circumstances and obstructions forcing the delay have not been changed or removed, and next Monday morning, and for a period of six days following, all farmers in the territory of the ditch line will be called upon with an opportunity of signing the waterusers' contract.

Contract Should Suit

The contract which they will be asked to sign, is verbatim as the board of five representatives of the farmers made it several months ago. These representatives agreed among themselves on the wording of the contract, without a dissenting or alternative.

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GRAND DISPLAY OF SPRING MERCHANDISE

Ladies Suits, Millinery, Ladies Coats, Waists, Shoes, Skirt, Wash goods, Silks, Corsets, Dress Goods, Hosiery, and Accessories.

Silk Dresses

We have just received a choice line of these popular dresses, all the leading colors, materials Taffaty, Pongees, and Fancels.

Shirt-Waists

We have received a large shipment of waists which are placed on sale for Saturday, values to \$1.38 two dollars on sale Saturday at.

Tailored-Suits

Beyond a doubt we have the choicest selection of suits you can expect to find. Here you will find all the late materials, styles and at such reasonable prices, that you cannot afford delay buying, a perfect fit guaranteed.

**YOU ARE WELCOME
For Stile. THE FAIR For Stiles**



For Dependable Medicines

When sickness comes or whenever there is any need of medicine you want the purest and most potent to be had. It may do to take chance in some things, but not in this. We ask you, therefore, whenever you have a prescription to be filled, or any medicine to be procured, to remember that this is a store that emphasizes quality. We have the best drugs; that money can buy and we make a specialty of the compounding of physicians prescriptions or of household recipes. When you get medicines here you can feel that you can depend upon them—for you can.

Newlin Drug Co.