

HOUSTON WOULD CHANGE LAND BILL

Secretary Thinks It Unwise to Compel Premature Sale of Timber on Grant.

INDUSTRY IS CONSIDERED

Prompt Provision for Payment to Counties of Accrued Taxes Is Approved—Homestead Requirements Specified.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Feb. 24.—The Secretary of Agriculture, in a report to the Senate public lands committee today, approves in the main the Chamberlain land grant bill, but suggests several important amendments. As expected, he recommends that about 200,000 acres of grant lands lying within the boundaries of existing forest reserves be added to those reserves, but he does not ask that any other portion of the grant be placed in forest reserves.

Secretary Houston deems it vitally important to retrace that portion of the bill providing for the sale of timber on the grant.

Any plan which fails to take into consideration present economic conditions in Oregon and the effect the disposal of the lands and timber will have on the industrial welfare of the state is faulty and inadequate," he says.

Lumber Situation Reviewed.
In some detail the Secretary analyzes the present condition of the lumber industry in Oregon, pointing out the causes that brought about the existing depression. Although the lumber cut in the Northwest may increase rapidly, he says, "the great demand for immediate consumption will not strike this region until supplies of timber more accessible to the great centers of consumption are more nearly exhausted."

He finds that 248,600,000,000 feet of timber in Western Oregon is now in private ownership, and much of this, he says, must be held many decades before it can be marketed as lumber. "Under the best conditions which can be anticipated, the holding of timber capitalized at its present value cannot be expected to yield more than 2 or 3 per cent," he asserts.

Overproduction to Be Avoided.
"Certainly during the existence of the present demoralized conditions of the lumber industry," says the Secretary, "it would be unwise public policy to add an enormous body of standing timber to the burdens which the industry is already carrying and to that extent increase tendencies toward overproduction and wasteful utilization, with all the economic and social distress which follow."

"Specifically," he believed that the 49,800,000 or 50,000,000 feet of timber on the Oregon and California grant lands should not be sold except as it is desired for immediate manufacture. With a requirement for immediate manufacture it would undoubtedly be bid in at a low price by persons seeking speculative profits.

Four Classifications Advised.
Secretary Houston recommends that all the lands be classified in the field, and he would have four classifications, first of which would be lands valuable for water-power development. These he would dispose of in accordance with the general water-power policy to be laid down by Congress.

The Chamberlain bill classifies as timber lands all non-mineral lands that have more than 1,000,000 feet of timber to the quarter section. Secretary Houston says it may frequently be desirable to classify as non-timber lands having more than 250,000 feet to the 40-acre sub-division. He also thinks discretion should be given to classify as timber lands some areas having less than that amount, as for instance, lands valuable for telephone poles, piling, etc. He seriously objects to listing as agricultural lands steep and rocky, logged-off or burned-over areas, or waste lands.

He would change the bill to allow the department to fix the time within which the timber must be removed.

Another proposed amendment, in which the Interior Department concurs, requires the homesteader to cultivate at least one-sixteenth of the area of his entry during the fourth year of residence, and one-eighth during the fifth year and each year until submission of final proof, which must be made within seven years after filing.

Secretary Houston approves the recommendation that prompt provision be made for paying to the land-grant counties the full amount of accrued unpaid taxes, but would strike out all of section 7 providing for the distribution of net receipts from timber and land sales. He thinks this provision should be left until it is known approximately what the net receipts will be.

HORTICULTURE MEET IS ON
Western Washington Association to Hear Mr. Lister Today.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—Governor Lister will be the principal speaker tomorrow at the Western Washington Horticulture Association meeting in the State Senate chamber. W. H. Paulhamus, Professor J. L. Stubbins, Professor E. B. Stookey, Mrs. G. R. Shoup, of the Western Washington Experiment Station, and T. O. Morrison, assistant Commissioner of Agriculture, also are on the programme.

Mayor G. A. Mottman welcomed the delegates today and President R. B. Miller gave his annual address. J. B. Powles, of Seattle, addressed the convention on commission dealers' opposition to the Federal standard of berry measurement, commission regulation law and advantages of shipping apples in barrels. Other speakers were C. A. Jonsson, of Tacoma; C. J. Stuart, of Monroe; Henry Huff, of Sumner; O. White, of Olympia; S. J. Harmeling, of Vashon.

PRINCESS, FORMERLY AMERICAN, WHOSE SEPARATION SUIT AGAINST RUSSIAN HUSBAND HAS BEEN SETTLED OUT OF COURT.



AIMEE CROCKER-GOURAUD MISKINOFF.

PRINCESS'S SUIT ENDS

Miskinoff Separation Case to Be Dismissed Today.

ROYAL TITLE IS CLOUDED

Husband of Former Aimee Crocker-Gouraud Not as Represented, Is Official Assertion—Yvonne to Cherish Love Alone.

NEW YORK, Feb. 24.—Princess Miskinoff's suit for separation from the former Aimee Crocker-Gouraud, of San Francisco, will be dismissed tomorrow; the Prince will go to Russia to fight for the Czar; the Princess will be left to her own pleasures, and her foster-daughter, Yvonne, will have ample time to cherish her maddening love for the absent husband of her foster-mother.

These things were settled today, following an agreement made yesterday for the dismissal of the suit, when the Prince realized that the mysterious baby, whom he thought was his daughter, was a foundling adopted by the Princess.

Mystery has surrounded the identity of the young girl mentioned by the Princess in her counter suit against Miskinoff until the parties appeared in Justice Bijur's part of the Supreme Court. Yvonne was there with the Princess. That Yvonne had loved the Prince and he had reciprocated was corroborated by the Prince's attorney, John C. Oldmixon. The Princess had finally in a "moment of noble and heroic sacrifice," the attorney put it, "given her foster-daughter, Yvonne, to the Prince to love and cherish."

"It was a case where Yvonne, who was rapidly reaching a debutante's age, wanted to do something for herself in society," said Mr. Oldmixon. "She had grown desperate in her love for her foster-mother's husband and threatened to end her life by shooting. It was then that Mme. Miskinoff gave her consent to a strange triangular situation. She exiled Yvonne and the Prince to Edgemoor, where they were to determine by constant association with each other whether the affection was as strong as each believed."

It has been denied by the Russian State Department that Miskinoff is a member of the royal family.

Oregon Educator in Capital.
OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Feb. 24.—President Kerr, of Oregon Agricultural College, was in Washington Wednesday conferring with the Secretary of Agriculture.

BRANDEIS EVASIVE, LAWYER CHARGES

Letter Denying "Personal Employment" When Firm Was Retained Is Cited.

HARRIMAN CASE MENTIONED

"Public" and Also L. R. Glavis Represented in Ballinger-Pinchot Controversy—Litigants on Both Sides of Razor Case.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—Charges arising from the legal activities of Louis D. Brandeis in the Ballinger-Pinchot investigation, the fight between E. H. Harriman and Stuyvesant Fish a decade ago for control of the Illinois Central Railroad and the Gillette Safety Razor Company litigation occupied the attention today of the Senate Judiciary sub-committee investigating Mr. Brandeis' nomination to the Supreme Court.

Four witnesses testified. The first, Mark Sullivan, editor of Collier's Weekly, told the committee that Mr. Brandeis had been employed by Collier's to protect its interests and those of the public during the Ballinger-Pinchot investigation, and that no concealment had been made of the employment. Austin G. Fox, counsel for those opposing Mr. Brandeis, charged that Mr. Brandeis was on the record as appearing for L. R. Glavis, a former land office official and a central figure in the investigation.

Firm Employed to Get Proxies.
Wadell Catchings, formerly with the firm of Sullivan & Cromwell, of New York, testified that he sought to employ the firm of Brandeis, Dunbar & Nutter to get proxies for Mr. Harriman in the fight over the Illinois Central. Mr. Nutter told him the firm would not take the commission unless Mr. Brandeis were convinced of the justice of the fight, whereupon Catchings had seen Mr. Brandeis.

For an hour or two, Mr. Catchings said, he had the hardest interview of his life—an interview with Mr. Brandeis in which the case was outlined. The result was that the Brandeis firm undertook the work, but "Mr. Brandeis was to do nothing and did nothing."

Charges Based on Letter.
On cross-examination, Mr. Catchings testified that in 1908 Mr. Brandeis sent to the firm of Sullivan & Cromwell a copy of a letter he had written to a Massachusetts legislative committee, saying that he personally never had been employed to get proxies for Mr. Harriman, and that Sullivan & Cromwell replied that this statement was correct.

Mr. Fox's charges of unprofessional conduct were based on this letter. Henry T. Richardson and Henry W. Williams, legislative committee, testified that they had seen the letter, which Mr. Brandeis had represented litigants on both sides, but said he did not care to go so far as to charge Mr. Brandeis with bad faith.

Olympia Y. M. Finances Improve.
OLYMPIA, Wash., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—According to the annual report

of Stanley Shaw, secretary, receipts of the Olympia Y. M. C. A. for 1915 were \$5700, from which \$4111 was disbursed, a financial improvement over the previous year. Willard Lemon was elected president of the association, and vacancies on the board of directors were filled by T. P. Horn, J. B. Stents, John C. Ellis and J. E. Kelly.

GILLIES AGAIN CONVICTED

Jury, Out 20 Hours, Find Grand Larceny Charge Is Probed.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Feb. 24.—John F. Gillies, deposed claim agent of the State Industrial Insurance Commission, was found guilty today of grand larceny in connection with the looting of the industrial insurance fund of several thousand dollars by means of false accident claims.

The jury, composed of six men and six women, returned the verdict after 20 hours' deliberation, in which ten ballots were taken. Gillies will be sentenced later.

This is the second conviction of Gillies in connection with the insurance frauds. In a previous trial he was found guilty of forging accident claims. Gillies made no comment on the verdict.

Assistant Attorney-General Wilson announced tonight that for the present at least Gillies would not be tried on the nine remaining charges.

VICTIM ASKS FOR \$3000

Man in Auto Crash at Vancouver Sues Power Company.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—James Day, injured in an accident at Sixteenth and Main streets February 10, when a freight car struck his automobile, has sued the North Coast Power Company for \$3000 damages for injuries, \$200 lost time, \$150 damage to the machine, and \$50 medical attention.

He alleges that the company maintains its tracks at this point in a careless and negligent manner, and that the brick laid between and outside of the rails is so far from the rail that the tire of a small automobile drops between the rail and brick. He was compelled to turn out to pass a farmer's rig and one wheel dropped between the rail and brick, and a freight car struck him when he stopped.

CHANGE OF VENUE DENIED

Baker Judge Refuses Transfer of Mine Suit to Portland.

BAKER, Or., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—That the suit brought by Frank S. Baillie, ex-superintendent of the Columbia mine, to procure an accounting as to the ownership of \$14,000 revenue from the mine, cannot be transferred from the Baker Circuit Court to the Federal Court at Portland, was the ruling today of Circuit Judge Gustav Anderson.

Judge Anderson gave as his opinion that the Circuit Court has jurisdiction in the case, and that because of this the petition, made after a default had been entered, is without force. The effort for change of venue was made by E. W. Backus, defendant in the suit.

Eagle Creek Man Bound Over

ESTACADA, Or., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—The second trial of Paul Lightner, of Eagle Creek, charged with assault by Dave Hoffmeister, of Eagle Creek, was heard in Justice Devore's court recently. Assistant District Attorney Burke, of Oregon City, acted as prosecutor, with W. A. Heyman representing Lightner. Justice Devore bound the defendant over to await the action of the April grand jury, but released him on his own recognizance.

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—The finest of gabardines, soft, rich serges, Poiret serges, Gros de Londre and checks are the fashionable materials used in the making of these suits—some of the models combine the serge with taffeta—and the prices range from \$45.00 to \$75.00.

—The Pellard Sweater Knit suits for sports wear are shown in jade, reseda and gold and sell at \$35.00 to \$40.00.

Third Floor

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—More charming than any pussy-willow taffeta blouses we have ever had before at this price, and of a quality that is fine beyond criticism.

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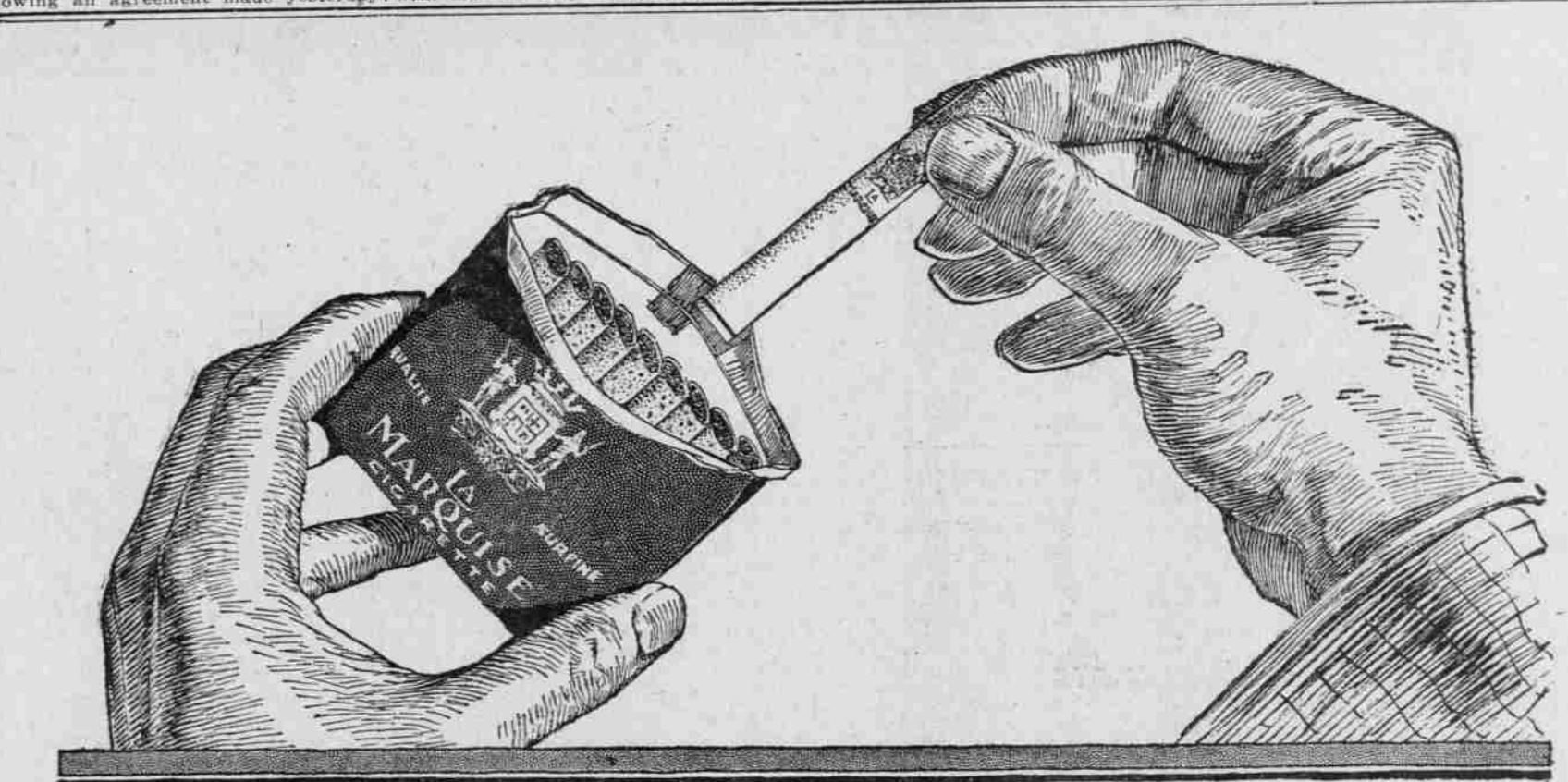
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The southern face of Nantucket Island is receding at the rate of six feet per annum.