# R. A. BOOTH AND GOVERNOR WEST MEET IN JOINT DEBATE

paper that Mr. Booth explain where he got his wealth. Mr. Booth accepted that challenge and in a lengthy address in Albany told the entire history of his life from the early struggles of youth until his retirement from active asiness with a competence. He gave minute details as to the origin and quirement of the Booth-Kelly timber holdings.

He showed that prior to its acquirement the great bulk of the Booth-Kelly timber land had been accumulated for the operation of its milling properties from individuals or comanies in whom the Government's title had previously been confirmed; that less than one-tenth of 1 per cent of the company's holdings, or less than one acre in each 1000, had ever been questioned as to title and that con-

## RECORDS CONTRADICT GOV-ERNOR.

Governor West had charged that Mr. Booth was interested in the sales of certain lands by a lottery scheme to factory girls and other poor persons in the East to whom misrepresentations had been made as to the character of the land.

Mr. Booth invited attention to lic records which showed that lands in question had been the lands in question had been sold to Minneapolis men, who conveyed them to an Arizona corporation, which transferred them to a Kansas City concern, which placed them on the market and that neither Mr. Booth nor his company had ever had any interest in them after the orig-inal sale.

remarks largely to generalities and to transactions for which he offered his own unsupported word. This address

pointical motives; the same Burns who traced me from ocean to ocean, who shadowed me in my home, who traced me around this city; he is the same man who has traced other men, among them Samuel Gompers, until he was in-dicted, tried and acquitted, as I; yet, this is the type of man who has ac-cused me that was a party in that prosecution. (Applause)

prosecution. (Applause). West Returns Money.

## Mr. West collected, according to the cords, \$365.20 mileage and witness

fees from the Government, January, 1910, claiming mileage from Washington to Portland and return, when he ton to Portland and return, when he was served with papers in Portland. When he was called a grafter by the Federal officers for making an affi-davit to collect this money he later re-turned \$350.20 into the State Treasury. For the same trip to Washington he collected, according to the records, \$253 from the State of Oregon for his ex-penses.

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chased two years before I was in the

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DETECTIVE OSWALD WEST. Mr. Booth charges that Gover-nor West was a Burns detective preliminary to the Land fraud trials prosecuted by Francis J. Heney and was engaged in jury

packing. This is a characteristic West report on a prospective juror: report on a prospective juror: "A pretty good old man, straight, Populist and Socialist; has been a rank reformer in his time but now believes that through graft and monopoly everything has gone to hell and it is too late to save the country. He is one who would be in for convicting anybody expectally if convicting anybody, especially if he were a Republican politician." It was with names of such in-

The same transponder of the same provide the

made this proposition to the Govern-

Proposition Is Shown.

I will only read part of it, but I will eave it here for you all: "The lands of this company therein

ment.

a lottery scheme. Listen here. We sold that land-I have all of tese documents here and I can pre-out them to you entirely-we sold all these sent them to you entirely-we sold of those lands to Harry Hunter, Minneapolis, and one man, or two, who Minneapolis, and one haim. The con-were associated with him. The con-tract was written in this city by Ar-tract was written in this city by Arthur L. Veasle, our attorney. Every payment that was made was covered by a receipt in his office, and I au-thorize him now, and would have had him here had he been in town, and release any confidential relations that he may give to you the facts just as

NOT TAX DODGER. Governor West had charged Mr. Booth with being a tax dodger. Mr. Booth exhibited documents disclosing that taxes on the orig-inal holdings of his company had increased seven-fold; that the company had paid over \$304,000 in taxes into the Treasury of Lane County; that its taxes on its Eastern Oregon lands are now three times what they were in the entire tract when acquired, while only one-seventh of them is now owned by the company. they are. The contract was carried out precise

That is how we sold the land. Is there a word of truth in what he said absolutely none. These were matters of public record that any man might have known and that I believe he did know. But with the same spirit that prompted him not to promote justice but to thwart it. he made that state-ment, when the public record contra-ment, when the public record contra-tion. It is you have worn our stripes; you walked to your cell to the time of the walked to your cell to the time of the ment. What the remainder of it.

Remember that. Here are a number of people who have gone to the Land Office to file on timber land, Mr. Booth says not for him but for themselves. Now remember when the Now, remember when the patents were issued by the Federal Government that John F. Kelly goes into the Land Of-fics. What business then did he have to go into the Land Office and say to the register and receiver, "Turn those patents over 10 the attorney for the Booth-Kelly Lumber Co"? And what right did Mr. J. H. Booth, who was re-ceiver of the Land Office, and Mr. Bridges, who was register of the Land Office, to comply with the request of Mr. Kelly?

"The company paid purchase price of iand to Government and all fees and expenses upon final proof. In July, 1962, following the final proofs in May the public." And my mind went to another pic-ture, and I thought of the help that I had given Mr. Booth in his hour of trouble, and I thought of the goods things that I had said of him from time to time. I wished him the best in the world. But when the time that Mr. Booth, notwithstanding his transgres-the office. lockstep; you have answered to the count. Now come, brother, give us the gun that we may break these unnat-ural bounds and once more pray upon the public." And my mind went to another pic-tures and the public of the land to the company or to R. A Booth and each received from the company \$100. "The Edward Jourdan deed was dat-tures and the public."

"The four deeds were not recorded but were retained until the latter part of 1904 or early in 1965, when the land fraud investigations and prosecutions n Oregon were in progress, when they were returned to the makers and des-The LaRauts made other de Lucy and Ethel were e 25 upon execution of troyed. n 1907. n 1907. Lucy and execution of the paid \$25 upon execution of the latter deeds. Three years after exe-cuting their second deeds, when they cuting their second deeds, when they were about to go to Canada agents of the Government were ng inquiry about their entries, and shortly before this sult was commenced, Stephen and Alice LaRaut were each

paid \$50 by the company. "The spplcants and patentees never saw the land entered by them except when Brumbaugh took them to the land before the entries were made. They never made any effort to dis-pose of them, never inquired the value thereof or the amount of timber there-on or took any interest whatever there-

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Booth be allowed an equal extension of time and a similar opportunity to present his side.

## Fair Play Refused Mr. Booth.

Governor West had referred this proposition to the audience and it had been greeted with cheers and cries of assent. Yet from the beginning of Mr. Booth's rejoinder he was continually interrupted by uproar. The Governor himself, although he endeavored to do so, could not induce his followers to give Mr. Booth respectful hearing or permit others to listen to what he had to say. Appeals from Governor West and

Appeals from Governor West and from Chairman Sabin and frequent pro-tests from Mr. Booth, as detailed in the stenographic report, failed to arouse a spirit of American fair play. Governmer Vest had had his innings, and a noisy element in the audience was determined that Mr. Booth should not be given an opportunity to answer. In the first half hour, which was alloted to Mr. Booth, the speaker took up the question of Governor West's vouid be but the word of the other. He en-against the word of the other. He en-deavored to show that the Governor peals from Governor West and Schulmen Sabin and frequent pro-You know that the question of my

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Just this thing, nowever: That little patch of timber was purchased by peo-ple other than ourselves. We got it by the assignment of contracts. We have worked it 10 years and there is seven there is what occurred: A representative of the Government and a representative of our company we day there is the the company we day the company we day the company we day the company the day the company the day the day the company we day the day the day the day we day the day th merely a sideshow to a Senatorial cam-paign to divert the attention of the people from the real issues, and that possibly it is unwise to heed it; but,

possibly it is unwise to heed it; but, as I said before, I want you to know what part I have had in developing the industries of this state and how the accumulation of what I and my associates have came about. But I want to call to your attention some-thing of the type of the man who has accused me. If he has done it in good It is the to be representative men in Klamath the three-county, asking them to appraise them, state Com-be records ferent men, including merchants and bankers and the Assessor, and then we

(The speaker here produced a map, to which he referred).

Governor West plause and cheera

## Governor West's Reply

### Governor West said:

My friends, this is a most important meeting, because serious charges have been made against Mr. Booth by me. If the charges that I make cannot be proven, then he has been done a great wrong. If the statements I make to-

of his church in that he has led them to believe he was a Christian in spirit and truth when in fact he has merely used his religion as a cloak to cover his predatory activities. (Applause and cheers, with hisses.) "Dated at Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon, this 23d day of Octob-er, 1914, and signed Oswald West." "Prove Them," Cries Voice.

The wilnesses are the records of the Federal Court and the records of the

leave it here for you all: "The lands of this company therein whereto its title is settled by the afore-said decision of the Supreme Court comprises about 11,000 acres of odd-numbered sections. To determine a fair and proper price therefor as of present time the company recently caused the land to be examined, tract the track?

he has ignored the laws of the state of Oregon and used his power of place to pray upon his less fortunate broth-ers, has sought through monopoly to control natural resources, which are the birthright of all, and thus enabled the House of Booth to levy tribute upon generations to come; that he has borne false witness and caused others to commit perjury in order that he might retain such of his holdings as for years been deceiving the brethren of his church in that he has led them to believe he was a Christian in such the the the to the truth of the allegations to the sources. Which are the birthright of all, and thus enabled the House of Booth to levy tribute upon generations to come; that he has borne false withess and caused others to commit perjury in order that he might retain such of his holdings as for years been deceiving the brethren to believe he was a Christian in spin-

together with other lands in the vicin-ity, and was then and had been for a year prior thereto engaged in purchas-ing timber lands in that wicinity. "Title was immediately taken to the Dunbar, Roche, Brumbaugh and Jør-dan claims. Dunbar and Roche were employes in the Booth-Kelly Lumber Company. They filed on lands in the same locality and were paid \$100 aplece at the same time. But later on, when the Government investigations were on and the Booth-Kelly Lumber Company needed the testimony of Mr.

Company needed the testimony of Mr. Dunbar and Mr. Roche to square ac-counts with the Government, they were given about \$800 more aplece. That was a number of years afterwards.

wrong. It the statements I make to-night can be proven, then the people of this state have been done a great wrong through Mr. Booth's presuming to be elected to the United States Sen-

Now, I am not going to take the time of the evening to answer soms of the charges that have been made by Mr. Booth. I am not running for the Governor West: