

STRAIGHTEN OUT SILETZ TANGLE

Special Agent of General Land Office Instructed to Make an Investigation.

PROTECT HONEST SETTLER

Present Administration Intends to Release All Lands Entered Without Fraud—Report to Be Made in October.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Aug. 25.—The attention of the General Land Office has not been officially called to the recent trouble on the Siletz Reservation, growing out of the activity of alleged "squatters," but the Department is nevertheless generally familiar with conditions, and is doing its utmost to straighten out the tangle. Whether the question of land titles will be finally adjusted within one year, or two, or ten, no official is ready to predict, for the Siletz Reservation has been the cause of more controversy and more trouble than any like area of public land ever opened to entry. The mere mention of the Siletz Reservation causes perspiration to appear on the brow of Land Office authorities; it is a subject not willingly discussed.

Last summer the attention of Commissioner Ballinger was called to the fact that systematic contesting was going on on the Siletz Reservation. He called upon Mr. Neuhausen to investigate and report. Investigation showed that there was apparent ground for complaint upon the part of homesteaders, and it was therefore ordered that the local Land Office should hear no contests, brought by private parties, until the charges could be investigated by a special agent. Since that time, whenever notice of contest has been filed in the Portland Land Office, the notice has been given to a special agent, and he has gone to the entry to determine for himself whether or not the homesteader has in good faith complied with the law, or whether he has absented himself from the land prior to making final proof, thereby giving ground for contest.

Special Agent's Course.

Whenever the special agent found the settler maintaining his home, as required by law, the contesters were notified that he had no ground for contest, and his complaint has been dropped, but where the special agent was not convinced of the bona fides of the homesteader, permission has been granted for the contest to proceed, and in cases where the contestant has failed to press his case, contest has been instituted by the Government.

This policy, it is believed, has effectively put a stop to the practice of systematic contesting; it has made it impossible for private individuals to institute contests against Siletz entries on ground to satisfy them.

Up to the present time the General Land Office has had no complaints against attorneys, alleging that they have advised squatters upon Siletz homesteads, but discussing this phase of the question, Land Commissioner Bennett said:

"No contestant has the right to go upon or occupy an entry, or to contest a pending homestead entry. As long as that entry is in process of perfection, clear up to the time of making final proof, the entryman alone has the right to occupy and use the land. There is no law which permits squatting, even in cases where it may be believed that the entryman has failed to act in good faith. If another person desires to acquire land embraced in such an entry, he must bring contest in the local land office, and submit proof showing that the original entryman has failed to comply with the law.

Only Path to Success.

"Upon such showing the original entry will be cancelled, and the contestant will have a preference right of 30 days to initiate entry upon the land involved in the contest. That is the only way a second party can obtain prior right to an entry made by another. Squatters obtain no prior rights by going upon an unperfected homestead; their operations are illegal, and will be so regarded."

It is the opinion of the General Land Office that the local Land Office at Portland will be able to handle all contests instituted against Siletz entries, without further instructions from Washington.

As regards those Siletz entries, which will stand suspended under an order issued by Secretary Hitchcock some years ago, it is stated that Special Agent Glavis, in charge of the Oregon district, has been instructed to make investigation in each case, and report to the Commissioner of the General Land Office. Where there is no evidence to show that the entries are fraudulent steps will be taken to close up the cases and issue patents, and where there is evidence of fraud, the local land office will be instructed to take proper proceedings looking to the cancellation of entries.

Protects Honest Settlers.

The present administration is not in sympathy with the Hitchcock idea of tying up a whole community on mere suspicion of fraud, and it intends to release all lands honestly entered, and to dispose of them as soon as they are acted in good faith. Mr. Glavis expects to make his full report some time in October, and so on thereafter steps will be taken to clear up the Siletz mess.

REGISTER FOR WATCHMEN

Portland Officer Invents Device to Protect Property.

J. J. Fitzsimmons, a special policeman and night watchman of this city, has just secured a patent on an invention which, it is believed, will revolutionize the business of night watchmen and will be the means of reducing the insurance rates on buildings where special watchmen are employed.

The invention is called the secret service changeable dial register and is designed to keep absolute record on the actions and times of those employed as night watchmen. By means of its

mechanism and operation, the proprietor of any store or building will be enabled to tell the exact time the watchman called at a certain place on his rounds and how many rounds were made.

It is the first invention of its kind, differing from similar contrivances in that the watchman need not enter the building and need not carry a key, by means of which he may supply himself with cigars or other merchandise. The proprietor has a key corresponding with the hour and minute hands on the dial of the clock and on his arrival at his place of business, may tell at a glance how many visits were made by the watchman during the night and at what hours the visits were made.

Patent on the invention was secured with the aid of a local attorney, and T. J. Fitzsimmons, of San Francisco, prepared for the entry Monday to complete further details. T. J. Fitzsimmons was formerly a newspaper man of Portland, having been in charge of a daily paper there for a number of years ago.

It has been charged that many night watchmen, after burglaries, fires and other happenings, often declare they visited the place a few minutes before the fire or burglary was supposed to have been discovered. It is one of the purposes of Fitzsimmons' invention to tell exactly at what hours they visited their posts of duty.

ALASKA WHEAT IS FAKE

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ISSUES WARNING NOTICE.

Much-Vaunted Idaho Grain Not New Discovery—Long Known Under Other Names.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Aug. 18.—The Department of Agriculture advises American farmers not to buy "Alaska wheat" at \$20 a bushel, or at any other price. And the department speaks after having made an investigation of the reputed remarkable grain said to have been discovered in Alaska, and developed, after years of cultivation by a farmer named Adams, of Julietta, Idaho.

"Alaska wheat" has been cleverly advertised from one end of the United States to the other through the medium, first, of country newspapers; then through weeklies; and lastly through the daily press and a creditable magazine. It never had the advertising been done in the advertising columns. So thoroughly has the country been covered with stories telling of the wonderful productivity of this wheat that the Department, for more than six months, has been answering inquiries from farmers who contemplated investing in the Julietta wonder wheat. All such inquiries have been answered, and in every instance the Department has advised against investment, not alone because the price is exorbitant, but because the wheat does not come up to the standard claimed by its distributor.

In the first place, "Alaska wheat" is not a new discovery, as claimed by the man who is offering it for sale, though it never before was known under this name. Some 25 odd years ago this country and France were deluged with the same identical grain, called, at that time, "Egyptian wheat" or "mummy wheat." Then, as now, the exploiter of the grain, that was sold upon his first seed in rather a remarkable way: a single stalk of wheat growing out of the decayed remains of a mummy.

The grain was a phenomenon, as the explorer plucked it, guarded it carefully, planted it when he got home, and from that single head, in the course of years, had raised a great quantity, which he, like farmer Adams, was philanthropically offering to the public at an unprecedented price, but like Adams, he was selling it only for seed. His was the "mummy wheat."

Some years later another benefactor sprung up in Virginia with another wheat that was going to prove a boon to the farmer, and the salvation of the miller. His wheat possessed all the characteristics of the "mummy wheat" of old and the "Alaska wheat" of today, but it went on the market as "miracle wheat," and was sometimes known as "seven-head wheat," getting this latter name from the size of the head. This Virginia benefactor is reported to have made a great success with his wheat, for he sold good, all his acre crop, with exclusive rights to a Chicago concern for the handsome sum of \$250,000.

When the Chicago buyers took their wheat to the mill they concluded they had bought a gold brick. Their wheat possessed very low milling qualities, and was inferior to all the standard wheats of the day, though handsome in appearance, because much larger. It was a starchy wheat, but contained little gluten.

Conceding that "Alaska wheat," as claimed by Farmer Adams, will yield from 100 to 200 bushels to the acre, the grain experts of the Department believe that it is not a good investment as the standard wheats grown

throughout the United States. It is not adapted to European and reputable manufacturers will have nothing to do with it. But the Department does not concede that "Alaska wheat" will run 200 or even 100 bushels to the acre, and it is believed Farmer Adams will reduce his claim later on. He merely estimated his crop, say the officials, figuring that one head of "Alaska wheat" was equivalent in bulk to seven heads of standard wheat; a basis which they claim is far from accurate.

The Agricultural Department is going to learn more about the production of "Alaska wheat" than it knows now. W. M. Jardine, one of the grain specialists of the Department, and expert on dry-land cereals, has been instructed to go to Julietta to make a thorough study of the Adams farm, and the production of "Alaska wheat." He will ascertain for himself how heavy the yield actually is; under what conditions the grain is grown; whether the soil is especially fertilized, or in its natural condition, and all manner of things about the cultivation of this year's crop.

From correspondence which has passed between Farmer Adams and the Department of Agriculture, the officials are not inclined to believe that the grower of "Alaska wheat" has willfully undertaken to defraud American farmers. They rather incline to the view that he accidently got hold of some of this large grain, believed it to possess remarkable qualifications, and entered upon its systematic production, confident that he had made a new discovery.

If it develops that Farmer Adams is aware that he has been exploiting an inferior grain, making false claims for it, the Department will make a systematic effort to break up his business, but if he has acted in good faith he will not be disturbed.

However, as a friend and protector of the American farmer, the Department of Agriculture reserves to itself the right to give to the agricultural interest the benefit of all the information, and it knows positively, and beyond all question, that "Alaska wheat" is not the phenomenal grain which it is advertised to be, and the advice to prospective purchasers.

NEW DIRECTOR OF NATURAL SCIENCES.

W. F. Fargo, who has been appointed State Normal School, MONMOUTH, Or., Aug. 29 (Special)—W. F. Fargo of Bend, has been appointed inspector in natural sciences in the Oregon State Normal School. He succeeds L. A. Robinson, who has been granted a year's leave of absence for graduate work in Columbia University.

Mr. Fargo received his A. B. degree from Colgate University, and also did graduate work for two years in Chicago University. He has had an extended experience as teacher in Oregon, having been school superintendent four years, professor in McMinnville College ten years, and science teacher in Bendleton two years.

Y. W. C. A. TO RENEW WORK

Will Protect Young Women at Big Hopyard.

The Y. W. C. A. has made arrangements with Krebs Bros. to look after the welfare of young women and girls who engage in hop-picking this season at the big Krebs yard at Independence. Last year this work was taken up as an experiment and the results proved so satisfactory that the Y. W. C. A. has decided to continue it. A large lunch tent and a day nursery will be provided in the yards, and there will be chaperons for young women and girls who go to the yards unattended. Religious services will be conducted by the association on Sundays.

SALESWOMEN WANTED.

Experienced and accommodating saleswomen wanted—also experienced fitters, competent to make alterations on tailor-made suits. Permanent positions, good salary and commission. Apply at manager's desk Monday at 8 A. M. McAllen & McDonnell, Third and Morrison.

Fire May Cut Telegraph Wire.

LARAMIE, Wyo., Aug. 29.—Union Pacific coal chutes at Hanna are burning, the main line of the railroad is blocked, and there is danger that telegraph lines will also be interrupted.

Merchants Savings & Trust Company

247 WASHINGTON STREET.

Paid-Up Capital, \$150,000

Does a general banking business.

Pays interest on Savings Accounts and Time Certificates.

Holds title to properties pending transfer by sale or other disposition.

Cares for estates under will, or for executor, administrator or guardian.

Acts as trustee in bond issues, escrows, etc.

Furnishes property estimates for non-resident investors.

Effects collections, etc.

Rent a Piano

You will want a piano in your home this Fall and Winter. It will afford you much pleasure. Perhaps you feel that you are not ready to purchase the piano you desire to own. Most musicians look forward to the fall when they will own a Steinway Piano.

Rent a piano from us and all the money you pay will be applied toward the purchase of a Steinway.

We have the largest stock of pianos in the city and the finest line of old standard, reliable, well-known makes whose names are familiar as familiar as the names of old friends—Steinway, Knabe, A. B. Chase, Everett, Ludwig, Packard, Conover, Kingsbury, Wellington, Estey, Emerson, Kutzmann, and other.

Our main salerooms, second floor, Sixth and Morrison. Entrance to store opposite Postoffice.

Sherman, Clay & Co.

"The Home of Dependable Pianos."

One of several such pieces from our line of medium-priced buffets—all quarter-sawn and hand-polished, having three small drawers and one large and side compartments with fancy glass doors, French bevel-plate mirror.

MAIL ORDERS AND OUT-OF-TOWN INQUIRIES WILL RECEIVE OUR CAREFUL AND PROMPT ATTENTION



COOKING DEMONSTRATION OF THE "NEW PROCESS" GAS RANGES TO CONTINUE FOR ONE WEEK LONGER

Owing to the popularity of this event in the past two weeks, the Basement Department announces the continuation of same for one week longer. To see the "New Process" in actual operation—its remarkable efficiency in cooking and baking—the ease and safety with which it is controlled and the quick and pleasing results obtained, is to become convinced that in the "New Process" is embodied the most modern features in gas-range construction.

It will be our pleasure to serve the delicious refreshments that have delighted those who have visited with us during the previous two weeks of the exhibit.

SALE of DAMAGED RUGS

Several Hodge's "Kaba" Rugs in 9 ft. by 12 ft. sizes, slightly damaged in transit, priced tomorrow and Tuesday at the SPECIAL \$9.75

Also a few Sample Rugs from our stock of the following sizes: 6 ft. by 9 ft. Wilton Rugs, priced at the SPECIAL \$21.75 and \$27.50

4 1/2 ft. by 7 1/2 ft. Wilton and Saxony Rugs, priced at the SPECIAL \$17.50 and \$22.50

GOLDEN OAK DRESSER PRICED AT \$34.00

This design is one of the many comprising our line of medium-priced Dressers, in the golden oak. It is made of quarter-sawn stock and hand-polished, and a very stylish bedroom piece and unusually good value at the above price. Has large-shaped French bevel-plate mirror.

FIVE PATTERNS IN IRON BEDS SPECIALLY PRICED FOR THREE DAYS

Scroll and plain designs in green bronze finish—full-size patterns, selected from our line of art metal beds and priced much less than regular values in a three-days' sale—Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Pattern No. 993, special \$7.50 Pattern No. 905, special \$8.50
Pattern No. 911, special \$8.25 Pattern No. 909, special \$9.25
Pattern No. 915, special \$10.50

GOLDEN OAK BUFFET PRICED AT \$29.00

One of several such pieces from our line of medium-priced buffets—all quarter-sawn and hand-polished, having three small drawers and one large and side compartments with fancy glass doors, French bevel-plate mirror.

SPECIAL SALE OF LACE CURTAINS—MONDAY AND TUESDAY

300 pairs in white, Arabian and ivory tints, in 3-yard and 3 1/2-yard lengths, all new and in quantities of each pattern at the following prices. Two-days' sale in the Drapery-Decorative Department, 6th floor.

\$1.65 values, special, pair 90¢ \$2.45 values, special, pair \$1.45 \$3.90 values, special, pair \$2.00
\$1.75 values, special, pair \$1.00 \$2.90 values, special, pair \$1.60 \$4-\$4.50 vals., special, pr. \$2.25
\$2.25 values, special, pair \$1.25 \$3.25 values, special, pair \$1.80 \$9 to \$10 vals., pair \$5.00

DOOR & WINDOW HANGINGS

An abundance of new goods and new ideas displayed in our Drapery Department. Fabrics in laces, casement cloths and sunfast shadow silks for casement windows. Sleeping-room hangings in nets, muslins, cretonnes and French stripes. Door hangings in quaint crashes and linens, also velours, damasks and tapestries. We pride ourselves on our correct and prompt workmanship and assure most modern treatments in all interior hangings.

DRAPERY and UPHOLSTERY YARD GOODS

Twenty pieces in lengths of from 3 yards to 12 yards each—last season's Tapestries and Damasks—desirable and serviceable fabrics. Your choice of any, taking all in each piece, at the special, per yard 50¢

TULL & GIBBS

COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHERS

YOUR CREDIT IS GOOD

Portland's FOREMOST HOUSE FURNISHERS

Furniture Upholstering At Most Reasonable Prices. Phone Ex. 34

SERUM CURES SNAKE BITE

PASTEUR PREPARATION GIVEN SEVERE PRACTICAL TEST.

Sent From New York by Fast Train to Save Life of Keeper in Washington Zoo.

NEW YORK, Aug. 29.—(Special)—Congratulations were being received by Raymond L. Dittmars, curator of reptiles in the New York zoo recently for the assistance he gave, which saved the life of Rodney Rose, a keeper in the Washington zoo, who was bitten by a diamond rattler, the largest and most deadly type of the North American serpent. A telegram was received on Monday in New York less than an hour before the departure of the Congressional limited, the fastest train for Washington on the Pennsylvania Railroad.

The information was meager, but Dittmars had been preparing for just such an emergency for years, although he hadn't secured an out-of-town call for help. It took the snake expert less than two minutes to gather the apparatus together and to grab the tube of calmest, the anti-venom serum. Dittmars knows all the Washington snake men and

shakes never chase an enemy. Their attitude toward man is merely that of self-defense.

"It is not necessary for a rattlesnake to coil before striking. It can strike from a crawling position provided the neck can be doubled into a S-shaped loop to lurch the head forward.

"We haven't had an employe bitten at the zoo since the park has been started, but any day such a contingency arises we will be ready for it. Our outfit here can be used with the same surety of a fire-extinguisher. The outfit is hanging on the wall, and every man knows how to use it. We can get to any part of the snake house and apply the antidote in less than two minutes. Everything depends upon promptness.

"Our emergency kit contains hypodermic syringes, rubber ligatures, several sharp scalpels, and principally the antivenom, technically known as anti-venom. It is a product of the Pasteur Institute in Paris, and apparently the best antidote for snake bite, as it does work along lines well understood and practical. This was what we sent to Washington."

Suit Over Theater Programmes.

When the Bungalow and Baker Theaters open the new week Monday they will have programmes furnished by the National Programme Company. A temporary injunction was secured against Manager Baker by the National company yesterday. This concern set out that Mr. Baker, disregarding a contract which does not expire for two years to come, entered into a contract with H. A. Chadwick for programmes. Judge Gantenbein

PIANO SALE

Monday morning early we will sell you a fine piano at a fair price. Every piano marked in plain figures. Every figure is right. Every piano worth what the figures say. Before you buy you will visit our store and see our pianos. This will convince you that you can do better here than elsewhere.

Sherman, Clay & Co.

OPPOSITE POSTOFFICE
A. B. Chase Player Pianos.

SAN FRANCISCO VETERINARY COLLEGE
Next session begins Sept. 15. Catalog free. Dr. Chas. Keane, Pres. 1818 Market St. R. F.