

THE OREGONIAN

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PORTLAND, OREGON, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1902.

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BIG FOREST FIRE.

Much Valuable Timber in Montana Is Being Destroyed.

MIBOULA, Mont., Oct. 30.—The Rocky Mountain division headquarters of the Northern Pacific Railroad has been informed through private messages that an immense forest fire is raging across the river from the Flathead reservation. The flames are spreading unchecked, and millions of feet of the finest timber in this part of the state are being destroyed. It is believed that only a heavy rain or snowfall will serve to quench the fire.

CZAR IS ILL.

Noted Physician Sent for to Treat Ruler for Nervous Prostration.

LONDON, Oct. 30.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Express says that Dr. Morzejewski, one of the foremost specialists in Russia, has been summoned by telegraph to Livadia to attend the Czar, who is suffering from nervous prostration.

Injured by Premature Blast at Mine. IRON MOUNTAIN, Mich., Oct. 30.—Six miners were seriously injured by a premature blast in the Walpole mine, among them Captain Ben Martin.

HITS THE TARIFF

Cleveland Attacks the Present Law.

FEW GAIN AT COST OF MANY

Ridicules Reform of Bill by Its Friends.

WILSON BILL DISAPPOINTMENT

Ex-President Makes His First Political Speech Since Leaving White House and Thoroughly Plays the Republicans.

MORRISTOWN, N. J., Oct. 30.—Ex-President Cleveland spoke here tonight at a political meeting held in Lyceum Hall. Special trains brought hundreds of people from other cities and towns in this vicinity, and Mr. Cleveland was given an ovation. Following the meeting there was a nonpartisan reception to Mr. Cleveland, at which 200 prominent residents of the city were present. Mr. Cleveland's address was as follows: "Mr. Chairman and Fellow Citizens: As I greet you now, I cannot another certain sentimental emotions which intensify the satisfaction this occasion affords. I was born in New Jersey. After long absence, full of incidents and vicissitudes, I have returned to the old state, where I hope to pass the remainder of my days and find a final resting place. I have brought back with me a genuine and undeviating love, not only for my native state, but for her old-time stanch and vigorous Democracy. I hope you will not think such reflections amiss. I feel in the mood for their mention, not by way of excuse for my appearance in a Democratic assembly, which I have never yet conceded to be necessary, but because my presence here may be regarded as not strictly consistent with my determination to consider myself retired from the struggles and activities of political warfare. I fully recognize the natural order of things which brings changes in political leadership and control, and I do not assume to have a voice in either role; but nothing, I care not what, can drive or tempt me from my adherence to the unadulterated, wholesome and beneficial principles of genuine Democracy. I am told that these principles of good, old-fashioned New Jersey brand are involved in a canvass here in recent years, and the new directions they have taken ought especially to arrest the attention and apprehension of every thoughtful, sober-minded citizen. "It was not long ago that the Democratic party, in advocating the reduction of tariff taxation to the revenue needs of the Government, based its insistence largely upon the right and justice of cheapening the means of life. At that time, the prices of the necessities of life, and withdrawing so much protection from a favored few manufacturers as allowed them abnormal profits at the expense of the great body of consumers. But the exactions from the people on account of protection were made in such a stealthy and unobserved manner, by adding them to their daily purchases, that it was difficult to impress upon the consumers of the land the extent of these exactions. While this process was going on, the import duties not produced in this country were charged with such high rates of duty as not only to greatly enhance their cost to the purchasing consumer, but to create a surplus revenue beyond its needs in the Government Treasury. This surplus represented clearly and definitely a small proportion of the unnecessary added expense of the living of our people on account of high protection. But the amount of the exaction thus represented was insignificant as compared with the amount which protection permitted our own manufacturers to pocket from the consumers. "When, in 1887, the doctrine of the Democracy on tariff reform was embodied in an executive message to Congress, though all the incidents and consequences of a high protective tariff were considered, it was hoped that the plain and palpable fact—that what was then considered a large surplus remained in the Government Treasury, which should be in the possession of the people—should be an object lesson from an unusual standpoint, effectually present the situation. This was, therefore, in a sense, made the keynote of the message, in the opening passage, as follows: "You are confronted, at the threshold of your legislative duties, with a condition of the Nation which imperatively demands immediate and careful consideration. The amount of money exacted, through the operation of present laws, from the industries and necessities of the people, largely exceeds the sum necessary to meet the expenses of the Government. When we consider that the theory of our institutions guarantees to every citizen the full enjoyment of all the fruits of his industry and enterprise, with only such deduction as may be his share towards the careful and economical maintenance of the Government which protects him, it is plain that the exaction of more than this is indefensible extortion and a culpable betrayal of American fairness and justice. "After commenting on tariff operations from this standpoint, there followed a condemnation of the policy and law that made an unnecessary accumulation in the treasury the sum paid for such duties. Thus,

treasury of the people's money possible, and this was introduced in these words: "But our present tariff laws, the vicious, inequitable and illogical source of unnecessary taxation, ought to be at once revised and amended. These laws, their primary and plain effect, raise the price to the consumers of all articles imported and subject to duty by the amount of the duty imposed. But the duties now levied on foreign goods and products are called protection to the home manufacturers because they render it more profitable for those of our people who are manufacturers to make those taxed articles and sell them for a price equal to that demanded for the imported goods that have paid custom duty. "Position of Democracy: "I have quoted this liberally from this message solely for the purpose of showing not only the accepted position of the Democratic party on the tariff question, but also as suggesting the material then available in attacking tariff inequities. I went, if I can, to a point to a contemplation of the inequities that have since accumulated; to the numerous additions to a vicious and dangerous property born of tariff license and depravity; to the increased material of successful attack, and to the present duty of all who love our people more than self to strike a blow whenever and wherever it is possible for our country's honor and emancipation. For this purpose, I hope you will permit me to add one further quotation from the same message, as follows: "In speaking of the increased cost to the consumer of our home manufactures, resulting from a duty laid upon imported articles of the same description, the fact is not overlooked that competition among our domestic producers sometimes has the effect of keeping the price of their products below the highest limit allowed by such duty. But this is not the case in the regulation of the supply and price of commodities made and sold by members of the 'combination.' The people can hardly hope for any consideration in the operation of their selfish schemes. "Less than a year after this announcement of Democratic doctrine, it was made a target for all sorts of attacks in a Presidential election. The time was assured that absolute free trade would follow Democratic success; that the importers paid the custom taxes; and, above all, that if any regulation or change was expedient it should be entrusted to the friends of the tariff. The people were persuaded to continue these friends in political control, and they forthwith constructed a new scheme of high protection. The advanced growth of the arrogance and greediness of tariff beneficiaries, and the kindness shown them by these friends of the tariff as exhibited in this scheme, demonstrated how confidently they relied upon the continuance of the people's credulity, which they had so recently and successfully tested. "The bill then passed was so full of abominations, and so plainly showed the heedlessness of its authors and beneficiaries, and their disregard of the interest of the people, that the voters of the land, though accustomed to yielding to their delusion, were prompt in their revenge and condemnation. It might naturally be supposed that so violent a blow as was then given would admonish, if it did not reform, these promoters of addition to the tariff. The bill was a war by its nature, not in agreement with their nature, as an unregenerate as ever, as arrogant as ever, and hoping as confident as ever for the time when the people could again be led away by false lights, they sullenly surrendered control of Government to their policies and laid in wait for their opportunity. "The lamentable conditions which quickly gave this opportunity are familiar to you all. I am not here to speak of Democratic misfortune or miscarriage, but to call attention to the unyielding tenacity of high tariff rapacity and arrogance, and to the manner in which they have grown rich with Government help at the expense of the people, with their aid and abettors, had turned over to them the work of again adjusting tariff rates. "I have called your attention to the fact that in 1897 competition, which, if unrestricted, might modify the effect upon our consumers of a high protective tariff, was spoken of as a 'too often strangled by combination,' quite prevalent at the time, and frequently called trusts, which have for their object the regulation of the supply and price of commodities made and sold by members of the 'combination.' When this was written, I suppose the trusts and combinations mentioned as 'quite prevalent,' so far as they were at all important, might have been counted on the fingers of the two hands. When the friends of the tariff laid out the work of its reconstruction, these trusts and combinations increased by hundreds. The consequence of their operation could not fail to be understood. "It was as plain then, as now, that a high protective tariff defends them against foreign competition, and that by agreement, association and confederacy in protection and price, they defend themselves against competition at home. It was perfectly apparent that under the broad wings of high protection, and fattened by unearned accumulation, they could comfortably close their eyes to the trouble some cry for easier living from the everyday consumer. "Is it not true, then, that the encroach-

(Continued on Second Page.)

HITCHCOCK'S MOVE

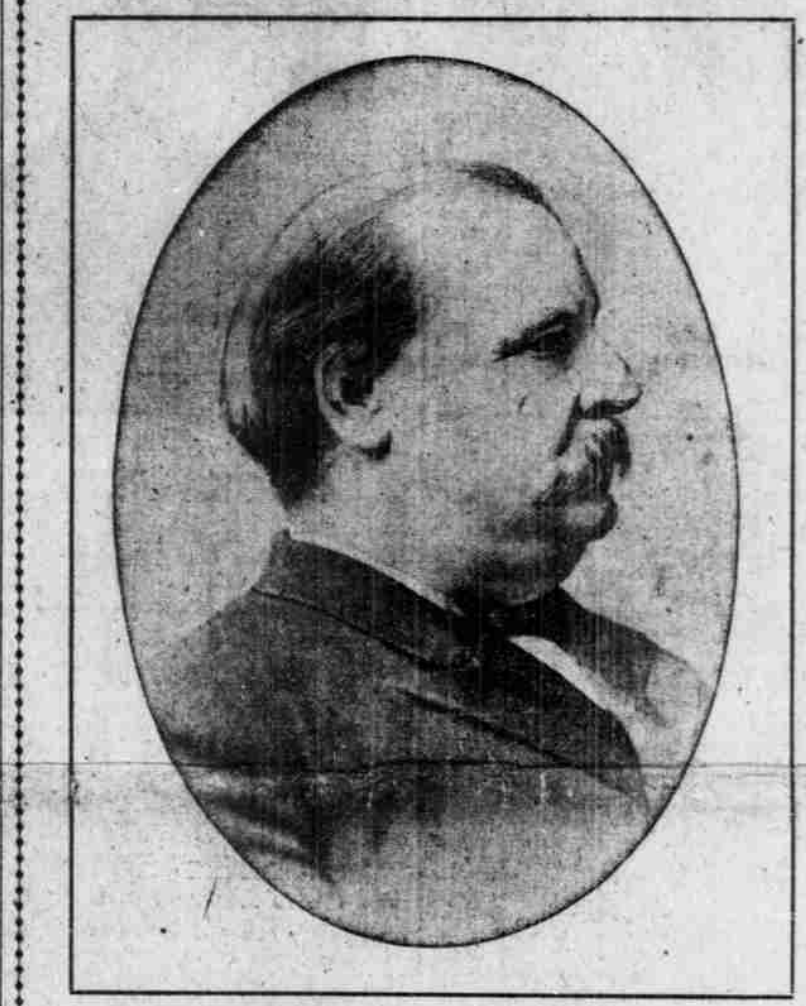
Handles Timber Frauds Over Hermann's Head.

NO CHARGES ARE YET ON FILE

Commissioner Did Not Know of Secretary's Action Until News Was Published—If Land Officials Are Not Guilty, Who Is?

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Oct. 30.—Commissioner Hermann, in reply to a request from The Oregonian correspondent for a statement regarding the recently discovered timber frauds in Oregon, said he had nothing to say. He did receive a telegram this morning from the Register and Recorder at The Dalles welcoming an investigation of affairs in

MAKES VIGOROUS ATTACK ON PRESENT TARIFF LAWS.



EX-PRESIDENT GROVER CLEVELAND.

their office, particularly as to neglect or possible collusion between entrymen and themselves, and calling attention to the fact that in April last they had reported indications of timber frauds then being perpetrated in their jurisdiction. The Commissioner said this intimation of fraud had been referred to an inspector and he did not know what, if any, action had resulted. He added, in reply to queries, that there were no charges on file to his knowledge against any Oregon land officers, and he knew of no evidence of such frauds as discovered by Secretary Hitchcock.

Commissioner Hermann knew nothing of the Secretary's action until after the facts were published in The Oregonian. The Secretary secured his information from within his own department, and not from employees of the Land Office. The intended sweeping investigation, by the way, is to have the widest scope and will result in the prosecution of every person proved to have violated the law, regardless of whether he be entryman, promoter, or an employee of the land service. The Secretary does not assert positively that the land officers have been guilty of collusion, but prevailing circumstances render it necessary that their action be most carefully reviewed.

REQUIRED OF TIMBER CLAIMANTS.

On the Theory That They Subscribed to—Penalty for Perjury—Official Duty.

The law for the sale of timber and stone lands was passed in June, 1883, and applied to the public land of Oregon, Washington, California and Nevada. In August, 1892, its provisions were extended to all the public land states. The area that may lawfully be taken under that act by one person is limited to 160 acres. The land must be valuable chiefly for its timber (or stone), and unfit for cultivation if the timber were removed. Every entryman at the time of applying for timber land must make sworn statement as follows:

"I have personally examined said land, and from my personal knowledge state that said land is unfit for cultivation, and valuable chiefly for its timber; that it is uninhabited; that it contains no mine or other improvements, nor, as I truly believe, any valuable deposit of gold, silver, copper, or coal; that I have made no other application under said act; that I do not apply to purchase the land above described on speculation, but in good faith to appropriate it to my own exclusive use and benefit, and that I have not, directly or indirectly, made any agreement or contract, in any way or manner, with any person or persons whomsoever, by which the title I may acquire from the Government of the United States may inure in whole or in part to the benefit of any person except myself.

After publication of notice for 60 days the entryman must appear with his proof, either at the Land Office or before the County Clerk nearest the land, or a near-

by commissioner. There he is examined on oath and answers to a long list of answers touching the character of the land and his qualifications for taking title. Among the questions propounded is the following:

Have you sold or transferred your claim to this land since making your sworn statement, or have you directly or indirectly made any agreement or contract, in any way or manner, with any person, whomsoever, by which the title which he may acquire from the Government of the United States may inure, in whole or in part, to the benefit of any person except yourself?

At the foot of this deposition is a note reading as follows: "Every person swearing falsely to the above deposition is guilty of perjury, and will be punished as provided by law for such offense. In addition thereto, the money that may be paid for the land is forfeited, and all conveyances of the land, or of any right, title or claim thereto, are absolutely null and void as against the United States."

Next below this comes the certificate of the examining officer in this form: "I certify that I have tested the accuracy of entryman's information and the bona fides of this entry by a close and sufficient oral cross-examination of the claimant and his witnesses, directed to ascertain whether the entry is made in good faith for the appropriation of the land to the entryman's own use, and not for sale or speculation, and whether he has conveyed the land or his right thereto, or agreed to make any such conveyance, or whether he has directly or indirectly entered into any contract or agreement in any manner with any person or persons whomsoever by which the title that may be acquired by the entry shall inure in whole or in part to the benefit of any person

ON PEACE TRIP

Coal-Strike Board Visits the Mines.

WORKINGS WELL EXPLORED

Arbitrators Have Almost to Crawl in Many Places.

ALL DON THE REGULATION GARB

Two Hours Are Spent Underground—Miners Are Thoroughly Questioned, Principally by Spaulding—Dispute as to "Ton."

SCRANTON, Pa., Oct. 30.—The seven commissioners appointed by President Roosevelt to adjust the differences existing between the anthracite mine workers and their employers made a tour today of the extreme upper coal fields, and saw every step taken in the production of coal, from the time it is blasted from the ground, hundreds of feet below the surface, up to the point where it is sent to market, ready for the use of the consumer. The arbitrators had an interesting day, and returned to their hotel at 5:30 o'clock tonight grimy from coal dust and tired after eight busy hours of observation and investigation.

Trip a Novelty to Commissioners.

The trip was a novelty to most of those in the commissioners' party, some of whom never had been in the hard-coal regions. The commissioners displayed the greatest interest in every feature of coal mining, and went about their work in a manner that was pleasing to behold. The mining superintendents accompanied the commissioners. The seven arbitrators had to endure many discomforts, make their way through wet places in the mines, almost crawl along some of the gangways in the workings, and pass through clouds of coal dust in the breakers. Notwithstanding this, their eagerness for information was not diminished, and they expect to put in another hard day's work tomorrow in this vicinity.

Spaulding Asks Most Questions.

It would be unfair to say that one commissioner displayed more interest than another, but it can be truly said that Bishop Spaulding asked more questions than any one of the others. He was usually in the center of a group of commissioners, and asked many questions of these who are employed in and about the mines.

All the commissioners were good listeners, but poor talkers, when it came down to getting an expression from them on any feature of the mining business. From their actions today, it is certain that they have agreed not to say what they think of the questions that will come before them. Several persons approached one or another of the commissioners during the day, merely for the purpose of having him say what he thought of something he saw, and in each case the inquirer was rebuffed.

Extent of the Tour.

Today's tour consisted of an inspection of No. 2 mine of the Hillside Coal Company, operated by the Erie Company, and the coal-breaker of the Delaware & Hudson Company. The former is located at Forest City, 22 miles north of this city, and the breaker at Carbondale, four miles south of Forest City. On the run up the Lackawanna Valley the commissioners viewed with interest the mining towns situated along the Delaware & Hudson Railroad.

The start was made from this city at 9 o'clock in the morning. In the party were the seven commissioners, Recorders McEley and Nelli and four stenographers. Accompanying them were: General Superintendent R. A. Phillips, of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Company; General Superintendent E. E. Rose, of the Delaware & Hudson; Manager W. A. May, of the Erie; General Superintendent J. R. Bryden, of the New York, Ontario & Western, and General Manager B. Thorne, of the Temple Iron Company. The officials represented the companies. The miners were represented by the district: Henry Collins, National organizer for this district; Rev. Peter Roberts, of Mahanoy City, and James Warwick, of New York, the latter an expert. Besides these, about a dozen newspaper correspondents were in the party.

Arrangement of the Train.

A special train of two Pullman cars and a day coach, chartered at the expense of the commissioners, carried the party. The rear car was used for observation purposes by the commissioners, and they spent all their time in it, both going and coming. In the car was a large map showing the coal beds from Scranton up to the northern edge of the field at Forest City. The commissioners studied it carefully, and its many features were explained to them by Commissioner Watkins, who is an expert in coal mining, and who was formerly an independent coal operator.

The arbitrators also carefully noted the many mining villages passed by the train. At each of the stations a small group of persons was gathered, who curiously watched the special run slowly by. When the party arrived at Forest City, a crowd of persons, among whom there were some miners, was gathered. There was no demonstration of any kind, the workers standing silently by, watching the men who had the differences existing between them and the operators on their hands.

A short drive was taken through the town to give the commissioners an oppor-

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