

FIGHT FIRE BY LAW

Timbermen Favor Legislation by State.

CLOSED SEASON FOR BLAZES

Proposed Bill Will Prohibit Firing of Slashings Between August 1 and September 15—Rangers to Have Police Power.

Prominent owners of Oregon timberlands as their representatives met together in the Chamber of Commerce building yesterday afternoon and discussed a forest fire bill to be presented by them to the coming session of the Legislature.

The Oregon forests are patrolled every year now, but the rangers have not the law behind them. They can not go to a slash and tell him to get out of a fire completely before leaving it, and yet it is vitally to the interest of the forests to have every slash watched.

There is only this danger in allowing the timbermen the power of recommending appointments for forest rangers, an objectionable ranger might stand much above under these conditions.

Closed Season for Slashings Fires. The proposed law covers the entire ground of protection of forests from fire, and contains a number of innovations gleaned from the best of the laws in other states.

They also recommend as a leading feature in their bill that a fire be only set after a permit has been obtained from the County Clerk, and that a ranger be sent by the County Clerk to watch that slash and see that it is completely out within 48 hours, and meanwhile is watched constantly.

Permits are to be necessary from June 1 to October 1, with the closed season in between. Fires set before or after that date without a permit.

Power for Wardens and Rangers. Wardens and rangers are to have full police power and are under the orders of the County Clerk. Informers on persons violating the laws get half the fine and the county the other half. And the fines recommended are not small.

Timbermen to Pay Rangers. The rangers are to be paid by the timber-owners, those who wish protection. It has been shown, however, that many big Eastern owners will not contribute one cent for forest rangers, and will not even give bond when informed that their forests are on fire.

ALLIANCE IN PORT

Steam Schooner Has a Rough Trip.

WEATHERS A SEVERE STORM

Old Life Preservers Cast Overboard During Passage From Coos Bay, and They Give Rise to Report Vessel Was in Danger.

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RELIEF AT CHEFOO.

Rejoicing Over Refugees, Who Feared First Time in Months. CHEFOO, Jan. 3 (1:30 P. M.)—Chefoo, with its many refugees, close connection with Port Arthur, viewed the final developments there first with anxious plainness.

LINER TACOMA IS ASHORE.

Fast on a Sandbar Eight Miles North of Seattle. SEATTLE, Jan. 3.—The Northwestern Steamship Company's liner Tacoma, which cleared from this port at 2 o'clock this afternoon, ran aground on a sandbar off Westport, eight miles north of Seattle, at 4 o'clock.

WILL STIMULATE FLOUR TRADE

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Custom-House Collections in First Half of Fiscal Year Show Increase. Importations of foreign merchandise at this port in the past six months show a good increase over the first half of 1904.

NINE BURNED TO DEATH.

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BRIEF TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

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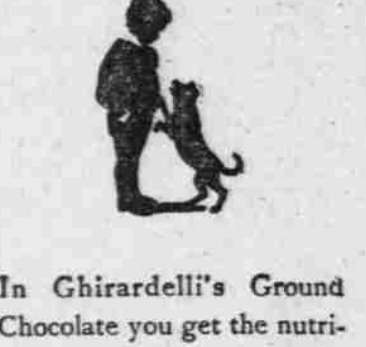
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