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LAND FRAUDS.

FEDERAL OFFICE HOLDERS IN INDIAN TERRITORY ARE ROBBING THE INDIANS.

Their Steals Are Colossal and Comprise a Scandal That Puts Even the Postoffice Frauds to the Blush.

Washington, Aug. 16.—There was filed with Attorney-General Knox today a document which tells a tale of fraud and deception practiced upon Indian wards of the government that puts to the blush the worst of the postoffice scandals. It is the mearest of all the scandals under which the administration is staggering, because it involves the wholesale robbery of ignorant Indians, unable to protect themselves against the wiles and schemes of the more cultured Federal office-holders, placed over them by the United States government, whose wards the Indians are. It involves the theft of millions of acres of land and the making of millions of money out of the half savage wards of the people.

The document of a report prepared by S. M. Brosius, Washington Agent Indian Rights Association, whose investigations of the land steals in Oklahoma and Indian Territory resulted in the discoveries now communicated to the attorney-general.

The report of Mr. Brosius contains matter which must be taken cognizance of by the president in his message to congress.

Mr. Brosius in the report which Knox hasays: "A study of the conditions now existing among the Five Civilized Tribes in Indian Territory impresses one that there is need of a change of management in the interests of the Indians."

Mr. Brosius thus describes the plan of the land companies: "The plan of the few companies and others securing the lands was to take a lease of the lands of the Indian owner, which included a contract of sale at the termination of the lease, without additional consideration. The prices at which the lands were secured varied from 25 cents to 75 cents per acre, these lands in turn being sold to the farmer at from \$1 to \$2.50 per acre, which shows the opportunity for immense profit covering the Creek reservation alone, which comprises 3,000,000 acres."

Mr. Brosius asserts that in the Cherokee reservation hundreds of thousands of acres are held in excess of the amount allotted to each Indian; that when an Indian wants an allotment he must travel sometimes 150 miles to see the Dawes commission, and often goes back with all his money gone, without being able to file his application. The excess appears to find its way into the possession of land companies.

"The trust companies," Mr. Brosius says, "have been organized by the score, and cover every field of the Five Tribes opened to investment."

The companies employ field agents, who are called "rustlers," whose business it is to impose on ignorant Indian owners. Mr. Brosius alleges that there is a scramble for oil lands and that the "air is rife with scandal in connection therewith." Mr. Brosius says he recently reported to the Indian office a case in which an Indian woman with two minor children parted with certain oil lands for \$900, while the person who turned the trick got \$20,000 from an oil company as his share of the profits.

Here is the official text of the complaint of Special Agent S. M. Brosius of the Indian Rights Association, which complaint was laid August 13th before Attorney-General Knox by Philip C. Garrett of the association, showing how the Indians are at the mercy of the land companies, and what United States officials are members of the companies:

The ignorant Indians without means—and this class embraces perhaps one-third of the population of the Five Tribes—is practically at the mercy of the trust companies and other dealers in lands, since they have no means of traveling long distances where that is necessary and providing for their expenses during the long delays at the land office as before shown. The interests of the trust com-

panies being antagonistic to those of the Indian in many ways, it will be interesting to know of their organization, their promoters and the scope of their powers as authorized by charter.

The articles of agreement and incorporation of the Tribal Development Company of Tishomingo, Indian Territory, show that it was organized March 25, 1903, with a capital stock of \$100,000 and \$12,000 actually paid in. Guy P. Cobbe, who then held the position of internal revenue inspector for the Indian Territory, is the largest stockholder. P. L. Soper is also a large stockholder and vice-president of the company. Mr. Soper is the United States district attorney for the northern District, whose duty under the law is to prosecute persons having excessive holdings of land and to defend the Indians in all suits at law and equity involving title to their lands. P. S. Mosely, governor of the Chickasaw nation, is also a stockholder.

The general nature of the Tribal Development Company is to "purchase, own, sell, encumber, sublease and exchange real estate, act as agent and certify abstracts of title," etc.

The Muskogee Title and Trust Co. was organized Feb. 24, 1903, and is authorized to transact a general banking business and in addition may "buy, sell and lease lands, buy and sell stocks and bonds of other corporations," etc. Tams Bixby, chairman of the Dawes commission, is a stockholder and vice-president of the company. J. Geo. Wright, Indian inspector in charge of the Indian Territory, is one of the directors.

The Canadian Valley Trust Co of Muskogee, Indian Territory, was organized Feb. 23, 1903, and is authorized by its charter to "buy, rent, sell lease and mortgage real estate" and conduct a general banking business. Tams Bixby is a stockholder and president of this trust company, as also P. G. Reuter, clerk in charge of the land office under the commission.

The International Bank and Trust Co., organized Feb. 4, 1903, with its main office at Vinita, I. T., has the same general powers. Thomas B. Needles, a member of the Dawes commission, is vice-president and director of this Co., Chas. A. Davidson, clerk of the United States court, Vinita, I. T., is also a director. James H. Huckleberry, assistant United States attorney, northern district, I. T., is stated to be attorney for this trust company, and James S. Huckleberry, Jr., is given as one of the stockholders in a prospectus issued by the same Co.

C. R. Breckinridge, a member of the Dawes commission, is also credited with being interested as a stockholder, either directly or indirectly, in the Eufaula Trust Co.

Tams Bixby is understood to have been owner of real estate in various sections of the Indian Territory—Fort Gibson, Talhequah, Tishomingo and Sulphur Springs among the others.

P. L. Soper, United States district attorney, in addition to being a stockholder in the Tribal Development Co., as already shown, is stated to be a stockholder in and an attorney for the Cherokee Oil and Gas Co. which is operating in the Indian Territory, with original charter rights granted in Arkansas; he is also stated to be general counsel for the St. Louis & San Francisco Railroad Co., for the Indian Territory, whose interests frequently conflict with those of the Indian. The following from the "Weekly Examiner" of Bartlesville I. T., shows that Mr. Soper is interested in the company dealing in Indian lands: "The oil company with which it seems District Attorney Soper is identified, is the Indian Territory Development Co., a corporation which has secured a big block of the most promising oil territory in the Bartlesville field, and which holds extremely valuable coal and zinc lands in the Cherokee nation."

There are rumors afloat to the effect that Federal officers in the Indian territory are financially interested in other transactions that would seem to preclude them from retaining their positions under the Indian department.

The same precaution should govern in the management of the affairs of the Five civilized Tribes as in private business transactions.

Very respectfully,
S. M. BROSIOUS,
Washington Agent Indian Rights Association.

RESTORED THE DEAD

RESUSCITATION BY ELECTRICITY IS SUCCESSFUL.

Child Who Had Died Shortly After Birth Brought to Life by Two Eminent Physicians—Other News.

Detroit, Aug. 16.—Dr. James Brien, of Essex, Canada, a few days ago, by means of electricity, was successful in restoring to life a child that had apparently died shortly after birth. The doctor tells the following story of his achievement: "My partner Dr. Doyle, and myself noticed, immediately after birth slight pulsations in the form of the infant, but they gradually grew fainter and fainter until not a sign of life remained. In the meantime, we had resorted to all the known methods of science, such as dipping the child in warm and cold water, and rubbing its body with sweet oil.

"All these remedies failed to revive the apparently lifeless babe, and we had almost given up hope, when it occurred to me to make a test of the merits of electricity as a last resort. I had never heard of any such experiments being made, and only decided to try it when I was certain that the last spark of life had fled and that the electric current could at least do no harm. "It was fully 15 minutes after birth before the first current was employed. For the first ten minutes there was no sign of life. At the end of fifteen minutes, during which applications of both the galvanic and Faradic currents had been made, the infant displayed slight evidence of life.

"We increased the current persistently and within ten minutes more were rewarded by seeing the child breathing naturally. The heart began to pulsate slowly, but regularly, and soon took at its normal action.

"The child is now doing well. I am prepared to prove these facts by sworn testimony."

Dr. O'Brien is one of the oldest practicing physicians in Western Ontario. He has represented Essex county in Parliament at Ottawa for several years.

Cheyenne, Wyo., Aug. 19.—Albert Ecklund, alias George Johnson, who was captured at Rowline, and was being taken back to Chicago to answer to the charge of grand larceny, effected a remarkable escape today from Detective William Marsden. While Marsden was sleeping beside his prisoner, Ecklund went through the detective's pockets, secured the keys to the shackles, released himself, and then shackled the officer to the steam pipes. Having relieved the officer of his weapons and other property, Ecklund left the train at Laramie.

Marsden was not awakened by the conductor until Cheyenne was reached, when he called for assistance. As Marsden had absolutely nothing on his person to prove he was not a prisoner, the trainmen would not release him. The railroad authorities telegraphed to Chicago for instructions, and when the

train reached Sidney Marsden was finally released from his predicament.

Tonight he passed through Cheyenne en route to Laramie to try to effect the capture of his prisoner.

Kharkov, Russia, Aug. 18.—The happiest man in all Russia, and probably in Europe as well, is a blacksmith named Doroshenko, who has been earning \$20 a month. He received notification today that he had fallen heir to \$31,000,000 which is now at his disposal in the Bank at London, where it has been held for 150 years. It was deposited by the head of the tribe of Dorosh with a century and a half stipulation on its withdrawal. The blacksmith is the sole heir.

Doroshenko has an interesting family of a wife and a quartette of handsome daughters. One of the girls, who is but 19 years old, is considered the beauty of the village. She is engaged to a young man who drives an express cart about town. He owns the provincial transfer business and, besides his horse and cart, he employs a cousin to drive another.

There is speculation whether his affianced will be true to her plight, now that she is an heiress of millions.

Working Night And Day.

The busiest and mightiest little thing that ever was made is Dr. King's New Life Pills. These pills change weakness into strength, listlessness into energy, brain-fag into mental power. They're wonderful in building up the health. Only 25c per box. Sold by Allen's Pharmacy.

Reduced Excursion Rates.

The Southern Pacific Company has placed on sale at very low rates round-trip tickets to the various resorts along its line, and also, in connection with the Corvallis & Eastern Railroad, to Detroit and the seaside at Yaquina Bay, latter tickets good for return until October 10th.

Three day tickets to Yaquina Bay good going Saturdays Mondays are now on sale at greatly reduced rates from all points Eugene and north on both East and Westside lines, enabling people to spend Sunday at the seaside. Very low round trip rates are also made between Portland and the same points on the Southern Pacific, good going Saturdays, returning Sunday or Monday allowing Portland people to spend Sunday in the country, and the out of town people to have the day in Portland.

Tickets from Portland to Yaquina Bay, good for return via Albany and Eastside, or Corvallis and Westside, at option of passenger. Baggage checked through to Newport. A new feature at Newport this year will be an up-to-date kindergarten in charge of an experienced Chicago teacher.

A beautifully illustrated booklet describing the seaside resorts on Yaquina Bay has been published by the Southern Pacific and Corvallis & Eastern and can be secured from their agents, or by addressing W. E. Coman, G. F. A., S. P. Co. Portland, or Edwin Stone, Manager C. & E. R. R. Co, Albany, Or.

Poland China Hogs.

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