

GRANT LAND BUYERS ASK MONEY REFUND

Hundreds Have Paid or Contracted at Prices in Excess of \$2.50 an Acre.

CASE GOES TO CONGRESS

Move Is Based on Supreme Court Decision Regarding Sales of Property Now Held by Southern Pacific Railway.

Purchasers of Oregon & California land grant tracts who actually have entered into contracts with the Southern Pacific Company, the present holder of the lands, but who have paid or contracted to pay a sum in excess of the legal limit of \$2.50 an acre set by the Supreme Court, are making efforts to obtain a refund of those excessive amounts.

Thomas B. Neuhausen, formerly inspector in the Federal land department, has been retained by a large number of these persons, and will go to Washington, D. C., within a few weeks to present their cases to the Congressional committees now investigating the various bills providing for ultimate disposition of the lands in accordance with the Supreme Court's recent decision.

It is pointed out that a number of settlers or prospective settlers arranged, long before the litigation resulting in the recent decision, was started, to pay various sums for the land, ranging from \$2 an acre upward. Some of them, it is explained, actually paid the full amount under these contracts, while others have never completed their payments.

Relief Is Asked. Now, in the light of the Supreme Court's decision fixing the maximum price that can be charged for this land at \$2.50 an acre, these people want to be relieved of paying more than that figure for the property.

There are several hundred of these contract holders, most of them residents of the various counties in Oregon. None of them have received deeds for their tracts from the railroad company. A considerable number have paid for quarter sections at a price greatly in excess of \$2.50 per acre. In many instances these claimants have made total payments which would entitle them to a considerable refund from the company, the excess being the difference between \$2.50 an acre and the total sum actually paid under the contract for the land.

Quite a number of the contract holders have made partial payments on their contracts, and now claim the right to receive a refund of the amount of the balance figured on a basis of \$2.50 per acre.

Validity Is Recognized. One feature which distinguishes this new group of claimants from the others who have appeared is the fact that their contracts have always been recognized by the Oregon & California Railroad Company as valid. The record of the contracts was before the Supreme Court when it rendered its decision. Thus, it is claimed, no conflict can arise between the contract holders and the applicants for other lands within the grant.

If the Government should demand an accounting from the Oregon & California Railroad Company, in order to determine the amount of money received by the company in excess of \$2.50 per acre, the contract holders will ask that the excess should be turned over to them instead of to the United States Treasury.

This is on the theory that inasmuch as the Supreme Court has declared any amount above \$2.50 an acre to be invalid, the contract holders are not entitled to the excess charge. Such amounts, according to the contract holders, should be returned to them.

Prior to going to Washington to present the views of the new claimants, Mr. Neuhausen intends to visit the land grant counties and confer personally with the majority of the interested persons.

SAFETY FORUM FORMED

CHAMBER MEETING ATTENDED BY 200 REPRESENTATIVES.

Executive Committee of 17 Chosen From Commercial Body, Employers and Workers.

A safety forum, talked of in Portland for months, was organized Friday night by employers, employees and representatives of commercial and business organizations and universities to conduct a general safety-first campaign in Portland and cities tributary to Portland. The meeting which was held in the Chamber of Commerce was attended by about 200 persons interested in the work.

An executive committee of 17 was appointed. This comprises five representatives of the Chamber of Commerce and the Public Safety Commission, four employers, four employees of Portland concerns and four representatives of universities and schools, as follows:

Harry P. Coffin, chairman, and E. F. Boynton and J. P. Jaeger, representing the Public Safety Commission; Jacob Knauffer, representing the civic bureau of the Chamber of Commerce; George D. Lee, representing the manufacturers' bureau of the Chamber of Commerce; A. J. Labbe, Aaron Frank, D. A. Pattullo and Dr. F. A. Dammasch, employers; F. J. Connerly, Guy Phillips, John C. Martin and a woman not yet named, representing employees; C. V. Dymont, representing the faculty of the University of Oregon; C. R. Hoerber, representing the students of the University of Oregon, and two students yet to be named.

WAR STAND IS EXPLAINED

Mr. Lane Answers Resolutions of United Brethren Pastors.

In reply to the resolutions adopted by the Portland United Brethren-Evangelical Ministerial Association concerning preparedness for war, Senator Harry Lane this week says in a letter to Rev. C. C. Poling, president, that he opposes a large standing Army and will oppose expenditures for that purpose.

He favors a bill to enlist 500,000 to 1,000,000 men now idle from six to nine months, pay "rolling" wages and employ the men in building highways throughout the country, and at the same time training them in rudimentary military tactics two days each week.

EMINENT VIOLIN STAR IN REPEAT RECITAL

Miss Maud Powell to Be Heard in New Programme at Heilig Theater This Afternoon.



At the Heilig Theater this afternoon and under the direction of the Heilig management Miss Maud Powell, the distinguished violin virtuoso, will appear in another recital, this time of a popular nature.

When Miss Powell appeared in recital at the Heilig January 20, so large a crowd was in attendance to greet her that dozens of people were turned away from lack of seating accommodation. So this afternoon's recital will afford a suitable opportunity to hear again this sterling artist, and in an entirely new programme.

On this occasion, also, Miss Powell will be assisted by Arthur Loesser, one of the most talented of the younger pianists who has ever appeared in concert in this city.

This afternoon's programme: Sonata, "A Major" (Cesar Franck); violin and piano in four movements, allegro, ten moderato, allegro, recitativo fantasia, allegretto pi mosso; concerto, "A Major" (Mozart); cadenza by Grassini, in three movements, (1) allegro aperto, (2) adagio, (3) tempo di minuetto; "Valse Triste" (Debussy); "Jolly on the Shore" (Ferry Crangiers); request: "Spanish Dance" (Fernandez Arbon), tango, piano solo; "Clavotte" (Scambelli); "Bourree" (Chopin); "Polonaise in A Flat" (Chopin); "Hebré Katz" (Hubay).

FOLK AFAR INVITED

Festival Publicity to Center Beyond 50-Mile Radius.

TRAVEL STATISTICS CITED

Action Taken After Report Is Made by Chairman of Transportation Committee of 1916 Show. Posters Being Issued.

Publicity efforts of the 1916 Rose Festival will be directed toward attracting visitors from beyond a radius of 50 miles of Portland. This decision was reached as a result of a report received from W. C. Wilkes, chairman of the transportation committee of the 1916 festival and assistant general freight and passenger agent of the Spokane, Portland & Seattle Railway.

Figures on the travel to the 1915 show were compiled by the railroads serving Portland and forwarded to Mr. Wilkes. The report has been turned over to S. C. Bratton, chairman of the publicity committee.

"Reports show," writes Mr. Wilkes, "that we must go after the business beyond a 50-mile limit. While the heavy travel was within the 50-mile zone, there was one exception when the elegant showing of 81 per cent was recorded by the O.-W. R. & N. for the territory beyond the 100-mile zone."

The transportation and publicity departments of the festival are co-operating to exploit the festival far and wide, with close attention given to encouraging travel beyond the 50-mile radius.

The report of the railroad lines serving Portland on the travel to the festival last year is as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Distance, Number of Passengers, Percentage.

OFFICERS OF WOMAN'S AUXILIARY PORTLAND MOTORBOAT CLUB RECENTLY ELECTED.

Mrs. James S. Smith, Sec'y-Treas.

Mrs. Geo. L. Baker, President.

Mrs. Alex. G. Riddle, Vice-Pres.

At the first meeting of the Auxiliary to the Portland Motor Boat Club held on Friday in the home of Mrs. Alfred Ogilbee, Kingsbury Apartments, Mrs. George L. Baker was unanimously elected president. Mrs. Alex. G. Riddle was chosen vice-president and Mrs. James S. Smith, secretary-treasurer. Luncheon was served and cards enjoyed after the report. Honors were won by Mrs. Baker and Mrs. Walrath. The club members are anticipating a busy year of social activities. The next meeting will be with Mrs. George W. Kendall, on February 4.

RICH TAKE CHILDREN

Brother and Sister to Be Together in Banker's Home.

GIRL HAPPY IN NEW DRESS

Plight of Family About to Be Broken Up to Prevent Starvation Stirs Up Many and Offers Begin Early.

It makes no difference what their names are—call them Dorothy Smith and Robert Smith—but she's a 15-year-old girl who for eight years had kept house for her father and brother and studied night and day to be able to earn money for them all—and he's the 8-year-old lad, an invalid—from starvation. The three formed the family in destitute circumstances which the city department of public safety Friday announced must be broken up for the welfare of the children.

But Dorothy and Robert are to have some of the finer homes in Portland, with a mother to care for them, and a father, and all the advantages two children could ask for.

For the story of their plight in The Oregonian Saturday—of the fight to keep the family together, and of the hotel without a stove—went home to the hearts of Portland yesterday, and a new world opened itself to these youngsters.

Before daylight, even before Mrs. Lola G. Baldwin, head of the protective bureau, arose, telephone calls began to come.

"We have a home for one or both of those children."

This was the story all day long. There was almost a fight, as it were, over the children.

"We want the little girl," said the wife of banker on Hawthorne avenue.

"I'll take your name, but others have already spoken for her," replied the Public Safety Department.

"We'll take them both—keep them together as brother and sister," came the reply.

And in this banker's home they will probably be reared, although the father's consent must be had before the final decision Monday.

And homes were not all. Some sent clothing, including a little muff.

The Grade School Teachers' Association telephoned that a girl ambitious enough to attend night and day school in the hope of some time supporting a family was worthy of aid, and they gave \$10 for a new dress.

Mrs. Sampson, police matron, brought some material for other new clothing, and with a friend she worked in the jail upstairs almost all day. Dorothy was there and helped, and at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when she walked out of the station in her new middle blouse, which she herself had helped make, she was the happiest, prettiest little 15-year-old in all the world.

She just smiled all over in her radiating happiness, with two pretty dimples, sparkling eyes, and a frank, wholesome look.

It was too good to be true, she said, just like a fairy tale, for she had had so few pleasures in the eight years as housekeeper.

Six million miles or more on the Atlantic highway without shipwreck is the record of Howard Ernest Hinsley, purser of the American liner, leaving Honolulu, the age of 60, he gave notice, on the last trip of the vessel, of his determination to retire from the sea.

GIRLS! LOTS OF BEAUTIFUL HAIR

25c-Cent Bottle of "Danderine" Makes Hair Thick, Glossy and Wavy.

Removes All Dandruff, Stops Itching Scalp and Falling Hair.

Charles M. French, of Thiel Service, Spends Day in City.

On a trip of inspection of the Western offices, Charles M. French, of Chicago, president of the Thiel Detective Service Company, reached Portland yesterday and will leave for the Puget Sound cities tomorrow night. He is checking up the work of the local office in the Chamber of Commerce building. While here he is looking up a number of old friends who live in the city, among them being Chief of Police Clark.

President French came here direct from San Francisco, and he was much surprised to find so much snow. Throughout the length of the Sacramento Valley, he said, snow prevailed—a most unusual circumstance. Mr. French regards himself as a Portland pioneer, having been here in 1880, when the Thiel service opened an office here, which has been maintained ever since that date.

Jewish Relief Society to Meet.

The annual meeting of the Jewish Relief Society will be held today at 3 o'clock in the vestry rooms of the synagogue, at Sixth and Hall streets. The Jewish Relief Society is the only one of its kind that operates without the usual overhead expense. Officers are: D. Nemerovsky, president; Ben Selling and Sigmund Sichel, vice-presidents; Dr. N. Mosesoff, secretary, and A. Rosenstein, treasurer.

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SEE ALSO BACK PAGE, THIS SECTION Tomorrow--LAST DAY of Our White Sale and Sale Odds & Ends & Surplus Stock



Women's and Misses' Suits

No Comparative Values Given in This Sale—They're Too Astonishingly Great!

148 Suits at \$10.00 | 195 Suits at \$20.00

220 Suits at \$15.00 | 212 Suits at \$25.00

—Of course it would be impossible adequately to describe 775 suits—particularly these groups—as in many instances they're odds and ends from dozens of lines.

—Plain tailored and trimmed. Serges, poplins, corduroy, velvets, broadcloth and sport mixtures. Black, navy, brown, green, and scores of stylish mixtures and combinations of colors.

DRESSES COATS

\$12.50 to \$20 Models, Now \$7.85! | \$15.00 to \$19.50 Coats at \$10.00!

\$22.50 to \$30 Models, Now \$15.00! | \$20.00 to \$29.50 Coats at \$15.00!

—Dresses of all sorts—pretty silks, velvets, messalines, silk and cloth combinations for afternoon wear and practical serge dresses for business and street.

—This is a big "cleanup"—to make ready for the new Spring stocks that are commencing to arrive.

—The season's best styles. Big, roomy, comfortable garments for cold weather, lighter coats for the Spring season, and coats ideal for rainy weather.

Clearaway of WAISTS—Odds and Ends

At \$2.98 | At \$3.98 | At \$4.98 | At \$5.85 | At \$7.45

Were \$4.50 | Were \$5.50-\$6.00 | Were \$8.00-\$8.50 | Were \$10.50 to \$12.50 | Were \$12.50 to \$14.

—Several good styles, black crepe de chine, Georgette crepe lace and flesh-colored waists, some lace trim'd.

—Pretty models, made of chiffon taffeta, plaid silks, black and white effects, many beautifully lace trimmed.

—Georgette crepes, crepe de chine, lace and striped grenadines. Plain tailored or "dresy" blouses.

—Newest Georgette crepes and voiles. All white, blue, black and brown shades. Many models.

—Soft Georgette crepes and chic chiffons, mostly blues and blacks, for wear with street costumes.

—Fourth Floor, Central.

Final Cleanup of Undermuslins

—GOWNS in a variety of styles, materials and patterns—some of sheer nainsook, others of soft batiste, lingerie cloth or crepe, lace and ribbon trimmed.

—CORSET COVERS in many styles, lace and embroidery trimmed, some with sleeves.

—DRAWERS in knicker or wide-knee effect. Lace and embroidery trimmed, at \$2.98, 59c, 79c, 87c, 98c.

—WHITE SKIRTS in the pretty, new, fluffy models, popular for Spring.

—CREPE DE CHINE envelope chemise and camisoles, lace trimmed.

—\$1.47, \$1.59, \$1.95, \$2.29, \$2.98.

—COMBINATIONS of soft nainsook, daintily made and trimmed, \$1.59.

Corsets for 98c

—Odds and ends of splendid corsets. Nearly all styles and models included—but not all sizes of any one kind. A few Nemo corsets in discontinued models, or slightly soiled from display, included.

Jersey Silk Petticoats \$3.98

—Astonishing bargains in fine silk jersey underskirts. One lot made with full taffeta flounce—in almost all the popular colors—specially priced at \$3.98.

—Another lot of all taffeta petticoats, with fancy flounces, some fluted, others with small ruffles—special at \$3.98.

Messaline Petticoats \$1.98

—One lot of excellent messaline underskirts for quick let-go! Good quality silk, well made, with fancy flounce. Special at \$1.98.

—Third Floor, Sixth Street.

—"Keeping Up With Lizzie," by Irving Bacheller... \$1.00

Mr. Bacheller lectures about this book Tuesday at 8:15, Lincoln High School.

—Basement Balcony

Last Day White Sale of Misses' and Children's Needs

Mothers, if you have not seen the splendid bargains for the children offered on our Second Floor during the great White Sale, come in tomorrow. It's the last day, and savings are big!

Misses' \$1 Gowns, 79c

—Warm fleeced flannellette Gowns. Fancy pink and blue stripes. With or without collars. Yokes and fancy braids trimming. Sizes 6 to 14.

Infants' Coats

—White coats—both long and short. Crepe de chine, Bedford cord, serge and flannel—all reduced!

—Were \$4.50, \$5.50 to \$22.50. —Now \$2.25, \$2.75 to \$11.25.

White Coats

—White coats for infants and girls—broadcloth, tweed, serge, herringbone cheviot and novelties, sizes 2 to 14.

—Were \$5.00, \$10 to \$19.50. —Now \$2.50, \$ 5 to \$ 9.75.

—Second Floor, Sixth Street.

School Beautifying Committee meets at 4 P. M., Monday. Illustrated Talks on Art by Mrs. R. E. Rockwood and Mrs. Julia Marquam.

—Sixth Floor

Meier & Frank Co.

Established 1867 THE QUALITY STORE OF PORTLAND Fifth, Sixth, Morrison, Alder Sts.

Charge Purchases

Monday go on February accounts, payable March 1.

SEE ALSO BACK PAGE, THIS SECTION