

UNCLE SAM ROBS STATE OF LANDS

Washington Victim of Policy of Interior Department in Violation of Law.

SCHOOL FUND IS LOSER

Congressional Act Which Gave State Two Sections in Each Township Forgotten and Timber Is Sold to "Interests."

BY J. H. BROWN.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Oct. 2.—(Special.)—The greatest fraud in the history of the United States has been perpetrated, not against the United States, but by the United States. But for the fact that a fiction of the law prohibits any action in court against the sovereign power, suits could be brought, which, before any court of equity or fairness, would result in the conviction of the federal government of absolute deliberate theft from the school children and taxpayers of Washington of millions of dollars.

In comparison with these frauds, these premeditated and wanton violations of statute laws, of solemn obligations, of deliberately executed contracts, the Benson, Hyde, Mitchell, Utah Coal and Iron and other famous land-fraud cases are but trifles.

Special Interests Favored.

Like the pickpocket who starts the cry "Stop thief!" that he may throw the crowd into confusion, so he may more successfully play his own larceny upon the unsuspecting, the federal authorities seem to have joined vociferously in the recent tumultuous "muck-raking" chorus, only that their own grosser crimes might be overlooked.

While the people of this state were wildly rendering approval and applause to the Heneys who were crucifying the "timber-land grabbers," Uncle Sam, through his Interior Department, was employing the noise and confusion to mask his own wholesale land frauds, his colossal thefts. While the citizens and taxpayers were cheering on the land-fraud prosecution, federal authorities were not only stealing millions of dollars worth of property, which belongs to the taxpayers of this state, but were stealing also natural resources which the taxpayers must have, stealing them to their own profit instead of profiting by that advance.

Enough for introduction. This series of articles is designed to prove absolutely the truth of every assertion made above; to bring home to every reading taxpayer that he personally and individually is losing actual cash money yearly through the deliberate violation by federal officers of the statute laws, the evasion of justice and equity.

The territory embraced within the states of Oregon and Washington, marvelously rich in its natural resources, is unique in its relationship to the United States. It is the only property the United States ever secured except by war or purchase. Very few ever of the citizens of these states stop to think that these two states were acquired by occupation and discovery, and not by war nor purchase. Hardy pioneers dared the trials and dangers of frontier life, the trip across the plains, and brought this rich domain into the Union.

Federal Government Stingy.

And how have they been recompensed? Compare the treatment of Washington with that the federal government accorded other new states. Recall the blood and treasure spent to acquire Texas. Texas, on admission into the Union, retained by congressional enactment, free from federal claims, every acre of unoccupied land within her borders. Utah, part of the Louisiana purchase, was granted four sections in every township, by the Federal Government, for school purposes. In addition to the usual other grants made new states.

Washington got just half as much by grant, and of this half the Federal Government, through its Interior Department, in recent years, in violation of its compact with this new state and without legal or other authority except that of might, has grabbed back thousands of acres.

The recent Republican Congressional Convention at Olympia pointed out some of the glaring acts of injustice of Federal land authorities in their dealings with this state and demanded justice.

The organic act, the law creating the territory of Washington (10 Stat. 1, Ch. 90; Sec. 107, Rev. St.) reserved sections 16 and 36 in each township, when surveyed, unless occupied by actual settlers before survey, for the purpose of being applied to the common schools in said territory. The state enabling act (23 Stat. 1, Ch. 190) and 22 Stat. 1, p. 76 further confirmed this grant to the state.

The enabling act was a compact between the people of Washington and the Federal authorities. The people waived to the Federal authorities all rights to other open lands, rights to all lands there, before granted by the Federal Government, etc., in exchange for this and special land grants made by the Government to the state.

This grant of these two sections in each township nowhere exempted mineral lands nor timbered lands from the grant. It plainly granted those two sections, with the sole exception that if actual settlers were on these lands before survey, the state should have an equal quantity of land elsewhere.

Yet the Federal authorities have included today within forest reservations in this state, reservations created years after this contract was made between the people and Federal Government, more than 60,000 acres of school land.

Timber Sold, Money Pocketed.

More than that the forest bureau is selling timber off these lands and retaining 75 per cent of the proceeds. The other 25 per cent is returned to this state and given to the county from which the land was sold to be spent for roads and schools.

An example of how this works: H. O. Stabler, of Portland, supervisor of the

Columbia National Forest, in a recent newspaper interview, reported the sale of \$25,000 timber from reserve lands in Wind River Valley, Skamania County, and that another \$25,000 sale was pending. Out of this \$50,000 sales in Skamania County will receive \$12,500 to be turned over to the County Commissioners to be spent on roads and schools. History shows how little value for large expenditures road funds have accomplished in this state.

The reports show Uncle Sam gets not much more than one-half as much for timber as the state receives from its timber sales. But that point aside, if the state had sold this timber the state would have received the entire \$50,000, which would go into the permanent fund, that could never be dissipated nor used. Instead of \$12,500 to be spent now and possibly wasted the state would have received for all time probably at per cent interest, this money or an annual revenue of \$200 a year after year so long as the state exists.

Northern Pacific Favored.

Grants to the Northern Pacific to aid in constructing that road expressly reserved mineral lands. Yet the Federal Government permits unchanged the railroad by that railway of the Roslyn coal fields, which the road in sworn testimony before the State Railroad Commission claims are worth \$50,000,000. Worse still the railroad claims it is entitled to charge freight rates on business in Washington which will give it a return in revenue on that \$50,000,000. On the other hand, with no reservation in the grant of the school sections, the Interior Department, years after the state has held the title, but recently notified state authorities that it claimed and had taken back a school section in Skagit County because it contained coal.

As said before, 60,000 acres of state school lands are in the hands of the Northern Pacific. Most of these lands are heavily timbered. They are probably worth \$50 an acre, or \$3,000,000. If sold by the state the money would go into a permanent fund, which at 4 per cent interest would produce an annual revenue of \$1,200,000.

Just so long as possession of these lands is retained by the Government the money is retained by the Government. But that money is not retained by the Government. It is retained by the Northern Pacific. The state's share of the proceeds, the state taxpayers on this item alone are being robbed for all time of this annual revenue.

Prouty's Words Are Pointed.

"As pointed out by the commission, your people at Spokane are now enjoying certain advantages. They are enjoying commodities by reason of these special bargain rates to which they are not entitled on any basis except your own claim that you are entitled to as good rates as those to the Coast. You are enjoying rates very much better than those enjoyed by other cities. We have, for example, complaints from Reno, and here is Mr. Oliver, of La Grande."

"You are very much better off than La Grande or Reno or any other point equally distant from the Eastern markets. The Great Northern and the Northern Pacific, which established this rate because you gentlemen out here said to them they had to establish it. For the purpose of getting it back again, the other roads were forced to put in this rate. The commission, however, is not establishing rates on that basis."

Later in the session, Mr. Prouty said another argument against water competition was the pointed statement, "It is there, and we must recognize it. The Panama line makes a rate of 40 per cent of the rail rates, and the American-Hawaiian makes any rate it sees fit in order to fill its ships, and you must recognize water competition."

The new Northern Bank Railroad crept into the testimony this morning, and Mr. Stephens, in reply to a query from Mr. Stephens, said that the road, while improving the service to Portland, had caused a loss of business to both the Great Northern and the Northern Pacific, the new line taking all business south of Centralia which formerly went by the older lines.

Railroad Side Is Heard.

The entire day's session was devoted to the presentation of the railroad side of the case, Mr. Woodworth being on the stand nearly all day, the only other witnesses being Western Agent Keny, of the Great Northern, and Rate Expert Cousins, of the O. R. & N. Company.

Both Mr. Woodworth and Mr. Keny submitted elaborate tables showing the loss of revenue that would follow the establishment of the new rates proposed by the roads in accordance with the Commission's order. By taking the January and June business of the road in the territory affected by the new rates and estimating for the 12 months on this basis, Mr. Woodworth showed that his road would suffer a loss of about \$300,000 per year. The loss of the Great Northern was slightly less.

In presenting this testimony Mr. Woodworth made interesting reference to the coming changes which the advent of the new roads on the Puget Sound, the new line taking all business south of Centralia which formerly went by the older lines.

Mr. O'Brien felt that by reason of the conditions that have recently arisen it would be advisable for him to resign from the board. His resignation was tendered to me this morning, and I accepted it with the understanding that it was to take effect."

EX-PAN TAN RESIGNS

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Mr. O'Brien's resignation was tendered to Mayor N. S. Pratt this morning. Mayor Pratt said: "As Secretary of the Board of Public Works, Mr. O'Brien has a large grasp of city affairs, and in the handling of the same and detail he showed remarkable ability."

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PROUD TIRES OF SPOKANE'S TUNE

Cuts Attorney Short With Statement City Has Rates Not Entitled To.

TRAFFIC IS NOW DIVIDED

With Invasion of Puget Sound by Milwaukee and Union Pacific, Hill Lines Claim of Loss of Business.

BY E. W. WRIGHT.

SPOKANE, Wash., Oct. 2.—(Staff correspondence.)—Not getting very far with the testimony introduced yesterday to show what James J. Hill said to Louis and what Louis told somebody in this city, the Spokane attorneys today twanged on a harp of a single string, never varying their stereotyped demand for the same rates as are given the Coast.

Tiring of this kind of music, as the noon hour approached, Commissioner Prouty, in unimpassioned language, called Spokane's attention to the fact that she was not entitled to Coast terminal rates, and that she was already enjoying much better rates than she was entitled to.

The occasion for the commissioner's pointed observation arose in the cross-examination of Traffic Manager Woodworth, of the Northern Pacific, by Attorney Stephens. He had asked Woodworth about a dozen times in as many different ways why the rates could not be further reduced to Spokane. Mr. Prouty called a halt and said:

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GRACE TO END TOMORROW

Tax Office to Be Open at Night for Second Payments.

Being the last day for the collection of second-half payments of taxes, tomorrow will be a busy day at the Courthouse, and to afford every one an opportunity to escape delinquent notice, the tax department office will remain open until 8

SICK HEADACHE And Indigestion

The Former Is Very Frequently Caused by the Other.

The pneumo-gastric nerve connects the stomach region directly with the brain, and when the stomach is out of order the head is almost certain to be affected through reflex or sympathetic nervous irritation.

The headache of dyspepsia and indigestion is of every variety from the dull and least defined to the most acute pain. Sometimes the whole mass of the brain seems racked with anguish; at others, the ache is confined to the back or front part of the head. The first form is usually of a confused character, and is often accompanied by dimness of vision, and a mild vertigo, or so-called "floaters" in the "floaters."

The victims of this symptom complain of a "swimming" or "lightness" in the head, and dizziness, or a sensation of motion while the body is still, and specks, or flashes of light before the eyes.

Persons subject to indigestion and other forms of stomach trouble are very frequent sufferers from headache, and in numerous cases a sick headache is the only noticeable symptom of indigestion present. In others, there are stomach manifestations as well.

The majority of people regard this headache as a separate disease, instead of a symptom of stomach-disease, which it usually is, and they attempt to treat it separately, and make the mistake of endeavoring to obtain relief through the use of headache powders, tablets, or other remedies, the use of which is extremely dangerous, as many of them contain such powerful depressant drugs as acetanilid, phenacetin, antipyrine, caffeine, etc., which depress the heart, brain and nerve centers, and lower arterial pressure; and many a person with a weak heart has become dangerously ill shortly after taking one of these headache remedies. They also interfere with the digestive processes, and actually make the dyspepsia worse than before.

In order to get rid of the headache of indigestion—and most headaches are caused by stomach trouble—one should endeavor to reach and remove the cause, and the headache effect will soon be relieved.

STUART'S DYSPEPSIA TABLETS do not cure the symptoms; they cure the cause of the headache, which permanently removes the symptoms. They digest every atom of food in the stomach, cure all forms of stomach trouble, and the headache, and every other disagreeable symptom and untoward effect is quickly gotten rid of.

Don't make the mistake of trying to cure your dyspeptic or nervous headache through the use of headache powders, tablets, etc. Use common sense, good judgment, and one or two of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets, and you will be agreeably surprised at the rapidity with which the headache will be relieved and cured simultaneously with the relief and cure of the stomach disturbance.

Purchase a package from your druggist today for 50 cents, and send us your name and address, and we will forward you a trial package free. Address P. A. Stuart Co., 150 Stuart Building, Marshall, Mich.

6'clock at night. Thus far payments have come in fast, and only \$300,000 is the balance of second payments not yet collected.

Presentation of receipts for the first installment of taxes will expedite the collection, and it is urged by the Tax Collector's deputies as a time-saver not only for them, but the taxpayers.

GREAT GAIN IS SHOWN

Chicago Building Shows Increase of \$25,000,000 in Nine Months.

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Records in the City Hall show for the first nine months of the year permits were issued for 883 buildings, costing \$70,129, against 817 buildings at a cost of \$45,778,065. The actual gain has been 716 buildings and \$24,350,165 in value.

Thieves Loot Westport Store.

ASTORIA, Or., Oct. 2.—(Special.)—During Thursday night two unknown men stole a railway "speeder" from the A. C. yards at Portland and came down to Westport where they robbed the store, taking about \$25 worth of provisions. Yesterday the men were seen passing Svensen, headed this way, but the local officers were not notified in time to capture them.

CHEAP RATES EAST.

On October 4th the Canadian Pacific will sell round trip excursion tickets to Chicago and points east at very low rates. This will be the last opportunity to purchase excursion tickets this season.

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With Mrs. Potter's Walnut-Tint Hair Stain.

Great pressure is bearing upon Mayor Pratt to reappoint Turke, and it is believed he will do so. The cause assigned for the removal of Turke was that he and O'Brien are in the same ward, while Adams is in the same ward. Two City Commissioners from the same ward holding jobs at the same time. O'Brien out of the way, Turke may be forced back to office by the Mayor.

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Modern Methods

Approved By Most Men

And still some men go to the Cobbler for shoes and some men go to the Tailor for their clothes, but they haven't found out that all the artistic designers and skilled tailors are engaged in the manufacture of the fine Ready-to-Wear clothes, and of all the fine Ready-for-Wear clothes Chesterfield Clothes are pre-eminently the finest. They are manufactured by Sturm, Mayer & Co., of Chicago and are confined to this store exclusively in the State of Oregon. If you would like to see the clothes that are the finest that artistic designers and skilled tailors can produce come and let us show you Fall styles Chesterfield Suits and Overcoats, priced \$25 to \$65. It's our pleasure to show them to you.

R. M. GRAY

273-275 MORRISON STREET

THE BEST STYLE AT MODERATE COST

Our Stein-Bloch Clothes for the Fall and Winter represent a thorough and serious consideration of the task of providing you, at a moderate cost, with appropriate, well-fitting suits for all occasions.

The specialists of this house expend large sums annually in sifting the good styles from the bad.

The resources of the whole Stein-Bloch organization are then bent to reproduce these styles to fit every type of American man. Try on these clothes—see them fit you.

SUITS, OVERCOATS, RAINCOATS \$20 TO \$40

Robinson & Co.