

ands. The introduction of that off brought to me several thousand letters from people who had paid for so-called 'priority rights,' and who claimed they desired to settle on the lands, if the Supreme Court decision should be fafor such action would result in a large revenue for the school fund and insure a reduction of some of the company's 'My views in regard to the destruct-

iveness of the general conservation sys-tem as now laid upon the 11 Western states are, I think, well known. I pre-"In view term as now laid upon the fit western tax burdens. states are, I think, well known. I pre-dict right now that before the people of Oregon age through with the Oregon & California situation, any relief bills will play a merry game of battledore and shuttlecock between the Agricul-tural Department and Department of the Interior a bydra-besided monstrone the Interior—a hydra-headed monstros-ity which splits supervision of our pub-lic lands, our forests, our minerals and repayment until the state could secure our water powers.

Small Interest Predicted.

"Finally, I presume, the bills will be referred to the Chief Forester for a report, and his report will be about what the committee on public lands will recommend to the House of Rep-resentatives. Then there will be a

road company's attitude in exercising its ownership of the land. He empha-sized the statement that the Supreme Court's decision confirming the rail-road's equity in the property to the ex-tent of \$2.50 an acre does not direct the railroad to sell the land at that price, but it merely restricts it from selling at a higher price. In other words, he made plain the railroad's contention that it does not the funds through the negotiation of "If, however, Congress should be

have to sell the land at all if it does not have to sell the land at all if it does not want to. It can lease the prop-erty or utilize it in any other way that it sees fit, he contended. It can ex-tract the stone and mineral and re-move the timber at its discretion, he said It nowever, congress anothe be found unwilling to advance the funds it would, in view of our constitutional restrictions as to state indebtedness, tract devolve on the friends of such a move-ment to devise means for financing the said.

Railroad.

Sale Declared Optional.

the timber away from us, that act learly would be confiscation. "But" he added, "it is not the pur-pose of the railroad to insist on its

last technical rights. "Our interests are identical, largely, with yours. We don't want those lands

this afternoon by the address of F. P. Dunne, of San Francisco, attorney for the Southern Pacific Company office, successor to the Oregon & California tility, but like true gentlemen, so that this afternoon by the address of F. P. Dunne, of San Francisco, attorney for the Southern Pacific Company office,

our rights can always be conserved."

Albert Johnson Stirs Audience. Mr. Dunne gave a clear, frank and susinesslike presentation of the rail-He pointed out that the railroad's bet proceeds from the sale of lands up o this time had been only \$1,250,000, while it has provided transportation for troops and munitions for the Fed-eral Government valued at \$2,500,000, eral Government valued at \$3,300,000, which service must be performed un-der the original terms of the grant. "If there is any fair, reasonable, de-cent adjustment," he concluded, "we should be able to reach it as any two business men would reach an unrement." agreement'

Albert Johnson, Representative in

have to sell the land at all if it does not want to. It can lease the prop-erty or utilize it in any other way that it sees fit, he contended. It can ex-tract the stone and mineral and re-move the timber at its discretion, he said. **Fight Is Intimated.** When Mr. Dunne got through speak-ing he had left the impreasion with for the Federal or the state govern-for the Federal or the state governtorney-General Brown offered an argu ment to the delegates for State instead of Federal control of the property based on the fact that the state is pow

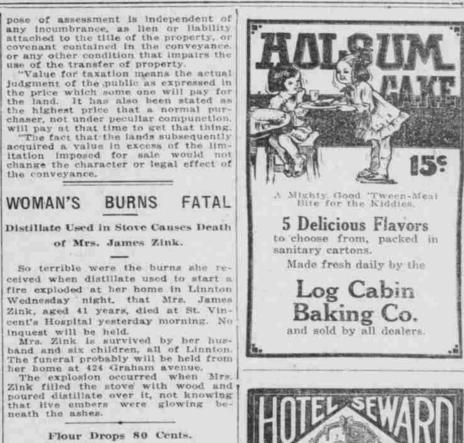
report, and his report will be a bard with the stand for the short of the stand of the stand state of the stand state of the stand state of the state of eriess to tax Federal property within its own borders. He made it plain that the fact of the lands in question having advanced in value since they were ac-quired by the railroad does not affect the railroad's ownership. His address, in brief, was as follows: "A state has no power to tax the property of the United States within its borders. "All of the public domain within the state remains exempt from taxation, except so far as the United States has voluntarily parted with its title to the same, which act of segregation is ordisame, which act of segregation is ordinarily evidenced by the issue of



Flour Drops 80 Cents.

of Mrs. James Zink.

patent. "Statutes, as well as constitutional provisions, exempting property from taxation are to be strictly construed. It



LAND

of Water Power Meet.

Funeral of Mrs. Rinehart Set.

Sept. 16.-

VANCOUVER, Wash.,

teos. Forest Reserve Bureau chiefs and special agents, as well as railroad at-torneys, will be there to give testimony and answer questions.

Permanent Commission Needed.

Oregon's Senators and Representatives will be there, took doing their best, but they should have help, men with a single purpose, who can stick on this one task every hour of every day. Remember, there are only 33 Congressmen from all the 'Western States,' while there are 435 members in all, and a majority is against us on

general principles.

"Maps and suitable printed matter will be needed. Let this conference memorialize the State Legislature to memorialize the State Legislature to appropriate a reasonable sum for the expenses of these commissioners. In their efforts to keep these lands on the state's tax roll, and I think the peo-ple will say that any money thus ap-propriated will be well spent." Mr. Johnson said that he was sorry he could not remain here until Satur-day, but that he had to be in Morton, Wash., where a big Republican rally is to be held.

is to be held.



Spokane Ex-Councilman Watches Chance and Turns on Captor, Who

Is Put Under Arrest.

SPOKANE, Wash., Sept. 16 .- (Speence now in session at Salem. cial.)—While scores of persons brushed elbows with them, as they walked side by side from the Empress Theater at Bernard and Riverside, to Howard and Bernard and Riverside, to Howard and Riverside, shortly after 11 o'clock to-day, none knew that L. C. Brown, ex-Councilman of this city, and now man-ager of the Empress Theater, was be-ing guided along the street at the point of a gun, held in the hands and under the coat of A. B. Cook, a book-kceper formerly in the employ of a railroad here ferent nomah. railroad here.

This is the charge that is made by Mr. Brown, supported by the arrest and booking of Cook.

Tenth street, this morning, will be held Saturday morning at 10 o'clock from the Limber undertaking parlors. Mrs. Rinchart was 53 years old and was born in Clarke County. She is survived by her husband, one son and three daughters. As Brown and Cook reached Howard and Riverside, Brown saw Officer Nowlin standing on the corner. As they drew near the officer, Brown suddenly threw his arms around Cook, grasping his throat with his hands. As they fell to the sidewalk, Brown three daughters. called for help. The officer seized Cook and wrenched a revolver from his

I went into my office at the theater

"In this connection." continued the Governor, "it is well, perhaps, to sound a note of warning. We should remem-ber that it is at best an unofficial gathitions when it met tonight in the pub ic hearing room of the State House. State Senator C. L. Hawley was chosen secretary. Senator Walter Dimick, of ering, and that such recommendations as may be made here can be little more Clackamas, was nominated for chair-man but withdrew. Following election of officers the committee adjourned until 9 o'clock tomorrow morning. than suggestions to Congress. I urge you, therefore, not to be presumptuous." The Governor advanced the sugges-

tion, which met with much approval, ACTS EXPECTED that Congress be invited to send to Oregon a sub-committee of the public lands committee to view the lands, so that Congress may be better able to legislate for their final disposition. Much applause followed Governor Withycombe's declaration that "I am sure we all are agreed that we want CLAY TALLMAN PREDICTS RELIEF FOR WEST IN NEXT CONGRESS.

the settler on the land. "Let us hope," he concluded, "that the shackles of restrictive conserva-Commissioner Attends Conference at Salem Since He Arrived Ahead

tion which already have robbed us of much of our heritage may not be im-posed upon these 'ands." Governor Has No Plan.

Clay Tallman, Commissioner of the General Land Office, who is here to at-tend the Western States Water Power Governor Withycombe's address opened the conference. H. made it opened the conference. H. made it plain that he had no plan of his own for the disposition of the property and explained that he had called the meet-ing at the suggestion of the Chamber of Commerce at Portland. Conference, believes that the next ses-sion of Congress will see a great deal of much-needed legislation enacted regarding general land affairs of the West.

The Governor was presented by W. L. Vawter, of Medford, temporary chair-man. Subsequently Mr. Vawter was made permanent chairman, and C. C. Chapman permanent secretary. Following the Concentry. UULUIIULUUI UMMUIIULU At the water power conference here September 21, 22 and 23 many of the September 21, 22 and 23 many of the before the next Congress will be under discus-sion, he said. The leasing of oil and gas lands and the governing of water-power slies are some of the important

Following the Governor's address Geor. M. Brown, Attorney-General, gave an instructive explanation of the legal status of the land-grant case, cast lands and the governing of water-power sites are some of the important questions which will be discussed. Confusion over dates brought Mr. Tallman to Portiand a week before the opening of the conference. But when it was learned he was in the city an invitation was extended him to attend the Oregon & California land confer-ence new in session at Salem reading extensively from the Supreme Court's decision. Brown's address continued Mr.

through the noon hour, but the dele-gates were so deeply interested that with one voice they urged him to pro-

Mr. Taliman ieft yesterday morning for Salem and will return today. There are three land offices here and Mr. Taliman will visit them while waiting for the opening of the water power coneed "against their app tites." At the opening of the afternoon ses sion, the committee on procedure pre-sented its report outlining the order of business and the rules for the confer-

ence Mr. Taliman registered at the Mult-Amendment to Rules Carried.

No sooner had the secretary read this report than A. W. Lafferty jumped up to offer an amendment providing that when one-fifth of the delegates de-manded the "aye" and no." votes be

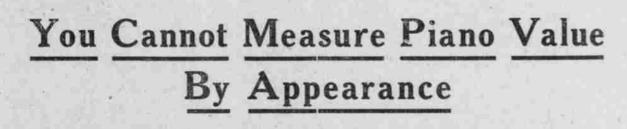
(Special.) — The funeral of Mrs. Ella A. Rinehart, wife of A. C. Rinehart, who died.at the family home, 706 West

manded the 'aye' and no. votes be taken on a question. "That is the way they do in Con-gress," he explained. Mr. Lafferty for-merly was a member of Congress. "We didn't come here to have our time frittered away by useless roll-calls." protested Senator I. N. Day, of Portland. He offered an amendment provided for a rolleall upon a mator. provided for a rollcall upon a major-ity demand. The one-fifth rule was adopted.

Recent experiments have shown that it is possible for the X-ray to find flaws within metal that appears on the surface to be sound. The procedure committee reported, with its regular rules, the changes made last sight, providing for one

LA GRANDE, Or., Sept. 16.-(Spe-cial.)-La Grande-made flour has slumped 80 cents in ten days. Four cuts of 20 cents per barrel each have taxation are to be strictly construed. It is a presumption of haw that land is taxable. It is the land itself with which the state is concerned in taxing and does not look to the covenants contained in the conveyance. "A proceeding to assess and collect taxes upon land in Oregon is a pro-ceeding against the property and not against the owner. "The power of taxation is a sovereign

against the owner. "The power of taxation is a sovereign right belonging to the state in its sov-creign capacity. "The value of the land for the pur-"The value of the land for the pur-



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