

BURNS UP IN ARMS

Protest Against Leasing of Public Lands.

HARD ON SMALL STOCKRAISERS

Chamber of Commerce Is Asked to Oppose Measure Aimed at Interests of Harney County and Eastern Oregon.

Citizens of Burns, Harney County, have sent to the Portland Chamber of Commerce a request for co-operative effort against leasing of public lands. The communication was received at Portland yesterday. It has about 70 signatures, and is signed by every business firm in Burns except one.

The communication avers that the proposed bill in Congress for land-leasing is in the interest of large livestock corporations and would result in the leasing of public lands, and that the leasing of public lands would be a great detriment to the development of Eastern Oregon. It declares that the proposed law would put the interests of the Harney County at the mercy of two California corporations.

This endeavor to enlist the assistance of Portland against land-leasing was encouraged by the action of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, taken several weeks ago. Two years ago that body went on record as opposed to leasing of public lands, and last month the resolution was renewed and sent to the Oregon delegation in Congress. A few weeks before livestock men of Harney County had framed strong resolutions against the proposed system of disposing of public lands. The secretary of the Portland Chamber of Commerce wrote to Burns, asking for definite information regarding the status of the public domain in that part of the state. This inquiry was answered by the communication received yesterday, and extensive information will be forwarded to this city soon.

Disastrous to the State.

The letter from Burns reads as follows: In consideration of the fact that the large livestock corporations have introduced a bill in the Congress of the United States having for its purpose the leasing of public lands, and believing the enactment of such a law would prove disastrous to the growth of the state, the undersigned citizens, taxpayers and representative men of Burns, Harney County, Or., respectfully submit for your consideration the following:

First—That the proposed law framed wholly in the interest of large stock companies, and is the result of a combined effort on their part to virtually control all of the unoccupied lands, to the detriment and ruin of stockmen of medium means.

Second—That the enactment of such a law would, in effect, defeat the right of homestead entry and stop the further development of Eastern Oregon.

Third—That such a law would place the people of Harney County at the mercy of two California corporations, and would effectively ruin our business and depopulate the country, and would prove a menace not only to this particular locality, but would carry its baneful effects to the business interests of Portland as well.

Wherefore, we ask your honorable body to use your influence to the utmost in defeating the measure.

As soon as the complete information asked for is received the Chamber of Commerce will be prepared to take definite action.

The Chamber Already on Record.

The resolutions passed two years ago, and again renewed to Washington last month, are as follows:

Whereas, Any measure which proposes the leasing to individuals and private corporations of the public lands of the United States lying west of the 96th meridian, and which contemplates the withdrawal of large tracts of land from settlement, thus seriously threatening the development of the West, and the welfare of the inhabitants of the West, and which is a detriment to the best interests of the entire state;

Resolved, That we earnestly protest against the enactment into law of any such measure as being directly contrary to the interests and development of the West, and to the policy of home-building, fostered by our Government.

Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives be requested to use their earnest endeavors in opposition to any measure that would place the public lands in any form whatsoever.

Where Tongue Stands.

Representative Tongue has signified in strong terms his opposition to any bill that proposes to withdraw any part of the public domain from settlement. In his last letter to the Governor of Oregon, he said:

"I have read before the trustees of the body January 14, he said:

"None of the measures yet introduced proposing to lease public lands of the United States for grazing purposes, and which have been reported from any committee, and so I have not given them any personal examination. It hardly seems possible that a bill of this kind would be reported from any committee proposing to withdraw any portion of the public land from settlement. It certainly does not seem possible that such a bill, if reported, would stand the slightest chance to be enacted into law. I certainly should oppose it with all the means at my power."

MANY SALES OF LAND.

Active Movement in Real Estate Around Mount Tabor.

There is considerable movement in acreage at and around Mount Tabor. Two large sales in the Perry Frettman donation land claim on the west slope have just been made. Christensen sold his tract to E. L. Clark for \$200. There is a house on the land. Another large sale was that of George G. Blakeslee in the Frettman land claim to K. Rasmussen. The price is given at \$10,000. Woodstock and Tremont several small sales have just been made. W. H. Morse has purchased ground near Woodstock, and has started a new residence that will cost about \$300. A real estate man who handles considerable acreage property reports a brisk demand in that line. He looks for a still more active movement. Already considerable portion of the Lambert tract south of Sellwood, recently purchased for \$40,000 by the Portland Golf Association, has been disposed of to members in 5-acre and 10-acre tracts who intend to put up the residences costing upwards of \$10,000.

CORNER STONE LAID.

Stone Block Placed in Foundation of Third Presbyterian Church.

The corner stone of the Third Presbyterian Church, erected in 1902, was laid yesterday afternoon. It is a plain stone block, with the inscription, "Organized in 1802; erected in 1902." There was no special ceremony. Only a few appropriate remarks were made by Wilson Benefield, of the trustees, to the effect that he hoped the weather would permit the contractor to push the work with all possible energy.

It is expected that the building will cost \$700. The main portion of the money has been raised in the interest of the session that when finished and furnished, there will be no debt to plague the members for an indefinite time, but everything will be settled as the work goes forward. The plans were furnished

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Wright stated to the court that he was brought up here; that his father and mother were separated, and his mother took him to Washington County. The prisoner said he also had been in the Reform School, and had afterwards worked as a barber and a deckhand. He read the newspaper accounts of the robbery of people and getting \$20 and \$40, and he thought he would try it.

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Commission to Meet.

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East Side Notes.

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DAILY CITY STATISTICS.

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Birth Returns.

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January 14, boy to wife of L. W. Holden, 274 Seaside street.

Death Returns.

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January 20, Mamie Mosier, 17 years, 270 Second street; cardiac ailment.

January 19, H. K. Hines, 78 years, Portsmouth avenue; old age and complications following a gripe.

Communicable Diseases.

Adolph Asher, 470 Burnside street; scarlet fever.

Mrs. Cates, 245 Sixth street; diphtheria.

Building Permits.

Oscar Minkus, two-story dwelling, Second street, between Hall and Lincoln; \$2000.

Real Estate Transfers.

Security Abstract & Trust Co. to Hartman, Thompson & Powers, tract of land in the city of Portland, known as the "Hartman Tract," containing 1.33 acres, more or less, situated in the city of Portland, Clatsop County, Oregon, for \$10,000.

Frank M. Warren et al. to the public, 13348 feet of Mangley Highway, situated in the city of Portland, Clatsop County, Oregon, for \$10,000.

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E. A. Geer and husband to Samuel Swanson, lot 24, block 2, Portland, for \$800.

J. L. Hartman et al. to Portland Mfg. Co., tract of land in Miner's Addition, block 1, lot 1, Portland, for \$2000.

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Frank P. Fowler to Ward W. Fowler, lot 10, block 12, block 12, Portland, for \$1000.

Ann B. Butler and husband to Nancy J. Windle, lot 11, block 22, Portland, for \$1000.

Florence C. Collette and husband to Nancy J. Windle, lot 11, block 22, Portland, for \$1000.

C. J. Robb and husband to Mary J. Shepherd, lot 14, block 3, Woodlawn, for \$400.

River View Cemetery Ass'n. to Mary J. Shepherd, lot 14, block 3, Woodlawn, for \$400.

R. Lee Barnes to David Shepherd, lot 8, block 3, Woodlawn, for \$400.

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Thomas Schneider and wife to T. T. Burkhardt, part lot 1, block 6, First street, Portland, for \$1000.

Ellen E. McCormick and wife to W. J. Hawkins, lot 10, block 26, Lincoln Park, for \$125.

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