

LANE WOULD GIVE HOMES TO SOLDIERS

Secretary of Interior Writes to President Urging That Congress Enact Legislation.

HOME BUILDING PLANNED

Problem of Caring for Nation's Defenders Far More Serious in Present Century Than It Was After the Civil War.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, June 19.—Secretary Lane believes that Congress, before adjourning, should enact some legislation which will enable the Interior Department to take initial steps in preparing land for soldiers honorably discharged at the close of the war.

In a letter to the President the Secretary points out that after every war nations whose troops have been engaged have had to deal with the problem of providing for soldiers whose military services are no longer required.

At the close of the Civil War the great West afforded an outlet for thousands. The homestead law had just been enacted, railroad extension in the West had begun and an era of rapid development took place from the Allegheny Mountains to the Pacific. At the close of the European war there will be no such domain awaiting development and returning soldiers will have to be cared for largely on irrigated lands, on cut-over lands or on reclaimed swamp lands.

Experience of Wars Cited.

Setting forth his views as to what should be done, Secretary Lane says: "To the great number of returning soldiers land will offer the great and fundamental opportunity. The experience of wars points out the lesson that our service men, because of army life with its openness and activity, will largely seek out-of-door vocations and occupations. The question then is 'What land can be available for farm homes for our soldiers?'"

"We do not have the bounteous public domain of the '60s and '70s. The official figures at the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 1917, show this:

"We have in the United States to the amount of 280,677,756 acres. It is safe to say that not one-half of this land will prove to be cultivable in any sense. So we have no land in any way comparable to that in the public domain when Appomattox came—and men turned westward with army rifle and 'roll blanket'—to begin life anew.

Vast Areas Available.

"While we do not have that matchless public domain of '65, we do have millions of acres of undeveloped lands that can be made available for our home-coming soldiers.

"We have arid lands in the West; cut-over lands in the Northwest, Lake states and South; which can be made suitable for farm homes if properly handled.

"But it will require that each type of land be dealt with in its own particular fashion. The arid land will require water—the cut-over land will require clearing and the swamp land must be drained. Without any of these aids they remain largely 'No Man's Land.' The solution of these problems is now the task of the government.

"Looking toward the construction of additional projects, I am glad to say that plans and investigations have been under way for some time. A survey and study has been in the course of consummation by the Reclamation Service on the great Colorado Basin. It is believed that more than 2,000,000 acres of arid land could be reclaimed by the completion of the upper and lower Colorado canals.

"It has been officially estimated that more than 15,000,000 acres of irrigable land now remain in the government's hands. It is the great remaining storehouse of government land for reclamation.

Matter Up to Congress.

"Under what policy and programme millions of these acres could be reclaimed for future farms and homes, remains for legislation to determine. The amount of swamp and cut-over lands in the United States that can be made available for farming is extensive. Just how much there is has never been determined with any degree of accuracy. Practically all of it has passed into private ownership. For that reason in considering its use, it would be necessary to work out a policy between the private owners and the Government unless the land was purchased.

"It has been estimated that the total area of swamp and overflowed lands in the United States is between 60,000,000 and 80,000,000 acres. Of this amount, it is stated that about 60,000,000 acres can be reclaimed and made profitable for agriculture.

"The undeveloped swamp lands lie chiefly in Florida, in the states along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, in the Mississippi Delta and in Louisiana, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin and California.

"What amount of land in its natural state is suitable for farm homes can be made suitable for cultivation by drainage only thorough surveys and studies can develop. We know that accurate figures show that more than 15,000,000 acres have been reclaimed for profitable farming, most of which lies in the Mississippi River Valley.

New Policy Necessary.

"Substantially all this cut-over or logged-off land is in private owner-

ship. The failure of this land to be developed is largely due to inadequate method of approach. Unless a new policy of development is worked out in co-operation between the Federal Government, the states, and the individual owners, a greater part of it will remain unsettled and uncultivated.

"The undeveloped cut-over lands lie chiefly in the Pacific Northwest (particularly in Washington and Oregon) in the Lake States and in the South Atlantic and Gulf Coastal states.

"Any plan for the development of land for the returning soldier will come face to face with the fact that a new policy will have to meet the new conditions. The era of free or cheap land in the United States has passed. We must meet the new conditions of developing lands in advance—security must to a degree displace speculation.

"There are certain tendencies which we ought to face frankly in our consideration of a policy for land to the home-coming soldier.

Farm Ownership Desirable.

"First, the drift to farm tenancy. The experience of the world shows without question that the happiest people, the best farms, and the soundest political conditions are found where the farmer owns the home and the farm lands. The growth of tenancy in America shows an increase of 33 per cent for the 20 years between 1890 and 1910.

"Second, the drift to urban life. In 1890 of the total population of the United States 35.5 per cent of our people resided in cities, and 70.5 per cent in the country. At the census of 1910 46.3 per cent resided in the cities and 53.7 per cent in the country.

"It is evident that since the war in Europe there has been a decided increase in the trend toward the city because of industrial conditions. The adoption by the United States of new policies in its land development plans for returning veterans will also contribute to the amelioration of these two dangers to American life.

"A plan of land development, whereby land is developed in large areas, sub-divided into individual farms, then sold to actual home-fide farmers on a long-time payment basis, has been in force not only in the United States under the Reclamation Act, but also in many other countries for several years. It has proved a distinct success. In Denmark, Ireland, New Zealand and the Australian Commonwealth it has completely changed the land situation.

"One of the new features of this plan is that holders are aided in improving and cultivating the farm. In a word, there is organized community development.

"It may be said that this country outside of Alaska has no frontier. Of course, Alaska still offers opportunity for a pioneer life. And, of course, Alaska likewise has yet unknown remarkable agricultural possibilities, but unless we make possible the development of this land by the men who desire their life in that field, we will lose a great national opportunity.

Time to Act Now.

"This is an immediate duty. It will be too late to plan for these things when the war is over. The time is now should be given to the problem. And I therefore desire to bring to your mind the wisdom of immediately setting up a committee to draft and a sufficient fund with which to make the necessary surveys and studies.

"We should know by the time the war ends, not merely how much arid land can be irrigated, nor how much swamp land reclaimed, nor where the grazing land is and how many cattle it will support, nor how much cut-over land can be cleared, but we should know with definiteness where it is practicable to begin new irrigation projects, what the character of the land is, what the nature of the improvements needed will be, and what the cost will be.

"We should know also, not in a general way, but with particularity, what definite areas of swamp land may be reclaimed, how they can be drained, what the cost of the drainage will be, what crops they will raise.

"We should have in mind specific areas of grazing land with definite edge of the cattle which are best adapted to them and the practicability of supporting a family upon them.

"We should know what it would cost to pull or 'blow-out' stumps and to put the lands into condition for a farm home.

"And all this should be done upon a definite planning basis. We should think as carefully of each of our projects as George Washington thought of the planning of the city of Washington. We should know what it will cost to do these things if they are in private hands.

Land Should Be Ready.

"In short, at the conclusion of the war the United States should be able to say to its returned soldiers: 'If you wish to go upon a farm, here are a variety of farms of which you may take your pick, which the Government has prepared against the time of your returning.'

"It does not mean by this to carry the implication that we should do any other work now than the work of planning. A very small sum of money put into the hands of men of thought, experience and vision will give us a programme which will make us feel entirely confident that we are not lacking in respect for those who return as heroes, but who will be without means of immediate self-support.

"A million or two dollars, if appropriated now, will put this work well under way.

"This plan does not contemplate anything like charity to the soldier. He is not to be given a bounty. He is not to be made to feel that he is a dependent. On the contrary, he is to continue in a sense in the service of the Government. Instead of destroying our enemies he is to develop our resources.

Aid Planned for Home Builders.

"The work that is to be done, other than the planning should be done by the soldier himself. The dam or the irrigation project should be built by him, the ditch, the breaking of the land, and the building of the house, should, under proper direction, be his occupation. He should be allowed to make his own home, cared for while he is doing it, and given an interest in the land for which he can pay through a long period of years, perhaps 30 or 40 years. This plan may be carried out as to the other classes of land, so that the soldier on his return would have an opportunity to make a home for himself, to build a home with money which we would advance and which he would repay, and for the repayment we would have an abundant security. The farms should be turned over as the prizes were—unbroken, unfenced, without accommodations for men or animals. There should be no prepared homes, all work should be constructed by the men themselves and paid for by them under a system of soldierly credit, which would increase its resources and its population and the happiness of its people with a cost to itself of no more than the few hundred thousand dollars that it will take to study this problem through competent men. This work should not be postponed.

MARSHALL FLINGS SARCASM AT T. R.

Vice-President in Address at Indianapolis Dubs Colonel "Lady Theodora."

KANSAS CITY STAR IS HIT

Medium of Roosevelt's Articles on War Management Declared to Have Manager Who Was Recently an Alien.

INDIANAPOLIS, June 19.—Support only the Democrat who is wholeheartedly behind the President and the way he purposes to win the war, Vice-President Thomas R. Marshall said here today in addressing the Indiana State Democratic convention.

The vice-president said that while he wanted the Democrats to win the coming election, "at the risk of being read out of the party," he urged the members to vote against the Democrat who was not in hearty accord with the President and his ideas and against the Democrat "who is not in favor of taking the German language out of the schools of Indiana and welding into a united people by the use of a common language all those who dwell within our borders."

"The young Lochinvar" who "ambled out of the West upon the G. O. P.—grand old party—and with force of arms seized the Lady Theodora and carried her off to that medieval castle called the Republican headquarters, where he set her above the salt and introduced her as a Republican vestal virgin."

"Just what the Republican party means by saying that its purpose now is to win the war most of us do not understand," said Vice-President Marshall. "What the Democratic party stands for is to win the war as soon as it can be won."

Stokes Case Recalled.

Mr. Marshall referred to "Lady Theodora," during the course of his remarks, saying: "Theodora, being left at home, concluded to take a hand in the war by writing letters in derogation and criticism of its management to a newspaper which had as its general manager a man who was, at the declaration of hostilities against the Imperial German government, an alien enemy of the United States. The newspaper had published the Rose Pastor Stokes letter and other seditious documents."

"Some men at least are going to object if she is the Republican party and if she is going to fight the war in this way—through the columns of the Kansas City Star—and notwithstanding her great desire to take charge of everything, they are going to insist that she shall not be permitted to do so earlier than March 4, 1921, and not then, if God and the right prevail."

Former Governor Hailston stirred them to great enthusiasm by declaring that the exigencies of the times demanded the renomination of Woodrow Wilson in 1920, regardless of precedent. Representative Ferris requested the preparation of a platform for Wilson for carrying on the war.

State Ticket was Nominated.

A state ticket was nominated and a platform adopted by the convention.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., June 19.—The Kansas City Star today submitted to the Associated Press a brief biography of its general manager, A. F. Seastedt, to show his status as a citizen.

Seastedt's Biography Given.

The biography follows: "The Kansas City Star makes this statement concerning Vice-President Marshall's attack on the loyalty of its general manager, A. F. Seastedt. 'Mr. Seastedt was born in the town of Tondern, in Denmark, in 1861. At an early time his father was fighting in the Danish army against Prussia. With the Prussian occupation of that part of Denmark, Seastedt, Sr., became a German subject. In 1880 he and his large family of boys came to America. Seastedt, Sr., at once took steps to become an American citizen. In 1881 he was naturalized. Seastedt, Sr., at once believed that act made him an American citizen. For more than 30 years he acted as such. At the election of 1916 he discovered that technically he was not. The failure of Seastedt, Sr., to take out final papers before his son became of age was the cause.'

"A. Seastedt at once set about to correct the technicality and early in 1917 full citizenship was granted him by the United States Court in Kansas City. In the council of the Kansas City Star he has been for the most vigorous prosecution of the war and has given freely of his time and money to advance it."

SEATS SELL AT AUCTION

THEATRICAL RECORDS SMASHED BY AMERICAN RED CROSS.

Three Weeks' Tour of "Out There" Nets \$683,448—Pittsburg Pays \$135,000 for Single Performance.

The American Red Cross has just walked away with all the theatrical records by sponsoring a three weeks' tour of "Out There," which played to \$683,448 net, Pittsburg holding the record with \$135,000 for a single performance.

But it wasn't any wonder when the all-star cast is considered, and when De Wolf Hopper acted as auctioneer, for most of the seats were sold by auction.

There were 23 performances in 17 cities. The proceeds included house receipts, sale of seats, \$15,574,500 premiums, \$344,496.19; souvenir programmes, \$166,443; and other receipts, \$20,334.74.

This is part of a report which reached the Portland chapter yesterday.

J. Hartley Manners, the author, donated the use of the play. The all-star cast who donated their services and paid their own hotel bills were Lawrence Taylor, wife of the late Mrs. Helen Ware, Miss Beryl Mercer, H. B. Warner, James T. Powers, George Arliss, Chauncey O'Leary, O. F. Heggie, James K. Hackett, George MacFarlane, George M. Cohan and Miss Julia Arthur. Then Mrs. Minnie Maddern Fiske made a special appeal for the Red Cross. De Wolf Hopper was the best auctioneer. Burr McIntosh spoke and Madame Eleanor de Cienfuegos, of the Metropolitan and Chicago opera companies, sang the National anthem of the allies at each performance.

Phone your want ads to The Oregonian. Main 7079, A 5095.

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Blouses Similar to Those That Created Such a Furore at Five Dollars About a Month Ago

—HIGH NECK, LOW NECK AND COLLARLESS BLOUSES, IN FANCY AND PLAIN TAILORED STYLES—SOME HAVE TOUCHES OF DAINTY EMBROIDERY, OTHERS HAVE PRETTY DESIGNS DAINTILY BEADED AND MANY ARE TUCKED AND PLEATED—IN WHITE, FLESH, MAIZE, PEACH BLOSSOM AND GRAY—ON SALE TODAY AT \$5.00.

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—A complete electric range, with two pans to cook two things at once; can be adjusted to high, low or medium heat.

Grill, Complete, \$7.50

—OVENETTE for roasting meats, baking pies, cake, potatoes, etc. Complete, \$3.50.

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FULL SIZE CROCHET BED SPREADS, \$2.85

—Our special Wearwell bed spreads in a splendid assortment of patterns and in an extra heavy weight. This price is less than present wholesale cost. These spreads are full size, with hemmed ends.

FULL SIZE DIMITY BED SPREADS, \$2.25

—Just the right weight for Summer use. Free from dressing and very suitable for this season, as they are very easy to wash; for single beds. Size 63x90.

IMPORTED SATIN BED SPREADS, \$6.50-\$7

—The largest assortment of fine quality satin spreads we have ever shown. A big assortment of patterns in heavy raised designs to select from. All in a wonderful satin finish. These spreads will have to be seen to be appreciated. Hemmed, \$6.50; scalloped, cut corner, \$7.

FULL SIZE SATIN BED SPREADS, \$4.75

—Extra large, with a high satin finish, in a good assortment of floral and circular patterns. Low price for this sale only.

72x90 WEARWELL SHEETS, \$1.65

—For today only at this price. Extra quality of sheeting, free from dressing; torn before hemming. No phone orders on this item, but no limit to purchasers; buy all you need.

10 YARDS BLEACHED MUSLIN, \$2.50

—Less than wholesale cost; good standard quality bleached muslin, 36 inches wide; free from dressing and just the weight for making underwear. Limit 10 yards to a customer, and no phone orders.

Second Floor—Lipman, Wolfe & Co.



Wool Slip-On SWEATERS

that are too dainty for words, and give just the right amount of real warmth and the right touch of color to the Summer costume. Sleeveless or with sleeves, with or without fancy angora-like collars.

Priced \$4.95, \$5.95, \$6.95 and \$7.50

Third Floor—Lipman, Wolfe & Co.



Three Specials in New DRESSES For Little Girls

—Cunning and comfy are these new tub dresses for the little tots 2 to 6 years old. Striped and plaid gingham and chambrays, made in a number of different styles. Dresses with yokes, dresses with high or medium waists, belted and piped dresses with all sorts of dainty touches.

Special at 98c, \$1.19, \$1.35

CHILDREN'S BEACH ROMPERS, 98c

—Fancy stripes and plain colors make these play togs for little folk doubly attractive. Comfortable and practical. Size 2 to 6 years. Fourth Floor—Lipman, Wolfe & Co.

All You Gardeners —Here Are the Right Togs

"FARMERETTES" Special \$2.95

—New khaki colored garments, with turn-down collar, long sleeves, open front; full belted, two pockets and yoke back; sizes 36 to 44.

"FARMERETTES" Special \$3.75

—Plain navy or navy and white striped with yoke back and front; round collars, long sleeves and band finish at ankle; full belted; sizes 36 to 44.

TAN GALATEA "FEMINALLS," \$4.50

—Blue, green, pink and lavender; round neck, short sleeves, elastic waist, ruffle finish and two pockets finished with white pipings.

LIGHT PERCALE "PANT-A-DRESS," \$1.95

—Light striped percales, with sport collar finish; short sleeves and full belted; pockets.

SUNBONNETS, 19c-29c

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The Plattsburg Camp Manual advises men in training to shake Foot-Ease in their shoes each morning. Ask your dealer to-day for a 25c box of Allen's Foot-Ease, and for a 25c stamp he will mail it for you. What remembrance could be so acceptable?