

The Oregonian.

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St. Paul, February 15. Its first one hardly got a footing in the Supreme Court of the United States. The new suit the state desired to bring in the Court, but there was vigorous resistance.

Though the supporters of the Northern Securities Company put on a brave front and stout the idea that they may be found in a position that is legally untenable, it is notable that financial leaders are not entirely confident of the outcome.

These corporations are civil persons, it is true, but they cannot yet take all the rights of the natural person which they cannot possibly take his responsibilities.

RANGE CATTLE AND LEASING

Range cattle interests are continually crying for measures that will preserve their business. Free use of the Government domain has been boldly demanded as a right, and when those first established in any region have felt compelled to fence public land and by might take advantages that were not theirs by right.

Neither party to this controversy appears in very favorable light. Germany seems to be punishing us for reciprocity treaties with France and the British West India, which have not been ratified, and apparently never will be.

It is profitable in this connection, however, to make comparison with other parts of the United States, which is something Chancellor Andrews is at some pains to steer clear of. In the states between the Appalachian Mountains and the range cattle country we find nearly as many cattle as are in the range states, on an area less than half as great, as follows:

Table with 3 columns: State, Square miles, Number of cattle. Includes entries for Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

Here we have 32.3 square miles of range to the square mile, or almost exactly double the number on the ranges of the West. Each of the Appalachians there are 10,711 cattle to each square mile of land support, only 15.2 to head of cattle. This, together with the facts that the range is being eaten out and the demand for beef is running far ahead of the supply, is taken to mean that the great American ox pastures must be protected from destruction.

and since no case has been presented which directly involves the extent of the unused right of a riparian owner as against a subsequent appropriator, there is still a possibility that the courts will declare that a riparian owner's right is determined by the extent of his beneficial use.

A BILL THAT SHOULD NOT PASS.

Representative Martin, of South Dakota, in remissive mood, the other day introduced the following little bill in Congress: "That the 21st day of October of each year, the anniversary of the discovery of the New World by Christopher Columbus, is hereby made a legal public holiday under the name of Columbus day, to all intents and purposes, in the same manner and effect as the first Monday of September, known as Labor day, is now made by law a public holiday."

This is such a little bill and combines so large a proportion of sentiment with such a modicum of usefulness that it may be ignorantly allowed to add another to our already long list of National holidays. Let us hope that it will not pass.

Never Heard of Land Perjury.

The fust about the timberland frauds in Oregon seems to be showing over, in fact, there never was any real cause, the noise that was made. The land was taken according to law, and because the law was giving a quarter section of land, from 1890 to 1899, 200,000 acres of evidence of fraud. The same law has stood for years, but until the people began to avail themselves of its provisions almost solely represented by the individuals should not be accused of fraudulently obtaining land which they take in accordance with the terms of an existing law.

Union County's Perennial Scrap.

Petitions have been circulated in all the precincts of the county, outside of La Grande, asking the Legislature to change the county seat of Union County from Union to La Grande. Some of the returns thus far received are only flattering to La Grande, and some are not. The law should be amended so that the individuals should not be accused of fraudulently obtaining land which they take in accordance with the terms of an existing law.

Hope for the Dredge.

The time for completion would make the dredge due here about August 1st. The time for completion would make the dredge due here about August 1st. The time for completion would make the dredge due here about August 1st.

Some 78,000 Ghosts in the Field.

The Republican party of Oregon is apparently one of the most serious periods in its history. Two party put into the form of law the principle of the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people.

Evening Gowns of Gauze.

Evening gowns are made of the most perishable materials. The mystery is how the frail gowns survive, supporting the amount of ornamentation fairly loaded on it. A gown of sheer black net is a glimmering mass of brilliant black paillettes set on in regular lines.

THE LOWEST VIEW.

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The land office at La Grande has just undergone an inspection regarding the alleged timber frauds in Oregon, and the Revenue, O. W. Swackhamer, has been exonerated. So much for the great charges brought against the fair name of grand old Oregon.

Fidelity Claims Its Reward.

The Democrat predicts that Binger Hermann, just retired as Commissioner of the Land Office, will succeed the late Congressman Tongue from the First District. Mr. Hermann has more friends in a political way than any other man in the First Congressional District.

Don't Forget the Columbia Southern.

A massive fir stump that has been lying concealed beneath the walk on one of Portland's main thoroughfares since that city was a hamlet has been discovered and taken out by the root.

Meaning of Christian Brotherhood.

Suppose that instead of accepting with thanks and praise a new mission, John D. Rockefeller for converting the heathen, some missionary should get Mr. Rockefeller into a corner and talk true Christian brotherhood to him.

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NOTE AND COMMENT.

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A Lesson to Yankee Land.

Of all sections New England is faring worst in regard to the cost of fuel. It is in New England that the coal trust has monopolized the biggest vote and shown most growth. The next elections in that part of the country may furnish some striking evidence of the effect of the coal trust in the use and abuse of the power of corporations, but are very conservative in their other things.