

MORE ABOUT LAND BOARD

GOVERNOR GEER AGAIN CALLS FOR INFORMATION.

Demands That His Accusers Supply Administration Has Nothing to Conceal.

SALEM, Dec. 20.—(To the Editor.)—About a month ago The Dalles Chronicle in the goodness of its heart, declared that it "could give any time" Governor Geer with the names of gentlemen in Sherman and Wasco Counties who have been compelled to pay \$4 and \$5 an acre for lands that the state is authorized to sell for \$1.25 difference going presumably to middlemen in the employ of the state.

This was a most serious charge; serious for the people and the state. But if true, and serious for the paper making it, if not true. I at once, through the columns of The Oregonian, so that the whole matter might be made as public as possible, requested the Chronicle to publish the names of these citizens of Wasco and Sherman Counties, in obedience to its offer, and added a request that it make a special issue.

After a silence of three weeks that paper ventures a reply, in which it says: "This paper made the charge and repeats it, that settlers are obliged to pay \$4 and \$5 an acre for lands which the state gets only \$1.25. The Chronicle could furnish scores of names of such purchasers, and would do so were it not that the matter is so open and notorious that the publication is unnecessary."

But this is evasion of the very worst form, and the Chronicle shall not escape so easily. This is a question of public interest, and the demand is to ensure the State Land Board, or, rather, one member of it, is not to be accomplished by concealing such "open and notorious" information as seems to be lying around in that way. Nothing less than the names of the men who have paid more than \$1.25 for \$1.25 land will satisfy the people who have little interest in common with those who have no higher interest than the perpetuation of factional fights in the Republican party.

I have no hesitation whatever in saying that there is not a man in either Sherman or Wasco Counties who has paid more than \$1.25 for land that the state is authorized to sell for that price, and if The Dalles Chronicle will publish the names of such men, I will agree to pay for the publication of the same at the usual advertising rates. If such a state of affairs exists in Sherman and Wasco Counties, and as a public officer to find it out, and since The Dalles paper voluntarily offered to furnish these names, the burden of proof is upon it, and it should do so at once or go "wink and sit down."

In commenting on my letter in The Oregonian concerning the land question the Chronicle says that I "made a good case for the state officials along the line of the mineral lands." The Chronicle makes no part of the State Land Board, so far as the mineral lands go. We will consider that question disposed of, therefore, and, since the Chronicle has nothing to be had now, nor for several years past, but mineral lands, about all the vitality is removed from the Chronicle's original complaint.

As a last kick, however, that paper gives an instance where "a tier of townships in this County of Wasco was added about a year ago to the forest reserve, and immediately thereafter the residents of this county applied to the State Land Department for the right to purchase lands in lieu of lands in sections 16 and 25 in the townships just reserved, they were told that every acre of these lands, amounting to some 5000 acres, were already in the hands of private parties. In point of fact, the lands in question had been purchased from the state before they were declared a part of the reservation, and purchased at a time when, without the prospect of their availability as base lands, they were not worth a nickel an acre.

The Chronicle is willing to believe that all this was done under the strict form of law, but it cannot help wondering how the State Land Department, if it were as anxious to sympathize with the people as Governor Geer and his apologists would have us believe, allowed this land to be thus appropriated by men in point of fact by one man—who now charge what they would have us believe the intent of the law is that the settler should have the land for \$1.25 an acre.

A chronicle should at once be presented to the man who has succeeded in doing such a case as this. The Chronicle is willing to admit that all this was done "under strict form of law," but "cannot help wondering how the State Land Board allowed H. to buy the land, when the man is so far gone that he cannot "help wondering" when officials perform their duties according to the strict form of the law, and criticize them for it, he confesses himself a sympathizer with those who do things differently, and should at once join their ranks, for there is where his confession places him. To perform its duty according to the strict form of the law is a habit the present State Land Board fell into at once when it began its work, and proposes to stay by that method, notwithstanding the criticism of the Chronicle and its coworkers along different lines.

In regard to this tier of townships, the Chronicle says that it contained about 5000 acres of school section land which the state had sold before it was declared a part of the reservation. That is true, and it was "under the strict form of law," and, what is more, the State Land Board was bound to sell it to the first applicant. The school fund received \$1.25 for every acre of it, and the Chronicle says it "was not worth a nickel an acre." Since the Chronicle ought to know whether the man—or men—who paid \$1.25 an acre for land worth only a nickel an acre were \$1.20 an acre in the hole, so far as their deal with the State Land Board was concerned, and they would have remained there had it not been for the action of the General Government in adding the land to the forest reserve. Will the Chronicle believe me when I state that the State Land Board of the State of Oregon does not set aside forest reserves, neither adding to nor taking from? And will it in the future remember that we have its own admission that the State Land Board, which came to the state instead of the 5000 acres, that it was all done "under the strict form of law."

The Chronicle is really entitled to public sympathy, for in this land business it is mixed to the very point of imbecility. It alleges that this 5000-acre school land is "not worth a nickel an acre," and adds that the man who owns it "charge what they please for it, while the intent of the law is that the settler should have it for \$1.25." What sort of a friend of the settler is this who wants him to pay \$1.25 an acre for land that is "not worth a nickel an acre"? Of course, reference is not made here to the lands selected in place of the 5000 acres, for the editor says he is discussing lands that "the settlers should have for \$1.25 an acre." Since all these lands must be sold for "not less than \$1.25 an acre," the narrow editor is still claiming that the settlers are defrauded because by some means they are not permitted to buy this land for \$1.25 an acre that is worth less than a nickel—how much less is not stated.

Twice the Chronicle refers to "Governor Geer and his apologists," but admits that since it has been made to understand the miners' selections, a good case for the state officials has been made, and that in the only instance mentioned the law has been followed "strictly." These admissions render the cause under which it sought to be discussed lands that the editor says he is discussing lands that "the settlers should have for \$1.25 an acre." Since all these lands must be sold for "not less than \$1.25 an acre," the narrow editor is still claiming that the settlers are defrauded because by some means they are not permitted to buy this land for \$1.25 an acre that is worth less than a nickel—how much less is not stated.

THE APOLOGY SHOULD COME FROM THOSE WHO CRITICISE SUCH OFFICIALS.

Acting for a moment under the wrong conclusion that The Dalles paper thought it knew what it was talking about, let me assure it again that the Governor is not the walking embodiment of the State Land Board. I am willing to fight the merits of that board, when necessary, but I wish to assure the public, who may be led to suppose otherwise from these hysterical incantations of a few men, those desirous for the perpetuation of factional trouble dominates every movement, that Treasurer Moore and Secretary Dunbar are here with me in this land business; that they are not by any means mere dummies in my hands; that they are able, honest and industrious gentlemen, who always have something to say on these important questions, and that the state has never had better or more competent officials in their respective departments than they.

There are three things that The Dalles Chronicle and its associates in its frantic efforts to force the State Land Board, in naming the next Republican state ticket should do:

First—Read the land laws of the state, discover the difference between the lien land and the school lands, and the prices for which each is sold.

Second—Read the constitution of the state and discover that the State Land Board is an administrative body, and that the Secretary of State, as well as of the Governor. This will lead to many surprises, but will, in the long run, no doubt, be of great benefit and ought to furnish immediate relief.

Third—Grasp the idea as quickly as possible that the people of Oregon are not at all to be fooled by these childish attacks on an administration that has nothing to conceal and whose members have worked in harmony in all things for the public good, and, therefore, for the best interests of the party which honored them with its confidence. T. GEIER.

DAILY CITY STATISTICS.

Marriage Licenses. Robert J. Howard, 21, Evelyn Taylor, 18. Joseph E. Howard, 23, May L. Taylor, 17. Birth Returns. December 19, to wife of William Nelson, a girl, 20. December 19, to wife of Victor Emerick, a boy, East Thirty-fourth and East Taylor streets. December 19, to wife of George W. Simonds, a girl, University Park. December 19, to wife of Alfred N. Patterson, a girl, 800 Broadway. December 19, to wife of Grant Redman, a girl, 861 Hendricks avenue. Death Returns. December 18, George R. Vostburg, 72 years, 140 East Broadway. December 18, Bernhard Martin Behrens, 84 years, late residence, 22 North Eighth street; place of death, County Hospital. December 16, Mrs. F. M. McDonald, 28 years, 634 Belmont street; meningitis. December 18, Louise Vineset, 20 years, 448 Fifth street; meningitis. Contagious Diseases. Olive Dooley, 644 Front street; diphtheria. Building Permits. McKean & Baerger, three two-story houses, southeast corner Fifteenth and Johnson streets; \$4800.

Real Estate Transfers.

Portland Trust Company of Oregon to K. D. Goutra, lot 3, block 20, Wheeler's Addition, \$1100. J. J. Burrill, administrator of the estate of Trust Company, lots 3 and 4, block 110, and all block 113, Woodstock, \$300. E. J. Lev, executor, to Albert Huber, lot 6, block 1, West of 12th, \$1500. William L. Ketterson and wife to Noah B. Ketterson and wife to O. R. & N. Co., right of way, NW 1/4, section 12, T. 1 N., R. 3 E., \$75. G. G. Gammans and wife to Reuben Treher, lot 4, block 10, Lincoln Park, \$100. Portland Trust Company to O. R. & N. Co., right of way, NW 1/4, section 12, T. 1 N., R. 3 E., \$100. Mrs. Annie Holmes, lot 38, block 37, Lone Fir Cemetery, \$35. L. A. Buckman and husband to J. G. Buckman, lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, \$800. Bertha Steiner to A. B. Caator, lot 14, block 10, Mount Tabor Villa, \$35. O. R. & N. Co., right of way, section 12, T. 1 N., R. 3 E., \$100. H. E. Burton et al. to O. R. & N. Co., right of way, NW 1/4, section 12, T. 1 N., R. 3 E., \$100. H. E. Noble et al. to O. R. & N. Co., right of way, NW 1/4, section 12, T. 1 N., R. 3 E., \$100. H. E. Davis et al. to O. R. & N. Co., right of way, NW 1/4, section 12, T. 1 N., R. 3 E., \$100. State M. Gilbert to O. R. & N. Co., right of way, NW 1/4, section 12, T. 1 N., R. 3 E., \$100. Hub Land Company to O. R. & N. Co., right of way, lots 7, 8, 9, and 10, block 38, Portland, \$100. Lewis Russell and wife to O. R. & N. Co., right of way, sections 17 and 18, T. 1 N., R. 3 E., \$100. Susan M. Roberts et al. to O. R. & N. Co., right of way, section 12, T. 1 N., R. 3 E., \$100. William H. Burrill et al. to O. R. & N. Co., right of way, NW 1/4, section 12, T. 1 N., R. 3 E., \$100. O. R. & N. Co., lots 5, 6 and 7, block 35, Paramount, \$500. Multnomah Real Estate Association to O. R. & N. Co., right of way, SW 1/4, section 12, T. 1 N., R. 3 E., \$100. J. L. Hartman et al. to O. R. & N. Co., right of way, NW 1/4, section 12, T. 1 N., R. 3 E., \$100. R. E. Lewis et al. to O. R. & N. Co., right of way, NW 1/4, section 12, T. 1 N., R. 3 E., \$100. Ruben Weeks et al. to O. R. & N. Co., right of way, SW 1/4, section 7, T. 1 N., R. 3 E., \$100. Alsworth National Bank to O. R. & N. Co., right of way, NW 1/4, section 21, T. 1 N., R. 3 E., \$100. F. W. Patne and wife to O. R. & N. Co., right of way, NW 1/4, section 21, T. 1 N., R. 3 E., \$100. University Land Company to O. R. & N. Co., right of way, section 15, T. 1 N., R. 3 E., \$100. Hub Land Company to O. R. & N. Co., right of way, NW 1/4, section 18, T. 1 N., R. 3 E., \$100. W. E. Lewis and wife to Masade G. Hudson, lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, \$472. J. G. Hunter and wife to O. R. & N. Co., right of way, Melvin Tract, and lots 10 and 11, block 38, Portland, \$1000. Ahlo S. Watt to S. A. Hubbard et al., 100 square feet of Cherry Blossom Tract, \$800. Thomas Connell and wife to J. H. Clark, lot 7, block 2, Ravenswood, \$800. Perry H. Bly and wife to J. H. Clark, lots 5 and 6, block 13, Watson's Addition, \$2000. Julia E. Blinn to Mary A. Hunter, lot 12, block 4, Fairview, \$1000. Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company to C. E. Colton, 28.84 acres, Aronson 2, Maly D. L. Co., \$3000. Portland Trust Company to Mary A. Brady, lots 7 and 8, block 8, Williams Avenue Addition, \$415. Pacific Coast Abstract, Guaranty & Trust Co. A. B. Manley, secretary, W. Y. Masters, attorney, 204-5-6-7 Falling bldg.

CATARRH OF THE HEAD AND THROAT

Makes you voice husky, causes you to ake all over, stops up your nose, makes you sneeze, causes your nose to burn, brings on catarrhal headaches and neuralgia. Smith Bros' S. C. Catarrh Cure attacks this common, dreadful disease, on new and correct principles. It restores the mucous membrane to a healthy condition and will cure catarrh, no matter where located. For sale by all druggists. Smith Bros., Fresno, Cal.

To Build a Railroad to Valdes.

SEATTLE, Dec. 20.—L. C. Dillman re-stated today from New York, where he sold 25,000 shares of the "Flying Dutchman" Interior of Alaska, for \$1,000,000. He says the London syndicate to which he sold the claims has definitely decided to build a railroad from Valdes, Alaska, to the location of the claims, a distance of 100 miles. The cost of the road will be about \$5,000,000.

FOR COPENHAGEN DIRECT

STEAMSHIP WILL LOAD A FULL CARGO AT PORTLAND.

New Market for Oregon Wheat—Steamship Goodwiva in Port—Overdue Mitchell In.

Portland exporters have shipped wheat to some very remote quarters of the globe within the past few years, and yesterday a demand was reported from a new and unexpected source. The British steamship Java, a 600-ton carrier, has been chartered to load at this port for Copenhagen direct. During the past season, cargoes have been cleared from Portland for South Africa, Siberia, the Orient, Germany, Belgium, France and other European countries, but this is the first appearance of Denmark buying.

The British ship William Mitchell, which arrived in port this morning, after a passage of 151 days from Table Bay, was at no time in danger. Captain Gilchrist reports that he made his run from Table Bay to the Columbia in 112 days, and he has been 39 days trying to get in. Eleven times he came up to the whistling buoy, but was each time driven away before he could get a tug to bring him in. The vessel was well provisioned, and those on board were in no distress.

except that the fresh water was running short. Several days ago the Mitchell spoke the steam schooner Sequoia, and from her secured some oil for the electric lights, and when she arrived had only direct shipment from Portland. The wheat crop of Denmark is reported to be in much the same condition as that of Germany, and as Walla Walla wheat has a fine reputation in Germany, there is no good reason why it should not prove equally satisfactory in Denmark.

BRITISH TURRET STEAMSHIP ARGYLL, CAPACITY 6500 TONS, TO LOAD WHEAT AT PORTLAND.

ers in the market for a direct shipment. Cargoes cleared for Queenstown or Falmouth, are sometimes diverted to Copenhagen, but this is said to be the first large cargo that has ever been taken for direct shipment from Portland. The wheat crop of Denmark is reported to be in much the same condition as that of Germany, and as Walla Walla wheat has a fine reputation in Germany, there is no good reason why it should not prove equally satisfactory in Denmark.

WIND AND WEATHER.

Government Forecast for the North Pacific for January, 1902. The regular monthly forecast which accompanies the North Pacific Pilot chart, is out with the outline of what may be expected in the way of wind and weather next month. It predicts fog off the Oregon and Washington Coast for 11 per cent of the entire month and regarding the winds in this vicinity, has the following: The course of the winds from south-east with falling barometer through south to west and north-west with rising barometer. North of 45 degrees and between the Coast and 125 degrees west a majority of the winds come from the southeast quadrant. Gales from the southern semi-circle will be frequent, the hardest coming from southeast. Between 40 and 45 north the prevailing direction of the wind ranges from southeast immediately under the Coast, to southwest between 125 and 130, and to northwest between 130 and 135. Gales (generally from southwest) much less frequent than farther north. South of 40 degrees the prevailing direction of the wind will be from southeast to northwest between 125 and 130. In the square included between 35 and 40 north, 130 and 135 west, the winds are about equally distributed around the compass. Continually strong winds from the north-westerly winds may be expected as far as Acapulco, covering a belt extending 300 miles offshore. From 15 to 19 north and 125 to 130 west, the wind will be from 19 to 5 degrees as far west as the 10th meridian, becoming easterly beyond. Between 10 north and the Line southwest-westerly winds will extend from the Coast to 80 degrees, to the westward of which the direction becomes successively southerly and southeasterly.

NEW TURRET STEAMSHIP.

Argyll Now in Port is Less Than Four Months Old. The British steamship Argyll, one of the very latest additions to the fleet of turret steamships which have become quite prominent in the Columbia River trade, arrived up from Astoria yesterday forenoon, and made fast at Irving dock where she will load wheat for Europe. Captain Harrison reports a rough trip across the Pacific for the greater part of the distance, but met with no accidents. The Argyll is near enough like the Sutherland to be a twin sister, and is on her maiden trip, having left the yards at Sunderland less than four months ago. Turret steamships are too much like the American whitebacks to make any pretensions to beauty, and the Argyll is no exception to the rest of her race. At the same time, she is a staunch, comfortable freighter, equipped with all modern appliances for rapid handling of cargo, and possessing a fair degree of speed. Her dimensions are: Length 240 feet, beam 45.5 feet, depth of hold 27.2 feet. Gross tonnage 5540, net tonnage 2380. She has a deadweight carrying capacity of about 6000 tons. While not built for speed, she is better equipped with power than most of the tramp steamers that visit this port. Her engines are of the triple expansion type, with cylinders 25, 42 and 58 inches diameter of cylinder by 42 inches stroke. The Argyll comes under charter to the Northwest Warehouse Company, and will take out about 185,000 bushels of wheat.

WILLIAM MITCHELL IN.

Belated British Ship At Last Reached Astoria in Safety. The British ship William Mitchell, which has been doing the "Flying Dutchman" turn, off the mouth of the river for the past six weeks, was towed into Astoria yesterday morning by the tugs Wallula and Tatoush. Pilot M. D. Staples has been on board of the craft since December 9, but contrary winds

TO BREAK THE SALT TRUST

INDEPENDENT PRODUCERS DESIRE TO EXPLORE NEW FIELDS.

A Canadian Inquirer Who Wants to Know About Oregon—How the Price Has Advanced.

Since the salt business of the country fell into the hands of a trust and the price was put up 150 to 400 per cent there has been manifest among independent manufacturers a disposition to open new fields of production in order that the price may be worked down to reasonable figures again. They seem to regard the business as one that will yield abundant profit at prices much below those now demanded for salt. These men are not unduly seeking opportunity to experiment at other people's expense, but are usually

men of experience in the salt business, whose properties have been taken by the trust. These plants were sold at reasonable figures, based on the prices of salt two years or more ago, but the present price of salt is so high that the operators to go back into the business.

The following is one of several letters received by the Portland Chamber of Commerce, and is interesting to find mentioned among other minerals, large deposits of salt and oil in close proximity, and if such is the case it would consider the question of going out there and looking into the matter, with a view of establishing the industry.

ANITA ARRIVES IN.

ASTORIA, Dec. 20.—The gasolin schooner Anita, which arrived in today, had quite an experience on her trip, and brought only 63 cases of salmon from Kinney's cannery, at Quillayute. She put under way last month, and had taken on only small quantities of salmon when a storm struck her, carrying away her anchor chain, and she was obliged to go to sea. Later she went to Neah Bay, and afterwards made two unsuccessful attempts to reach Quillayute, but the sea was too rough. While beating about the place the schooner sprang a leak, and her master, Captain Tabell, was forced to take her to Seattle for repairs.

No Change in Route.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—There is, it appears, some truth in the stories which have been current of late, that the British postal authorities had decided to change the mail route to Australia, cables the London representative of the Tribune. An influential source in the British office is authority for the statement that the question of trying the American route has been undoubtedly under consideration by the authorities. Nothing, however, can be done until the spring of next year, the existing contracts having that period to run.

Raising the Rith.

COVILVILLE, Dec. 20.—Appliances are being gathered for the removal of the steamer Ruth from the wharf on which she still hangs in the Willamette at Corvallis. The Modoc arrived up last night with a big barge and a lot of big timber, and left down this morning for another scow brought from Portland to the mouth of the Yamhill by the Elmore. She is expected here tomorrow afternoon, when the work of lifting the boat out of her present position will begin. It is expected that a couple of days and possibly much longer time will be required in getting her afloat.

Libel Suit Dismissed.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—United States District Judge De Haven today handed down an opinion dismissing the libel suit of Levi & Co. vs. the British ship Leith, which was brought against the ship by the firm of Leith & Co. of Liverpool, for San Francisco, via Cape Horn. Costa were awarded to the claimants.

Domestic and Foreign Ports.

ASTORIA, Dec. 20.—Arrived at 11 A. M.—British ship William Mitchell, from Table Bay. Sailed at 4 P. M.—Steamer Chilo, for Seattle. Condition of the bar at 5 P. M., moderate; wind, light; sea, choppy.

Tacoma, Dec. 20.—Arrived—British steamer Selkirk, from Ladyship, B. C. Sailed—British steamer Oceano, for Manila; Italian steamer Louis Claret, to Rio; American barkentine Kate Fickinger, for San Francisco; American steamer Assunção, for San Francisco.

Plymouth, Dec. 20.—Arrived—Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, from New York, for Bremen. Queenstown, Dec. 20.—Arrived—Lucania, from New York, for Liverpool.

San Francisco, Dec. 20.—Arrived—Steamer Rivara, from Willapa Harbor. Sailed—Steamer Caracota, for Portland; schooner Adair, for Columbia River; schooner Parkersburg, for Gray's Harbor; schooner Sailor Boy, for Seattle; schooner John S. Kimball, for Seattle; schooner Gem, for Coos Bay; steamer Telius, for Ladyship.

Seattle, Dec. 20.—Sailed—December 19, Norwegian steamer Gurney, for Japan and China; British ship Bowditch, for United Kingdom; steamer City of Puebla, for San Francisco. Arrived—Steamer Walla Walla, from San Francisco.

Muroran—Arrived December 19—Cruzador, from Portland, Or., for Manila. Hong Kong—Sailed December 19—Empress of Japan, for Vancouver.

Yokohama—Arrived December 17—Empress of China, from Vancouver for Hong Kong. Baltimore, Dec. 20.—Sailed—Ryndam, from New York.

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TO BREAK THE SALT TRUST

INDEPENDENT PRODUCERS DESIRE TO EXPLORE NEW FIELDS.

A Canadian Inquirer Who Wants to Know About Oregon—How the Price Has Advanced.

Since the salt business of the country fell into the hands of a trust and the price was put up 150 to 400 per cent there has been manifest among independent manufacturers a disposition to open new fields of production in order that the price may be worked down to reasonable figures again. They seem to regard the business as one that will yield abundant profit at prices much below those now demanded for salt. These men are not unduly seeking opportunity to experiment at other people's expense, but are usually

men of experience in the salt business, whose properties have been taken by the trust. These plants were sold at reasonable figures, based on the prices of salt two years or more ago, but the present price of salt is so high that the operators to go back into the business.

The following is one of several letters received by the Portland Chamber of Commerce, and is interesting to find mentioned among other minerals, large deposits of salt and oil in close proximity, and if such is the case it would consider the question of going out there and looking into the matter, with a view of establishing the industry.