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RESERVE MATTERS

Boodlers Will Not Be In It This Time.

Blue Mountain Goes.

Secretary Hitchcock Talks of His Intentions in The Matter.

Washington, Nov. 17—Secretary Hitchcock has finally determined that a forest reserve shall be created in the Blue and Strawberry mountains of Eastern Oregon, but the lands included by the Presidential proclamation will be only Government timber lands or worthless mountain summits. The proclamation will not issue until the Interior Department shall have inspected every acre to be included in the reserve and to eliminate such lands now included in the withdrawal as have been denuded of timber or are owned or occupied by large holders. All towns or settlements and all school lands and all private ranges will also be excluded. But, above all else, he will exclude those lands which were entered for speculative purpose just prior to the department's withdrawal by parties who are believed to have received tips as to the intention of creating a Blue Mountain forest reserve. This information the Secretary today gave to Colonel Emmett Callahan, of Baker City, who has been urging the establishment of a reserve from which all private holdings shall have been eliminated.

Secretary Hitchcock says it is his purpose to create no lieu base in making the Blue mountain reserve or to permit chances for fraud of any kind. The reserve he favors will be irregular in shape a checker-board in some sections, but will be all Government land.

He finds that much opposition that has been manifested by Oregon people was based on misconception of the purpose of forest reservations.

He gives assurance that the timber reservation will not in any way interfere with the location of mining claims; neither will it prevent cutting of mature timber. It will, however, prevent corporations and speculators from acquiring title to large areas of valuable land in this region, to the detriment of the interests of settlers. Protection of water supply is of equal importance to timber preservation he holds, and to this end the forests of the Blue Mountains will be perpetuated. It may be six months or a year says the Secretary, before the reserve shall be finally established, but when it is created its lines will be permanent. There will be no just ground for continued hagglng for the exclusion of some acres or the addition of others, as has been the case with almost every reserve heretofore created.

T. H. Lafollett, president of the Crook County Stock Association, and H. D. Langille, Superintendent of the Cascade Forest Reserve, will hold a very important meeting at the court house, in Prineville, on Saturday, Nov. 29, at which the presence of every stockman in Crook county is earnestly desired.

Sheep Drowned.

About the middle of last summer John Frates, a sheepman of Mitchell, Wheeler county, started his flock, numbering about 2800, overland to the California market. About a month ago in company with his wife he left The Dalles to meet them when they reached their destination. But Mr. Frates was

doomed to disappointment and lost his entire band by drowning in Pratt Bend, Colusa county, California. The flock was in the care of herders who failed to notice the water was rising rapidly until evening, then they got the sheep together, but the sheep refused to drive on account of the darkness and water. The herders decided to wait for daylight, but had to desert the sheep and flee from the rapidly rising water. When day-break came the herders found the whole flock had been drowned. The sheep were valued at \$10,000 and Mr. Frates' friends in Oregon learn with regret of his great financial loss.—Dalles Chronicle.

Residence in a School District.

State Superintendent Ackerman recently issued an opinion to the county superintendents relative to the right of children to free admission to the public schools where they reside, no matter where they may have been enumerated, and now another question has been brought before the department, which is indicated and answered in the following ruling, which was sent out by Mr. Ackerman:

"The question has arisen as to the length of time required after a parent or guardian has moved into a school district before such parent or guardian has gained a legal residence in such school district. In answer to this question, the department has ruled that as soon as the parent or guardian has moved into the district with the intention of making said school district his bona fide residence, he becomes a resident of such district at once; and hence a child of such parent or guardian is entitled to free tuition from the time he moves into the school district.

"In case of doubt, it would be entirely proper for the district board to require the parent or guardian to file an affidavit setting forth his real intention as to residence. The intention of the parent or guardian is the controlling factor in determining his residence."

Church Pic Social.

Saturday evening according to announcement the pie social of the Christian church people for the benefit of the new pastor came off at Belknaps hall. The literary part of the program was carried out at the Union church and the congregation then adjourned to the hall for the pie. The program as rendered at the church was as follows:

Prayer..... Rev. E. A. Childs
Instrumental music..... Edna Estes
The Minute Men..... Ten little men
Recitation, (Poe's Raven)..... Mrs. J. H. Wigle
Duet..... Roy and Maggie Foster
Dialogue (Pie Supper)..... Leona Winnek, Wilda Salomon, Vivian Hinkle and Vernon Bell
Recitation..... Ceola Smith
Gifts to the Poor..... Five little girls
Solo..... Celia Neims
Select Reading, (The Irish Soldier)..... Mrs. E. True Shattuck
Violin Solo..... Miss Ethel King
Recitation, (The Whistling Regiment)..... Mrs. Wilda Belknap
Duet, (Annie Laurie)..... Mesdames C. M. and Frank Elkins

The exercises at the church were worth the price of admission, but when the people arrived at the hall they were confronted with an aggregation of pie and turkey, etc. that would have been a treat to some of the bald headed aristocracy of the effete east. Ample justice was done to the estates and when we got through it looked as if a Kansas cyclone had paid a visit to the tables. About thirty-five dollars was cleared from the proceeds of the entertainment.

STOCKMENS MEETING

Held In Antelope Last Week.

Meet Here November 29.

General Forestry Superintendent To Meet Local Stockmen.

Mr. D. L. Langill, General Forestry Inspector, met a number of the members of the Stockmen's Union here, last Friday, and discussed with them the question of pasturage in the forest reserve. Mr. Langill stated that the aim of the government was the greatest good to the greatest number, and that the greatest interest centered in the preservation and utilization of the timber supply. He pointed out that by the setting aside the Cascade Reserve, it had been protected from the land-grabbers, and the lands had been preserved for the use of the people, subject only to proper restrictions. The chief inquiry made by the Department is: What number of sheep will the Reserve carry, without injuring the permanency of the grazing, and how can that number be apportioned with justice to all? These matters were thoroughly discussed, and before closing his remarks, Mr. Langill stated that as long as the sheepmen will do their utmost to cooperate with the Government in promoting the usefulness of the Reserve, they may rest assured the grazing privilege will be extended to them.

Applications should be made by March 1. Blanks will be sent to some centre, probably to the Secretary of the local stock union, and the applications must be sent in to the supervisor by a certain date. No applications will be considered before that date.—Antelope Herald.

Pleased With Oregon.

Colonel R. W. Richardson, of the Department of agriculture, who attended the recent good roads convention in Portland, apparently carried away a pleasant impression of this state. Writing from Omaha to General Passenger Agent Craig of the O. R. & N., Colonel Richardson said:

I take this opportunity to tell you how much I enjoyed my recent visit to Oregon and of my pleasant impression of that splendid state. After a long ride across the brown, seared plains and plains of the Central West, one cannot measure the delight of the winding ways through the verdure-clad Cascades, plunging into the wide magnificence of the Columbia and finding peace and plenty in the beautiful valley of the Willamette.

Oregon surpassed my expectations, World's Fair Commissioners Dosche and Wethered and others had told of its wonderful resources and possibilities, but I made liberal discount for their enthusiasm.

Oregon combines many favorable conditions for its people and for the settler who is seeking a home. Its timber, mineral, agricultural and horticultural resources, are unexcelled. Her valleys are rich in soil; her sun kissed slopes and mountain sides clothed with nutritious grass and mellow and sweet with fruits and flowers; her streams clear and deep, bountiful with fish—a no small consideration in her natural resources. Her cities and towns are substantially built, up to date and busy with the hum of industry and commerce, comparing most favorably with those of the East and of the Middle West. Her people are wide awake, broad, generous and hospitable, giving a

warm welcome to the stranger and homeseeker. Her harbors are open to the commerce of the world. Her railroads are equal to those of any state in the Union in proportion to mileage, equipment and management; they are loyal and devoted to her interests and the chief factors in her development.

In fact, all her ways are to be commended except her highways, which now promise to be improved.

To Examine Land Frauds.

Secretary of the Interior Hitchcock will send special agents of the interior department to Oregon to investigate alleged frauds in timber lands. The agents will examine all entrymen who have made final proof during the past year and witnesses will also be subpoenaed. An effort will be made by the Albany claimants to have the special agents take the testimony in this city and thus save the expense of a long trip to the Lakeview land office. Over 100 Albany persons act in Lake and Klamath counties, and it will mean several thousand dollars to make the trip to Lakeview. Senator Mitchell and congressman Tongue have been asked to get the Department to make the investigation in this city. The Albany people are not afraid of a strict examination, but many will hardly be able to take the long trip to Lakeview to defend their titles.—Albany Herald.

Land and Livestock Company.

Articles of incorporation were filed in the county clerk's office of Lane county last week, by the Oregon Land & Livestock Company. The principal office of the company is Eugene, and the capital stock is \$1,000,000, divided into shares of \$100 each. The incorporators are R. A. Booth, John F. Kelly and George H. Kelly. The incorporators are all officers of the Booth-Kelly Lumber Company, and the new incorporation is practically a scion of that company. Some time ago the Booth-Kelly Company secured the vast land grant of the Oregon Central Military Wagon Road Company. A portion of that property is west of the summit of the Cascade mountains and is valuable for its timber, and will be held to supply the mill of the company.

East of the summit of the Cascades, however, is a vast acreage in the grant on which there is no valuable timber. In order to utilize this property, the Land & Livestock Company was formed and the articles of incorporation cover every branch of the livestock business. It is the intention of the company to lease or purchase other lands adjacent and stock the property with herds and flocks and put it into a state of productiveness.

Forest Reserve Ruling.

Forest Supervisor M. P. Isenberg is in town today, attending the stockmen's meeting. Mr. Isenberg informs us that a change has been made in the matter of allotment of range in the reserve. By a ruling of the Secretary of the Interior, made February 8, 1902, the allotment of range in reserve was placed in the hands of wool-growers associations, where such associations included a majority of the sheepmen in their membership. On October 24th, last, this authority was taken from the stock associations and placed entirely in the hands of the forest supervisors. The rules governing the allotment are the same as heretofore.—Antelope Herald.

Edward Graham was over from Sisters the fore part of the week looking after business matters.

NEWS BRIEFLY TOLD

Items of Interest Gathered Here and There

Some Stolen, Others Not

Cullings From Our Exchange—News Notes of the Week—Timely Topics.

The Stark Irrigation Company is taking a canal out of the Malheur, to cover 20,000 acres on Dead Ox Flat, below Payette.

A smelter of 100 tons capacity will be erected at Takilma, on the Oregon and Pacific railway, in the Waldo mining district.

The North Pole Mining Company has purchased the electric road franchise from Bourne to Sumpter and will build and operate this road at an early date.

P. A. Marquam, who built the Marquam block and theater in Portland, has begun an action in the state circuit court to recover the property, which was bought in by his creditors some time ago for \$863,000. Mr. Marquam, in his complaint, alleges that he is ready to redeem the property, and asks the court to give him that right.

W. R. Mealey, of Foster, will circulate petitions to the legislature asking for further protection for deer. Mr. Mealey is confident that if something is not done the deer will disappear entirely in a few more years. As Mr. Mealey has spent a great deal of time in the mountains and is a close observer, his opinion in the matter is entitled to considerable weight.

There are five women in the state penitentiary, Emma C. Hannab, of Linn county, Kate Saunders, of Portland, (each being in the asylum,) Mrs. Minnie Crockett, of Umatilla county, for murder, Mrs. Rose Carlisle, of Jackson county for burning a barn, and Etta Horton, placed there last week from Harney county under a year's sentence for adultery.—Albany Democrat.

To Reclaim 30,000 Acres.

SALEM, Nov. 12—The Three Sisters Canal company today filed in the office of the state land board an application for contracts for the reclamation of 30,000 acres of arid land lying in the western part of Crook county. The tract is located between the mountains known as Three Sisters and Deschutes river. State Engineer George L. Dillman will go and examine the land this week. It is proposed to irrigate the tract with water from the tributaries of the Deschutes.

L. E. Allingham is in the city from the mountains. Mr. Allingham has done a good business during the past season in the timber.

Henry L. Wilson, editor of Puck one of the alleged "funniest" papers in the world, is touring the Pacific coast, and visited Portland last Tuesday.

The labor unions of Oregon will ask the next legislature to create a commissioner of labor. President G. Y. Harry is the choice of the state Federation for the position, if created.

Miss Carrie Ford returned last week to her home in Eugene, where she has a position in the State University. Miss Ford is a fine teacher and we hope that when she returns here next year she may be successful in organizing a good class in music.

FRAUD SURELY EXISTS.

Department of the Interior is Finding Out the Fact.

The department of the interior has discovered it is possible that there was an element of fraud in the desire to set aside the Blue Mountain forest reserve on the lines of the withdrawal order. A tip, hint, suggestion or something else has been received, indicating that individuals who were buying all of the worthless school land embodied, were eager for the reserve, and that they would profit by buying 40,000 acres for \$1.25 an acre, receiving lieu scrip therefor when the reserve is created, and immediately selling this scrip for \$5 and \$5.25 an acre.

We compliment the department upon getting this fact clear. Of course it is hopeless to expect Portland merchants ever to reason in that light. They want a reserve created, because they know better than we what we need and are going to cross the Cascades to insist that we take it.

In the nature of things, Mr. Secretary of the Interior, could you not have found basis for suspicion

in the very fact that all the people interested oppose the reserve, while the outsider, the stranger to local conditions, urges such action? Could you, Mr. Secretary, heed solely those few renegade souls herein who expounded wisely on the necessity for a reserve, and who through perverse narrowness know not their own interests?

A few facts. There is about 40,000 acres of school land in the proposed reserve. It is not regarded worth more than \$1.25 an acre, else the speculator would have acquired it long ago. The agents of the industrious clique making headquarters at Salem and having free entre in Capitol offices having been purchasing this school land in larger quantities. This same western Oregon clique has been particularly patriotic in advocating the reserve. Scrip sells in the market for from \$5 to \$5.25. Buying price, \$1.25; selling price, \$5.25; profit per acre \$4; aggregate profit on 40,000 acres, \$160,000. This dazzling result is predicated upon purchase of all the school land embodied. Every part acquired in that manner would profit on this ratio.—Blue Mountain American.

Pasture! Pasture!!

I have 640 acres of good pasture and will take horses or cattle to pasture by the month, at reasonable rates. Ranch on Market creek.

JOKUM H. PETERSON.

The...
Oregonian

The...
Crook County Journal

The Journal with Either, \$2.00

The Portland
Journal

The...
Crook County Journal