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CAREY LAND LAW STILL IN FORCE

Squaw Creek Company's Recent Selection Will Be Allowed.

The fact that the Carey arid land law did not expire on the 18th of last August, as was generally supposed, is welcome news to some of the local business men interested in an appropriation of land made some time ago in the Squaw creek district. The selection was made in August, but the maps and papers did not reach the state land board on the day on which the Carey act was believed to expire. Consequently the matter of giving to the Squaw Creek Irrigation company the right to secure a lien upon some 12,000 acres of land for reclamation purposes has been withheld pending a decision of the secretary of Interior relative to the above mentioned law, and the time of its application to this state.

marketing by reason of the different methods employed here in harvesting as compared with those that obtain in wheat belts farther East. Upon all hands, however, it is admitted that for the specific purpose alluded to the grain that is grown in the Oregon Country is especially desirable and is found to remain so in the future as against the product of any other section. The facts are of a most encouraging nature to those who are engaged in wheat production. Furthermore, they are of a character that afford a splendid advertisement for this and adjacent states, in view of the vast territory yet undeveloped that is pre-eminently suited to this particular industry. Unless all signs fail, it is only a question of time when Oregon shall be known as the chief wheat producing section of the United States, not only as to the quantity but as to the quality as well.—Telegram.

IMPROVE PLANT OF DIXIE MEADOWS

Experiments are being conducted by the management of the Dixie Meadows mine, Grant county, preliminary to further improvement of the milling plant, says the Portland Journal. Manager R. C. Rees went to Denver early in the summer to purchase a 20-stamp plant to take the place of the roll mill now in use, or to supplement it in a measure. The exhaustive tests made by the management seem to indicate that perhaps a roll plant is best adapted to Dixie ore, and the need is larger roll capacity rather than change in crushing devices. At present the Dixie is provided with a gyratory breaker, roll-jaw breaker and two sets of centrifugal rolls, each set being six-inch face by 30 inches diameter. A Huntington mill was put below the finishing mill when it became apparent that the rolls would not deliver the ore required.

In the experimental work done since the plant was closed it seems to be the general impression that enlargement of the roll capacity is all the mine needs, which might be accomplished by adding more sets or perhaps jiggling the coarse highest-grade mineral after it leaves the roll-jaw breaker. There is also rumor of a reorganization of the Dixie Meadows company, which has in the past been composed entirely of well-to-do stockmen, ranchers and miners of the John Day Valley and Crook county, a large number of shares being held by residents living in and around Prineville.

GOVERNMENT FARM FOR CROOK COUNTY

The government will establish an agricultural experiment station on the segregated land of the Deschutes Irrigation & Power Co. This information is contained in a letter from Hon. Elwood Mead, chief of the irrigation and drainage investigation of the department of agriculture, within the past week and it is of the utmost importance, not only to Bend, but to the whole of Central Oregon.

This experiment plant will be in full operation for next season and it is bound to be conducted by the government for at least three years. Nearly all the expenses will be borne by the D. I. & P. Co., however.

Different localities and soils require different treatments. The quantity of water and the time of service are also very important and their determination requires not only good judgment but large experience in this particular field of endeavor. Irrigation has failed in some places because water was not properly applied. It is now proposed to have the guidance of an expert in finding just what treatment is best for Deschutes soil and climate, how and when water shall be applied to get the best results and what crops will do best here. The expert will also have charge of the installation of measuring boxes at diversion points.

The fact that this work will be conducted under the direction of so eminent an expert as Elwood Mead insures results of the highest value to this country. Director Withycombe, of the Oregon Agricultural College experiment station, look an interest in the matter of getting the station established here and will follow the work with careful attention. The new enterprise comes under the most favorable auspices and its importance to the Deschutes country can hardly be estimated.—Bend Bulletin.

RESERVE LANDS MAY BE OPENED

Part of Deschutes Withdrawal Probably Soon Restored to Entry.

Word has reached the city that a large portion of the land withdrawn a year and a half ago in the vicinity of Silver Lake and extending north to the southern border of Crook county will again be opened to entry. The restoration to entry of these lands may also be extended still farther north into the Deschutes river basin. The order from the Interior department to this effect which it is stated will be issued soon is the result of investigations made by the geological surveyors who have been at work during the past summer in these localities and also of the protests filed by residents in the counties effected by the withdrawal. Similar examinations and protests were filed with regard to temporary reserves in California with the result that the Secretary of the Interior has already ordered the restoration to entry of large tracts of public lands in that state which were put under the ban with a view of enlarging the forest reserves.

These lands, similar to those in the local districts, were found unsuited for reserve purposes. Some are agricultural in character, some are grazing lands and a considerable portion is valuable timber land. A large area, however, of the timbered section it was found did not conserve the water sources nor did the timbered districts themselves constitute a water shed from which the neighboring valleys drew their supply of moisture. There were other tracts of isolated timber lands located among lands now in private ownership, and it would not be practicable to reserve these without reserving adjoining private lands, and this policy is not favored.

In restoring these lands to entry the Interior Department is adopting a new policy. These and all other lands hereafter restored to entry will not become subject to settlement immediately, but will be advertised for ninety days before they become subject to entry. This is to give every one an equal chance to look up the newly opened lands and to prevent any one getting unfair advantage. The exact description of the land is withheld from the public for the time being, but will probably be given out in a few days. A large tract in Washington was similarly thrown open.

NORMONS GAIN HOLD IN OREGON

The recent utterances of Senator Dubois of Idaho on the Mormon question are arousing considerable interest in eastern Oregon, says a dispatch from Sumpter. Comments are freely made as to the growing power of that church in this section of the state. No political speaker has as yet brought up the matter for discussion in this county. It is well known that the Mormon element is spreading over Idaho and Oregon, and its influence is being felt to such an extent that it bids fair to prove a political issue in the near future.

Baker county is well represented by the Mormon element, as well as Union county. In this county the Mormons are represented in a commercial way and not so much in religious form, while in Union county the church is making its presence felt. A magnificent temple is in course of erection at La Grande, and the Mormon contingency controls the sugar beet industry in the same section.

In this county Mormons are engaged in lumbering and railroading. The Sumpter Valley railway

and the Oregon Lumber company are creations of the Mormon element, and both furnish employment to a large army of employes. Not all of the latter, however, are Mormons, nor is it apparent that they have to be in order to gain employment. The Oregon Lumber company owns large tracts of timber lands that were acquired by purchase from locators.

The Sumpter Valley railway has been a potent factor in developing this section of eastern Oregon. Its line was originally to handle logs for the Oregon Lumber company, but mining and other industries opened a transportation opportunity that could not be neglected. This has resulted in the road being extended to Sumpter, Whitney and its present terminus is centered at Tipton, distant from its original starting point—Baker City—about 60 miles. Grading beyond this point has also been done, showing that it is the intention to advance the road into the John Day country and ultimately to Harney county.

LAND COMMISSIONER SUES WRONG MONEY

Judge B. N. Carrier, United States Land Commissioner of Prairie City, has put himself under very suspicious circumstances and unless what now appears to be fraudulent acts are satisfactorily explained away he will have to face a serious criminal charge, says the Prairie City Miner. G. J. McKee has sworn to a complaint before justice Mack charging Carrier with larceny by bailment and alleges that he delivered to B. N. Carrier, in his capacity as United States Land commissioner, \$418 the same to be paid to the U. S. Land Office at La Grande in settlement of a timber claim which McKee had filed upon and made final proof before said Carrier.

After waiting two months for the return of the papers from the Land Office he made inquiry by phone at same office only to receive the reply that they had received no notice of such final proof. Upon such information Mr. McKee appeared before the justice of the peace, swore to a complaint and a warrant issued for his arrest. Mr. Carrier left here about two weeks ago for Spokane and a phone message was sent to the chief of police of that place to hold him until the papers could be forwarded for his return.

There are other cases involving final proof in land cases that on their face look bad, but of course, may be satisfactorily explained and it is hoped and believed by many of Mr. Carrier's friends that it is a mistake and at the worst only a case of carelessness.

Since his departure several letters have been received here from him, stating he would return to this place the 7th. It is only last Thursday that he wrote he would be here next week, Friday night word was received from the officers at Spokane stating that arrest could not be made until they were in possession of the proper papers.

READY FOR THE GAME

Arrangements have been completed for the accommodation of a large crowd which it is expected will witness the two games of base ball between the Antelope and the Prineville teams in this city next Saturday and Sunday. The line up of the local team will be as follows: Jordan, 1f; Larsen, p; Rosenberg, cf; Roark, 1b; Scott, rf; Foster, 2b; Barber, c; Bailay, 3b; Gibson, ss; Henry Smith, sub. Van Houten and Knapp will probably be the battery for the Antelope team.

The purses will amount to \$75 for each game, or \$150 for the team that carries off both games should such an event happen. An admission of 25 cents will be charged for reserved seats.

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Jas. S. Kelley
Photographer

POTRAITS, VIEWS, ENLARGING AND A SUPERIOR GRADE OF WORK
Prineville, Oregon.

The acting secretary in response to inquiries from Clerk G. G. Brown of the state land board rendered a decision to the effect that the law "authorizes the secretary of the interior in his discretion to extend the time for irrigating and reclaiming the land to a period of five years. In accordance with such construction there is, in the opinion of this office, no limit to time under the present law in which the state may apply for the selection and segregation of land under section 4 of the act of August 18, 1894, and acts amendatory thereof."

The Squaw Creek Irrigation company of this city is one of the concerns immediately interested under the commissioner's decision, and last week the state board made application to the United States land office at The Dalles for the withdrawal of 11,766.84 acres of land located in that district from entry under the arid land act for irrigation purposes for this company. The company represents to the state that it has 12 miles of canal now in operation supplied by the waters of Squaw creek, and they apply for the lands for the purpose of reclaiming them by irrigation.

The state, in compliance with the law, ordered the clerk forward a map of the lands to be withdrawn for reclamation by the Squaw Creek Irrigation company to the land office at The Dalles together with the formal application for its withdrawal.

There is strong indication that the excellent character of wheat raised in this section of the country will ultimately gain for it a reputation that will lead to the permanent establishment of an Eastern market of no mean value. This is manifest from the presence of buyers this season, who are here to purchase the grain that is required in special grades of manufacture, such as the making of high-grade breakfast foods, where the whiteness and the amount of gluten in the berry are considerations of prime importance. Representatives of the largest concerns in this line of business in the Middle West have been on the ground for some weeks and others are arriving, while the purchases that will be made by these gentlemen are estimated to run into the millions of bushels. This particular wheat output from the Northwest Pacific states is entirely aside from the demand that is made by reason of the abnormal conditions now prevailing in the Eastern market.

There are experts among these buyers who are reported to the effect that the natural excellence of the wheat in this section is not fully developed in the process of