

BILL THAT IS BAD

Exchange of Lands So As to Consolidate Grants.

FORTUNES FOR GRANT HOLDERS

Would Cost Government Heavily and Yield No Return—If Small Tracts of Arid Land Are Worthless.

What of the Settlers?

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Jan. 16.—The three members of the House committee on public lands who are opposed to the enactment of the so-called checkerboard land bill, recently reported to the House by Representative Moody, of Oregon, have prepared a vigorous argument against its enactment.

"The friends of this measure do not tell us how much land will be affected by it. The lands granted to railroads and wagon roads probably exceed 100,000 acres.

"We cannot give this bill our support. The more we consider it, the more vicious it appears in principle, and the more injurious in effect. Many small individual holdings are being consolidated into large and compact estates.

"The measure is almost entirely, if not entirely, in the interest of private holders of land. It might well be entitled 'a bill to increase the value of private holdings within the public domain at the expense of the Government.'

"The bill provides for the surrender of private holdings to the Government, and, in lieu thereof, the selection of a like amount of public land to be surrendered.

"The bill provides for the selection of a like amount of public land to be surrendered. The poorest, of course, will be selected. The best, of course, will be retained.

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NINE MEN ARE MISSING

FOUR CHARRED BODIES TAKEN FROM HOTEL RUINS.

Five Still Unaccounted For and May Have Burned—Fire in British Columbia Mining Town.

SPOKANE, Wash., Jan. 18.—(Special.)—A special from Morrissey, B. C., says four men were burned to death in a fire which destroyed the Pioneer Hotel here last night.

The hotel was a large wooden structure and had about 20 guests in it when fire started in the saloon on the ground floor, through the overturning of a lamp. The flames of which quickly communicated to the wooden partitions and stairway.

The proprietor, A. Johnson, seeing that the building was doomed, ran upstairs and hastily aroused the sleeping men while the flames were rapidly eating up the lower floor woodwork and coming up the stairway.

There is practically no fire-fighting machinery in the little town and the horse-stricken citizens could only stand idly by and wait for the fire to subside. The wind was blowing away from the town and no other buildings were endangered.

As soon as the dying fire permitted, a search of the ruins of the hotel was made. Charred bodies were taken out but are so badly burned that identification is practically impossible.

There is a large amount of debris to be searched and as five men are still missing grave fears are felt that more bodies will be uncovered. The proprietor's loss is \$4000, half insured.

Morrissey is a small town with perhaps 800 inhabitants. The hotel was built since the opening of the coal mines operated by the Great Northern Railway Company. It is about 45 miles north of the international boundary line.

Lee, besides being past middle age, was small of stature and slightly lame. He was out of breath from climbing the hill beside the railway station.

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most reprehensible practices of the past; and, as there is no law to enforce it, may only be the new broom that is often set in motion by our street-cleaning departments before election.

The friends of an improved system admit that it is most difficult; indeed, they will go further and say impossible to frame any law that will not have its drawback or induce some "graft," for the greed and cupidity of some human beings will always exist, and, unfortunately, there will always be some found willing to sell their inheritance of pure and honorable manhood for a piece of postage.

There is but one sadder thing on God's beautiful earth than a man or woman from whom the light of reason has vanished, and that is a helpless child in whom it never shone.

The state that would refuse the proper support or withhold the means by their helplessness care not with decency and humanity, is not worthy the name of a state. There is but one sadder thing on God's beautiful earth than a man or woman from whom the light of reason has vanished, and that is a helpless child in whom it never shone.

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Olds, Wortman & King
Our 25th Great Annual Clearance Sale
Begins its fourth week today. Here are the extra-special bargain offerings which will continue while they last.

KITCHEN FURNISHINGS, many conveniences at small prices.
DINNER SETS, French china, 100-piece sets, \$19.80; 112-piece sets, \$22.85.
SILVER TABLEWARE, double plate on white metal, all at sharp reductions.
MEN'S WHITE SHIRTS, \$1.00 grades for 77c; \$1.25 grades for 87c.
ENGLISH LONG CLOTH, 12-yd piece, extra fine quality, \$1.48
FLANNELS AND WAISTINGS, Scotch wool-mixed flannels, 25c and 30c values, 17c.
PLAID WAISTINGS, very pretty, rich plaids, 35c values, only 23c.
INFANTS' SACQUES, 50c to \$1.50 values for 39c.
INFANTS' SHOES reduced from \$1.00 per pair to 38c.
CHILDREN'S SHOES reduced from \$2.00 to 98c.
BOYS' AND YOUTHS' SHOES, sizes 11 to 2, \$1.28; sizes 2 1/2 to 5 1/2, \$1.38.
LADIES' PARTY SLIPPERS, fancy satin, black and suede kid, colors black, blue, pink or bronze, sizes 2 1/2 to 4, \$5.00 and \$6.00 kinds, only \$1.38.
LADIES' FELT HOUSE SHOES, brown or red, 98c.
LADIES' FELT JULIET SLIPPERS, brown or red, 98c.
LADIES' COMFORT HOUSE SLIPPERS, flat heels, broad toes, 98c.
CHILDREN'S WORSTED HOSE, sizes 6 to 7 1/2, reduced from 30c to 19c; sizes 8 to 8 1/2, reduced from 35c to 24c; sizes 9 1/2 to 10, reduced from 45c to 40c.
CHILDREN'S COTTON HOSE, sizes 6 to 10, values 20c to 35c, special 15c.
LADIES' HOSE, black wool, reduced from 25c to 18c.
MISSES' VESTS, sizes 3, 4, 5 and 6, reduced from 35c to 23c.
MISSES' UNION SUITS, white wool, reduced from \$1.00 to 63c each.
LADIES' UNION SUITS, \$1.50 grade reduced to \$1.09.
LADIES' MUSLIN DRAWERS reduced from 40c to 28c.
LADIES' NAINSOOK GOWNS, reduced from \$1.25 to 98c.
LADIES' KNIT UNDERSKIRTS reduced from 75c each to 50c each.
LADIES' COTTON UNDERSKIRTS, plain ribbed, each 35c.

Lipman, Wolfe & Co.
STAR SALE IN THE HOUSE
CLOAK DEPARTMENT
Sensational reductions in Wrappers, Children's Coats, Flannel Waists, Eiderdown Dressing Sacques, Rainy-Day Skirts, Separate Dress Skirts.
STAR SALE OF SILKS
\$1 and \$1.25 Foulard 49c
Silks at
\$1.50 and \$2 Fancy 59c
Waisting Silks at
Reductions in all merchandise in every department. Lowest prices ever known on first-class merchandise.
All odd lines of 60c, 75c and \$1 Novelty Wash Goods at 15c

Death of Congressman Tongue. Salem Statesman. Mr. Tongue was an ardent Oregonian. He was not a native of Oregon, but he spent the whole period of his young manhood and his active life in this state. He believed in Oregon and his country. He was far-seeing and vigorous in the advocacy of the cause of right as he saw it. He was a loyalty and a friendship worth having. He never deserted a true friend or a just cause. In the ordinary course of events Mr. Tongue had long years of usefulness yet before him. He had reason to look forward to additional political honors. He was in the vigor of manhood, with symmetrical features broadened by contact with the best and greatest men of his time.