



OPINIONS CLASH ON LAND GRANT POLICY

Diametric Views Held by Delegates.

LITIGATION SEEMS ASSURED

Hope of Evolving Plan Suitable to Railroad Waning.

ALL AGREE ON ONE THING

Sole Point of Unanimity Is That Application of Government Reservation Plan Will Not Do.

BY R. G. CALLBERT.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Sept. 16.—(Staff correspondence.)—It can be safely asserted that after a long day in listening to speeches which ranged from discussions of the cold legal aspects of the case to expressions of the desires, needs and hopes of the several interests involved, nobody outside or inside the Land Grant Conference, now assembled in Salem, can tell what the conference will do, except as to perhaps one point.

If comment of delegates and their applause of what they hear are good guidance, the body is strongly opposed to an application of the Government reservation policy to the railroad grant.

Delegates Differ Widely.

On several other issues the delegates are as far apart as the poles and on some issues the speakers were in diametric positions.

As an illustration, the case of P. F. Dunne, attorney for the Southern Pacific, and ex-Governor West is perhaps the most striking. The position of the railroad company as to the various plans for disposition of the grant has rightfully been considered important by thoughtful students of the issue. I am not speaking now of those who are accused of having sympathy with corporation purposes of whatsoever character, but of those who realize that a railroad legal department, equipped as it is with learning and money, is quite able to prolong in the courts the application of any proposition which it deems deleterious to its welfare.

The position of the railroad company briefly expressed is that the popular notion that the company's interest in the grant ends with \$2.50 an acre is not held by the Southern Pacific. Mr. Dunne argued at the conference today that the Supreme Court had confirmed its absolute title to the lands subject only to the restriction that when it does sell, it must sell for not more than \$2.50 an acre and to actual settlers in quantities not to exceed 160 acres.

That so long as the company retains title to the lands it is entitled to lease it or harvest the valuable stone or minerals therein or sell the timber thereon. That is, that the railroad is not compelled to make any disposition whatever.

Railroad Wants Land Developed.

Mr. Dunne presented figures to show that when the net proceeds the company had obtained from the grant after paying taxes, costs of administration and other necessary expenses were offset against free transportation it had given to Government troops and property under the terms of the grant, it had paid back to the Government \$2 for every acre that had been developed.

He asked for a fair consideration of the railroad's claims as thus outlined, admitted that it was to the interests of state and railroad to have the lands devoted to industrial development and opposed to both the interests to have them remain in any kind of perpetual reserve, Government, state or railroad.

Mr. West, on the other hand, rejects the railroad's contention that it owns the timber. He concedes that the railroad would have the right to harvest any crop it planted thereon but suggested that God Almighty planted trees even before the day of Ben Holladay's first activities in Oregon.

Mr. West Says Taxes Were Too Low.

The ex-Governor goes much further than that, however. He insists that the railroad escaped its just proportion of tax payments for a long period; that its refusal to sell the lands to actual settlers increased its administration costs beyond reasonable bounds; that it has sold much of the grant lands at prices exceeding \$2.50 an acre and derived large illegal profits thereby; that the free transportation provided was part of the terms of the contract and cannot be justly offset against what the company has received.

Mr. West did not strike any totals, but his remarks tended to encourage the thought that if the state should acquire the lands at \$2.50 an acre from the railroad and charge against the purchase price what the railroad ought to refund it might develop that the state would get the land for nothing and the railroad would owe it money in the bargain. But he offered the railroad the consoling information that he believed it would be treated quite fairly if it would be reasonable, which perhaps implies that the state would not be too harsh in demanding a refund of money if it got the land for nothing.

Opinions in Contrast.

These two addresses have been briefly reviewed in this article solely to illustrate the contrast of opinions.

(Concluded on Page 4, Column 1.)

CLIFF DWELLERS' DEFENSE REVEALED

INCOMPLETE FORT SHOWS PEOPLE TRIED TO PREPARE.

Excavations in Colorado Throw New Light on Mystery of Prehistoric Race on Continent.

DENVER, Sept. 16.—Ruins of what are believed to have been the last work of cliff dwellers have been excavated recently in the Mesa Verde National Park in southwestern Colorado, according to word brought to Denver today by Enos A. Mills, Colorado author and naturalist, who has been inspecting the excavations.

The ruins are distinctly different from any previously uncovered in Western America, and, according to Mr. Mills, open the way for new efforts to solve the mystery of the early races of the continent.

The excavation work has been done by Government agents under the supervision of Dr. J. W. Powell, of the Smithsonian Institution. Government scientists uncovered a building of cut and polished stone. The structure was in the form of a letter D, with the upright 122 feet long, and curved part 215 feet in circumference. The walls are about seven feet thick and hollow, with rooms inside.

Dr. Fewkes believed the ruin was an uncompleted fortress, abandoned when the cliff dwellers disappeared from the Rocky Mountain region.

CUT IN OWN PAY ASKED

Election Officials Should Suffer as Well as Appointees, Is View.

SPOKANE, Wash., Sept. 16.—(Special.)—Reductions of the salaries of the county elective officials in the same ratio as the pay of deputies and appointive county employees, if it is found necessary to reduce the county budget in the interest of economy, was advocated by the Board of County Commissioners today by County Auditor Anderson.

Members of the County Board were noncommittal on the matter, declaring that the state law has fixed the salaries of county officials and they have no power to reduce their salaries.

"I do not believe that we should hide behind the statutory provision fixing our salaries. We can turn part of the money back into the county treasury to be used for some specific purpose, so that there need be no hesitation on account of the state law making a reduction in our salaries impossible," said Mr. Anderson.

RUN ON BANK IS STARTED

Police and Fire Departments Disperse Crowd of 5000.

ANSONIA, Conn., Sept. 16.—The entire police and fire departments of the city were called out tonight to disperse a crowd of 5000 persons, following the announcement late today that State Bank Commissioner Sturges had taken charge of the affairs of the Savings Bank of Ansonia. The treasurer of the institution, ex-Mayor Burton, is under arrest charged with embezzlement of \$26,000 on bogus notes during a period of 15 years.

A run on the bank started just before business closed and the directors invoked the 60 days' notice rule.

Burton has twice been Mayor of the city and once a State Senator. He is prominent in church affairs.

HOPPICKERS ARE POISONED

Child Dies at Independence and Others of Family Stricken.

CORVALLIS, Or., Sept. 16.—(Special.)—Lester Vidito, 3-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Vidito, of Astoria, died yesterday at the home of his grandfather in this city from poison. The family went to Independence to pick hops. Shortly after the hop season opened Abbie Vidito, aged 15, sister of the dead child, was stricken with poison and dangerously ill for several days. The boy became ill then and the mother is laid up now.

The Viditos say they had no canned goods and cannot account for it unless the water was poisoned.

NO ALIENS NEED APPLY

California to Carry Only Citizens on Payroll of State.

SACRAMENTO, Sept. 16.—Eight employees of the Mendocino State Hospital and two at the home for the adult blind at Oakland have been dismissed at the order of the State Board of Control because they were not citizens of the United States.

The action was taken in accord with the opinion recently given by the Attorney-General that no one not a citizen could remain upon the state payroll.

All were attendants, cooks and minor employees.

COST OF HUNTING SOARS

Fishing Also More Expensive as Result of War.

SEATTLE, Wash., Sept. 16.—(Special.)—Like the cost of living, the cost of hunting and fishing has soared. Because of the war, there has been a general advance in the price of rifles and shotguns from 5 to 10 per cent and cartridges now cost 11 per cent more than last year. Fish creels, which are made in France, have gone up 50 per cent.

The one exception in price is on English manufactured goods, which are being sold at the same rate as last year.

DEVELOPMENT OF GRANT LANDS AIM

Withdrawal From Entry Generally Opposed.

ALL INTERESTS HAVE HEARING

Railroad Argues That Sale of Holdings Not Compulsory.

FEDERAL RIGHTS REGARDED

Southern Pacific Attorney Asserts Arbitrary Price Is Only in Case of Sales and Company May Exploit Resources Itself.

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS OF LAND GRANT CONFERENCE.

F. P. Dunne, Southern Pacific attorney, declares railroad owns timber and mineral on lands in addition to equity of \$2.50 an acre.

Letter from Chief Forester Graves suggests timbered lands be placed in National forests.

Governor Withycombe reminds delegates that they have no official power to make recommendation to Congress, but expresses hope lands may be opened to settlers.

Ex-Governor West outlines plans for state acquisition of lands for sale to settlers.

Ex-Senator Fulton declares Federal Government has no right to acquire lands for purpose of withdrawal.

Representative Hawley takes issue with Mr. Fulton.

Clay Tallman, Commissioner of the General Land Office, says agricultural land in grant should be thrown open.

Representative Johnson of Washington, says conference should follow action by work at Washington, D. C.

Resolutions committee formed.

BY SHAD G. GRANTZ.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Sept. 16.—(Special.)—Every element interested in the Oregon & California land grant case was heard in the first session of the state-wide conference which met here today to recommend to the Federal Congress a plan for the final disposition of those lands.

Representatives of the state, the Federal and the local governments, as well as delegates from the commercial bodies, the labor unions and the farmers' organizations, and an attorney for the railroad expressed their views on the subject, either by oral declaration on the floor of the conference or in the form of suggested resolutions.

Development Is Desired.

While it is impossible now to determine what the final action of the conference will be, it is believed that the

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather. YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 70 degrees; minimum, 56 degrees. TODAY'S—Fair; northwesterly winds.

War. British prize court declares forfeit American merchant ship worth \$35,000,000. Page 4.

Mexico. Anglo-French commission willing to negotiate loan of half-billion. Page 1.

Domestic. European governments inquire as to Washington's Mexican policy. Page 2.

Sports. Cliff dwellers' preparations for defense revealed by excavations in Colorado. Page 1.

Oregon college men perform numerous unexpected stunts at fair. Page 8.

Women voters' convention favors Anthony plan, disapproves all others. Page 2.

Pacific Coast League results: Vernon 2, Portland 1; San Francisco 1, Oakland 0; Los Angeles 3, Salt Lake 2. Page 12.

Phillips increase lead in National League. Page 12.

Boston Red Sox beaten in crucial game with Detroit Tigers. Page 12.

Wrestling match is headline attraction at Rose City Athletic Club tonight. Page 13.

Injury puts Aggie end out of game. Page 13.

Six football stars are lost to Oregon Aggies. Page 13.

Pacific Northwest. Frontier days, at Walla Walla, thrills crowd of 8000. Page 5.

Monticello, Gray Harbor county seat, is busy, flourishing city. Page 6.

Washington representative urges Salew Land development of property. Page 7.

Thirteen plans for land grant disposition proposed to committee. Page 4.

Commercial and Marine. Norwegian steamer sinks takes out largest wheat cargo ever loaded in Portland. Page 14.

All wheat prices rise in Northwestern markets. Page 17.

Chicago wheat higher on foreign buying and advances in foreign exchange markets. Page 17.

Portland and Vicinity. Victim, forgetting assault and theft, embraces Leo J. Cameron in court. Page 8.

Military training proposal is considered by Multnomah Falls becomes part of Portland park system. Page 11.

Merchants are rallying to Dollar day. Page 18.

Weather report, data and forecast. Page 17.

"Portland day" at Multnomah County Fair is one big family party. Page 1.

FLOODS COVER OKLAHOMA

Life Lost, Railroads Demoralized, Much Property Destroyed.

BARTLESVILLE, Okla., Sept. 16.—One life has been lost, property damaged to an extent estimated at \$500,000 and train service demoralized on three railroads, the result of the worst flood that has overwhelmed this section in 25 years.

Thomas Christian, a ranchman, lost his life near Pawhuske River while attempting to ford a creek. Two bridges have been washed out on the Midland Valley railroad, and two large steel highway bridges were swept away in Osage County. Several hundred feet of track of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas and Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad south and west of here have been washed out and hundreds of passengers are stranded here.

The Caney River still was rising tonight and the crest of the flood is expected tomorrow.

OREGON CATTLE WINNERS

D. H. Looney and W. J. Domes Carry Off Honors at Spokane.

SPOKANE, Wash., Sept. 16.—(Special.)—D. H. Looney, Jefferson, Or., in the Guernsey class of the dairy cattle, won the championship as exhibitor, one grand championship, one championship, 10 first prizes, six seconds and five thirds at the Interstate Fair.

In the Ayrshire class of dairy cattle, W. J. Domes, McCoy, Or., won all the championships and every first prize offered, as well as eight second prizes.

Track Lined With 500 Cars.

When the corn-decorated car presented itself at the admission gate everyone crowded around to watch the parade of automobiles pass through and arrange itself along the half-mile racetrack.

By the time the first heat in the 2:15 (Concluded on Page 14, Column 5.)

PORTLAND DAY AT FAIR FAMILY PARTY

Crowd of 2000 in Autos Visits Gresham.

POLICE BAND WINS OVATION

Care-Free Crowds Inspect Exhibits All Day Long.

ATTENDANCE RECORD MADE

Races Are Fastest Yet Held on Track; Parade of Livestock Enteries Arouses Enthusiasm of Eager Boosters.

Portland day at the Multnomah County Fair was one big joyous family party. From the time that the first electric train slid into the depot and deposited its load of Portland people until late in the afternoon, the ticket-takers at the fair ground gates were the most over-worked employees of the fair association.

By noon the grounds were crowded by throngs that had arrived at the grounds by train and automobile and at 2 o'clock the height of the attendance was reached with the arrival of more than 100 machines that carried the members from every booster club of Portland.

Last year the biggest crowd that passed through the admission gates totaled only 1200 people. Yesterday, before the evening crowd even thought of the fair grounds, approximately 3000 people had been admitted and more than 2000 of the number were from Portland.

Enthusiasm of Visitors High.

Perfect weather helped bring success, but the enthusiasm of the crowd indicated that nothing short of disaster could have kept them from Gresham.

All day long the grounds, stock barns, exhibition booths, grange hall and machinery hall were thronged to overflowing with admiring "town folk" and at lunch hour all the places within the grounds, where anything was available to satisfy the inward gnawing had to put on extra energy to appease the waiting crowds.

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Thursday's War Moves

Stern battles are being fought all along the eastern front from Riga to the Rumanian borders, and while the Germans continue to advance slowly in the north and center, the Russians in the south are repeating their successes against the Austro-German armies, which are now being driven back across the River Stripa in Galicia and have been forced to retire westward, northward of the Galician frontier.

While these Russian victories naturally are welcome in Russia and the allied countries, it is evidence that the Russian army is still able to take the offensive when supplied with ammunition, there is no inclination to exaggerate their importance. The engagements, however, keep the Austro-Germans busy and make it imperative to send reinforcements southward to send reinforcements southward to take in the north, where operations of much greater moment are being directed by Field Marshal von Hindenburg.

General Higgen, who began his offensive against the Vilna-Dvinsk railway a week ago, has not yet established himself on the line. His cavalry, which did reach it, has been driven back. Nevertheless, he has driven across the Dvina north of Dvinsk, placing that city in a dangerous position, and also has made some progress north of Vilna.

To the south of Vilna, toward Grodno, the Russians are offering a stubborn resistance and have the Germans firmly held. Something of the same kind has happened in the center; Prince Leopold Marshal von Mackensen has passed his forces through the Pripiet marshes and is in possession of Pinsk. From this point southward the Russians are advancing and have occupied several villages, but they are not likely to push their advantage much farther, as to do so would make their northern flank vulnerable.

A good deal of importance is attached to the decision of Russia to attach to the colors the reserves of the territorial army. Should the age limit be extended 25 years, this fresh call would mean the possible addition of 8,000,000 men to the Russian armies, including the men who had passed through the first line and the reserves and those who heretofore have been exempt as students, or only sons, or men who are not quite up to the physical standard. Naturally, not all of these could be armed and equipped, but Russia could have the pick of them.

With Russia well supplied with munitions, her allies who have been supplying her are now able to turn their attention to their own armies, and in consequence there is no cessation in the military engagements which have been so marked in the west for several weeks.

In the Dardanelles the British losses have totaled \$7,600 up to August 21. The British submarine E-7, operating in those waters, which the Turks said they had sunk, is admitted by the British Admiralty to have been missing since September 4. The E-7 did a great deal of damage to Turkish shipping in the Sea of Marmora, and after blocking the railway line near Kara Burnu by bombarding it from the sea, shelled a troop train and blew up three ammunition cars attached to it. Lieutenant-Commander Archibald D. Cochrane, in command of the E-7, was announced only a few days ago in the awards of the distinguished service order for this exploit.

September 17, 1914.

Germans continue determined resistance to allies along the entire battle-line.

Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg suggests to Ambassador Gerard that United States ascertain allies' peace terms.

Kitchener says constant stream of reinforcements is wanted.

Brokers protest proposed special war tax on their business.

500,000 URGE SUFFRAGE

Women Start Petition 18,333 Feet Long on Way to Washington.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 16.—A petition to Congress for woman suffrage 18,333 feet long, signed by 500,000 women, was started to Washington, D. C., tonight. It will be carried by the envoys of the women voters in convention here, who will leave tonight by automobile for the transcontinental suffrage auto trip to the next Congress.

The signatures were collected at the booth of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage in the Palace of Education since the opening of the Panama-Pacific Exposition February 20.

LAW AFFECTS BASEBALL

Roseburg District Attorney Holds Sunday Games Illegal.

ROSEBURG, Or., Sept. 16.—(Special.)—Whether baseball games are subject to regulation under the Oregon Sunday closing law, which was recently held to be constitutional by the Oregon Supreme Court, is the question that is receiving attention by District Attorney George Neuner, of this city.

Mr. Neuner is of the opinion that baseball, when played for revenue, is a commercialized amusement and is a violation of the Sunday law.

Clackamas Tax Collectors Catch Up.

OREGON CITY, Sept. 16.—(Special.)—For the first time since tax-collecting began, the force under Sheriff Wilson has caught up with its work. Tax Collector George Harrington estimates that \$160,000 is still outstanding in taxes. Of that sum, about \$120,000 is due in small payments. The Portland Railway, Light & Power Company and the Southern Pacific are the only large taxpayers with payments yet to make.

ALLIES WILLING TO TAKE HALF BILLION

Loan Commission Trading With Bankers.

LARGER SUM NOT NEEDED

Changed Situation Discounted by American Financiers.

TRADE FIGURES PREPARED

Details Submitted to John D. Rockefeller, Jr., for Consideration, but Formal Request to Subscribe Is Not Yet Made.

NEW YORK, Sept. 16.—The proposed billion-dollar loan to Great Britain and France shivered today in the gossip of Wall street to half its previous size.

Five hundred million dollars was the sum set as the amount which American financiers would lead. This figure seemed to be uniform in a half dozen or more reports current in the financial sections. At least one financier in close touch with the situation was quoted as saying that this sum would be lent. The commission itself and its American financial aides had nothing to say as to this plan.

Billion Dollars Not Needed.

In some manner not understood tonight, the situation was altered from that of yesterday. There was an almost unanimous opinion among bankers whose views could be obtained that \$1,000,000,000 was not needed and that in naming this vast sum at the outset the commission sought to place itself in an advantageous trading position.

Here is the way some financial authorities regarded the situation.

"The commission asked for \$1,000,000,000. It did not expect to get the full amount. To this request bankers would naturally make a counter-offer—say \$500,000,000.

Series of Parleys Expected.

"There would then follow a series of parleys. The commission would reduce the amount by \$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000 and the American bankers would add a few handful of millions to their previous offer.

"After a period of negotiations they would reach a common figure, say by splitting the difference. This then would be agreeable to both sides, and definite terms as to the interest rate, duration of the loan and other details could be arranged fairly soon.

"The men who have come over here from Great Britain and France, in the opinion of Wall street, are master players in the game of world finance. Like all good players, they do not betray by their words what their intentions are, nor do they place all their cards on the table at once, as Wall street views it. Consequently it is expected that there will be many more developments before it will be seen what they are really striving for and whether they will win."

Formal Statement Issued.

A dozen or more prominent New York bankers talked with the commission today, but the details of what whereabouts was not disclosed. J. P. Morgan and two of his partners, Henry P. Davison and Dwight W. Morrow, were among the number.

Issuance of formal statements was begun tonight by the commission. It is expected that such statements will be issued daily so long as negotiations are in progress. Tonight's statement, given out by an under secretary, reads as follows:

"The commission has nothing of fresh importance to say. Its members have continued largely by their individual capacities—and occasionally as a body—the discussions already begun with reference to the exchange markets and kindred subjects.

Great Trade Volume Involved.

"Figures have been collected going to show the total exports in recent years of cotton, grain and other foodstuffs to Great Britain—the totals of such figures having such a direct bearing on the question of establishing credits in this country. The figures as published today give the total commodity exports of this country last year to Great Britain, Canada and France as approximately \$1,500,000,000, the great part of that being for articles of normal export. These figures, if correct, as we assume them to be, indicate the great volume of international trade involved in this whole situation.

As to any actual negotiations covering a proposed loan, it is almost too much to say that they are actually under way as yet, but so much has already been accomplished in ascertaining the exact facts of the situation that it is hoped that the time for some definite statement as to progress will soon arrive."

Details Placed Before John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

A representative of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., confirmed late today the report that Mr. Morgan had placed before Mr. Rockefeller tentative details of the proposed loan and had done so with a view to having Mr. Rockefeller subscribe to it, although Mr. Rockefeller had not yet been asked to do so. In Mr. Rockefeller's behalf it was said that he had neither opposed nor espoused the project, but that he had taken it under consideration.

Considerable curiosity was attached to a visit made today by Jacob H. Schiff, of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., to James

(Concluded on Page 2, Column 1.)

