

HIGH COURT MAY ORDER LANDS SOLD

Reversion to United States Not Only Solution of Railway Land Case.

2 ALTERNATIVES OFFERED

Decision to Require That Grant Be Offered for Settlement Not Inconsistent With Government's Bill of Complaint.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, May 1.—Government counsel in arguing the Oregon & California land-grant case before the United States Supreme Court made only a single plea for affirmation of the forfeiture decree of the District Court at Portland.

From this it is inferred that the prime object of the Government now is to recover title to the unsold lands of the grant. No reference was made in the argument to the alternate decrees outlined in the Government's bill of complaint.

The Supreme Court may take issue with the lower court if it concludes that forfeiture of the grant is too heavy a penalty to impose it may, in its discretion, turn to one of the alternative decrees enumerated in the bill of complaint drawn by B. D. Townsend at the time the suit was instituted.

Alternatives Are Presented. The first alternative asked for, at the institution of the Government's suit, in the event forfeiture should not be declared, was that the unsold lands be sold subject to sale to actual settlers in quantities not exceeding 160 acres and at a price not exceeding \$250 an acre, and that a receiver be appointed to sell the lands in this manner.

Decree Would Satisfy Many. Such a decree, therefore, would be in accord with the plea of the State of Oregon; it would not be inconsistent with the demands of the Government as set forth in its bill of complaint, though the Government prefers a forfeiture; and, furthermore, such a decision would be objectionable to the cross-complainants, who figure that they would have a standing in the case if such a decree should be passed.

Affirmation of the forfeiture would leave the land in the hands of the Oregon delegation in Congress; in fact, the delegation probably would be asked to do the impossible. If the unsold portion of the grant is sold, the Oregon delegation in Congress must determine by legislation what disposition shall be made of the lands.

Present Work Would Be Difficult. The Administration is in accord with that idea legislation to that end will be introduced in Congress, and the Oregon delegation not only must oppose such a bill, but must press a bill of its own, directing that the lands be thrown open to entry.

BROTHER'S CALL SAVES TOT

Four-Year-Old Boy Rescued From Clackamas River by Father.

CLACKAMAS, Or., May 1.—(Special.)—Four-year-old John Hatton, while playing with his little brother on the banks of the Clackamas River at Baker's Bridge, four miles east of Clackamas, Thursday, fell into the river, which is about 10 feet deep at that point.

PASTORS AGAINST BIG ARMY

Columbia River Body Declares War Agitator Worst Foe.

WHITE SALMON, Wash., May 1.—(Special.)—The Columbia River Association of Congregational Churches and Ministers recently adopted the following resolution in upholding President Wilson in his opposition to Army and Navy increases:

LEWISTON RANCHERS PUT VALUE OF WEEK'S RAIN IN MILLIONS.

GREAT YIELD IS ASSURED

Reports From Various Sections of Northwest Bear Out Assurances That Harvest of 1915 Will Exceed All Expectations.

LEWISTON, Idaho, May 1.—(Special.)—Never in the history of the Northwest has there been such promise of a large yield, and with the showers of the last several days the wheat crop is practically assured. Fall wheat is knee high and the growth is exceptionally rank.

From one-half to two inches of snow were reported to have fallen on the Inland Empire during the week, but this will not prove injurious to the crops in that district, as they have not progressed as far as the crops in the valley.

INLAND EMPIRE HAS SNOW

Grain-growing Sections Get Moisture Badly Needed.

SPOKANE, Wash., May 1.—(Special.)—A rain and snow storm of unusual severity swept over the Inland Empire, beginning Thursday night, and lasting until today, and indications of continued rain.

W. Lester Adams.

HOQUIAM, Wash., May 1.—(Special.)—Because the work at Hoquiam is not hard enough, W. Lester Adams has resigned as secretary of the local Young Men's Christian Association and has accepted the secretaryship of Kalispel, Mont., association at a smaller salary than he is receiving here.

ELECTION PLAN AMAZES

COST OF VOTE ON JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUT AT \$100,000.

Opinion Prevails That Issue, Agitated in Tillamook, Would Demand State-Wide Attention.

SALEM, Or., May 1.—(Special.)—With the voters of the state almost a unit for economical government, and retrenchment having been the slogan of the legislature, the report that certain residents of Tillamook county are contemplating a special election to refer the bill creating the Nineteenth Judicial District has caused much amazement in the State Capital.

Prineville Has Frost and Snow. PRINEVILLE, Or., May 1.—(Special.)—The Government thermometer registered 28 degrees Thursday night and the temperature remained low all day, dropping lower last night, and snow has fallen on the upper levels.

VALE FARMERS SEE PROSPERITY.

VALE, Or., May 1.—(Special.)—Indications are that little if any damage resulted from the storm of Thursday and Friday.

Snow Chases Summer From Dayton.

DAYTON, Or., May 1.—(Special.)—After many weeks of real summer weather, Dayton and the surrounding country was surprised this week by a two days' sleet and snow storm.

Rain Follows Cold Spell at Burns.

BURNS, Or., May 1.—(Special.)—The blizzard of Thursday, which began yesterday, settled down to a gentle rain today.

Wallowa Has Snow and Rain.

WALLOWA, Or., May 1.—(Special.)—A drop of temperature from 75 to 35, accompanied by rain and snow, was experienced. The Wallowa Valley is covered with snow.

STUDENT ELECTION HELD

Maxwell Ball, of Portland, Editor of Willamette Collegian.

CROP BLEEFIT LARGE

Lewiston Ranchers Put Value of Week's Rain in Millions.

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ICE LAW ACTION DUE

"Delivery Ticket" Approval Is Made by Dealers.

LIQUID FUELS EXEMPTED

As Measure Stands for Final Passage, It Prohibits Also Sale of Scale or Measure Not Tested by City Sealer.

Having secured the approval of ice and fuel dealers to the "delivery ticket" provisions of a proposed new weights and measures code, City Commissioner Brewster announced yesterday that he will call the proposed measure before the City Council for final passage at once.

It has been held up for some time past on account of opposition to provisions requiring deliverymen to leave tickets indicating the weight or measurements of deliveries of ice, fuel or feed.

Ice-men particularly objected to the provision on the ground that it placed a great hardship on them and involved additional expense. After a series of conferences Commissioner Brewster convinced the ice-men that the measure is right and they have withdrawn their opposition.

Liquid Fuel Is Exempted. As the measure stands, it provides that it shall be unlawful to sell any ice, fuel or feed unless the delivery is accompanied by a delivery ticket containing the name and address of the vendor, the address of the vendee, the name or number of the driver or other person making the delivery, and the weight or amount of the commodity delivered.

The delivery ticket may be left by the deliveryman where the purchaser may secure it. Gasoline and other liquid fuel delivered in the presence of the purchaser is exempted.

The measure is aimed at the short-weight ice-man and fuel and feed dealers. It is said to be impossible to get sufficient proof of short weight in their commodities without the delivery slip.

Estimated Scale Sale Barred. The measure as proposed also changes other parts of the weights and measures law. Among other things, it prohibits the sale of any scale or measure that has not been tested and sealed by the city sealer of weights and measures. It gives the city sealer police power and authority to seize or short-weight weights, scales and measures.

It requires all sand and gravel wagons or trucks to have a sign on the outside indicating the cubic contents of the truck or wagon.

The sign must show the number of yards and fractions of yards the wagon is carrying. The contractor, by weighing in sand and gravel deliveries.

Cathlamet Pupils Entertain. CATHLAMET, Wash., May 1.—(Special.)—An entertainment was presented last night in West's Hall by the pupils of the Cathlamet School.

Klamath Falls Improvement Asked. KLAMATH FALLS, Or., May 1.—(Special.)—A delegation of 17 members of the Klamath Falls Business Men's Association called on the City Council Tuesday with several requests for the betterment of the business district here and for the proper conduct of the Fourth of July celebration now being arranged.

Albany Wants Band Concerts. ALBANY, Or., May 1.—(Special.)—Albany may have public band concerts each week during the coming season. A petition signed by a large number of business men has been presented to the City Council asking that arrangements be made for the presentation of such concerts.

Venersborg Pledges Road Work. VENERSBORG, Or., May 1.—(Special.)—At a picnic recently at which the men of Venersborg were hosts, work was pledged to put in condition the road north of the postoffice for about a mile. The slogan adopted was "Good roads for Venersborg."

Moscow Wage Hearings July 2. MOSCOW, Idaho, May 1.—(Special.)—Mrs. Teresa Graham, of the Idaho Minimum Wage Commission, will hold hearings in Moscow on July 2 on wage conditions here.

Idaho Regents Meet in Moscow. UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO, Moscow, May 1.—(Special.)—The State Board of Education and Regents of the University met here yesterday in executive session. Many improvements were planned for the ensuing year, chief of which will be the installation of electrical machinery to furnish light and power for the college.

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STUDENT ELECTION HELD Maxwell Ball, of Portland, Editor of Willamette Collegian.

WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY, Salem, Or., May 1.—Results of the annual student election held today, showed that Maxwell Ball, of Portland, had been selected editor of the Willamette Collegian, the official publication of the students, for the 1915-1916 season.

Crops Saved at North Powder. NORTH POWDER, Or., May 1.—(Special.)—Heavy rain for two days and a light snow fall saved the wheat and dollars' worth of crops in this section not only in the irrigated district, but in the dry-farm country as well.

JUNCTION CITY, Or., May 1.—(Special.)—The garden truck of Northern Lane County was slightly damaged by the freeze here last night.

The new building of the Blake-McFall Company, which is in the process of construction at East Ankeny and Third streets, is being rapidly completed and it is expected that it will be ready for occupancy not later than August 1.

The Blake-McFall Company maintains a very extensive warehouse located at East Twenty-fourth and Holladay avenue, which was the means of saving them from having to abandon practically their business.

The shipment is being temporarily done from the warehouse, and with the equipment of six auto delivery cars, it is claimed that not a solitary customer has suffered from the fire.

From present indications it is believed that the office and shipping departments will be reinstated in the old premises by Wednesday, May 5.

The Blake-McFall Company is associated with and is a part of the Blake, Moffitt & Towne Co., of San Francisco, which concern is the pioneer paper-hanger on the Pacific Coast.

EARLY RESIDENT OF OREGON PASSES AWAY NEAR LEBANON.

Mrs. Elizabeth "Friend" Skinner.

LEBANON, Or., May 1.—(Special.)—Mrs. Elizabeth "Friend" Skinner, widow of Hiram Skinner, died at her home near here April 23, aged 76.

Portland, gave a talk to Pacific University students this week on "The Value of the Speeches to the Community." He said that the tendency of the times is to speak in terms of bigness and that a city always grows out of its big stores.

He said that a large number of specialty stores were of more value to a community than a large store with many departments and pointed to San Francisco as an example of a city of specialty stores.

The home merchant should be patronized, he said, whether the town be large or small.

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"The Tourists' California" (Ruth K. Wood).....\$1.25
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