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BORAH HOMESTEAD BILL UP TO HOUSE

Fate of Amended Measure Depends
on Activity of It's Friends in
West

Washington, April 28.—It is now up to the members of the House to bring about the final passage of the Borah bill, which directs the issuance of patents to homestead entrymen on Government irrigation projects as soon as they have complied with the requirements of the homestead law, regardless of whether or not they have paid all water charges assessed against their lands. This bill passed the Senate without opposition, after several amendments had been adopted at the suggestion of Secretary Fisher.

While it is not in as good shape as Senator Borah had hoped it would be, the bill will yet accomplish much good and will enable homesteaders to mortgage the property from five to seven years earlier than is possible under the present law.

As the bill passed the Senate, it provides: "From and after filing with the Commissioner of the General Land Office of satisfactory proof of residence, improvement and cultivation, as required by the laws relative to acquiring a homestead upon the public domain, patent shall be granted and issued to persons who have made or shall make homestead entries within reclamation projects under certain provisions of the act of June 17, 1902, the same as though said entry had been made under the general homestead act; provided, however, that no patent shall be issued unless at least one-half of the total irrigable area of the entry has been reclaimed for agricultural purposes, and all charges then due to the government for building, operation and maintenance, including drainage, have been paid; provided further, that the amounts so paid on account of building charges shall aggregate not less than 40 per cent of the total building charge."

The bill further provides that the act expressly reserves to the United States, a lien on the land and all appurtenances thereunto belonging, superior to all other claims against the land, and in case of default in the payment of any money due to the government, title to the land shall pass to the United States, free of all incumbrances, and subject only to the right of the defaulting debtor or any mortgagee, lien holder, or judgment debtor to redeem the land one year after default shall have been adjudged, upon the payment of all moneys due, with 4 per cent interest and costs.

Value of a Sire

The American Breeder prints on the front page of its March 20th issue a picture of two geldings, both foaled by the same mare that contains a lesson for men who expect to raise colts, whether only few or many. The smaller of the two geldings is five years old, the other four. The smaller gelding was sired by a nice little mongrel stallion, the larger one by a good average draft horse. They were sold at public auction on the same date in the Kansas City Horse Market, the smaller gelding bringing \$112, the larger one \$238. The breeder who raised them saved seven dollars in the service fee for the little gelding, but he made \$126 by using a better sire the next year. It would seem that the smaller horse should have brought a little more, but the market is apt to be crowded with small, inferior stuff, while the demand is always good for the larger and better ones.

The Right Of Proposal

By SARA L. WHITING

Charles and Edward Duffield were of opposite dispositions, Charles being one of those outspoken, generous fellows whom every one loves. He was older than his brother, who was selfish, polite and practical. When Charles had finished his education his father, who was a manufacturer on a large scale, offered his elder son an interest in his business. The offer was declined with the words: "Father, I would bring you to bankruptcy within two years. There is not a business hair in my head. I shall study art."

Mr. Duffield took his second son out of college, put him into his factory and advanced him rapidly. He wrote Charles, who was in Italy studying art, "Since you have decided to spend a dreamer's life perhaps you will be able to live on dreams." To this the son replied that he understood perfectly his father's life had been that of a business man and it was natural that he should look at things in a business light. He, Charles, was born with an artist's temperament and would be happy in his work.

Both Charles and Edward Duffield had been attentive to the same girl, Ethel Sanger was one to keep her own counsel. Up to a certain point neither brother had offered himself to her, though Edward had come very near it. But no one except the lady knew how the matter stood between the trio. Charles on going to Italy at the time he declined his father's proposition left Edward master of the field.

Edward made an excellent business man. He had a certain faculty that is valuable in business. He would as a buyer grind the seller and as a seller get the best price for his goods. Besides, he could figure expenses down to the lowest notch. He assumed first place under his father and worked so hard that he undermined his health. His doctor ordered him away, and he started on a trip around the world. He had been trying to induce Miss Sanger to engage herself to him for some time, but without success. Just before he started on his tour he made a last attempt and succeeded. Edward gave her to understand that if he could go abroad with the anticipation of claiming her as his bride he would have a better chance to regain his health. She considered it under the circumstances her duty to accept him.

While Edward was away his mother pined at the absence of both her sons at the same time and wrote Charles begging him to return to America. It was quite a backset to him in his profession to leave his studies at that time, but he listened to the call of duty and returned at once. He was received coldly by his father, who had not forgiven him for thwarting his wishes to take up a business career with a view to becoming his successor. Nevertheless, Charles was his favorite son, and no one doubted that he would inherit his share of his father's estate.

Charles had not been at home a month before Mr. Duffield, after an illness of a few days, died. When the will was opened it was discovered that all the property except the widow's share had been bequeathed to Edward.

The Duffield family seemed doomed to sudden and continued afflictions, for scarcely had the father died and the will read when a cablegram came from Japan announcing the death there of Edward. This put a different complexion on the inheritance. Charles would come in as his brother's heir and thus, after all, a doubly rich man.

Charles wrote Miss Sanger that since she would have inherited his brother's fortune instead of himself as Edward's heir had Edward live to return he proposed to make over Edward's inheritance under the law to her, adding that he (Charles) and his mother would have left sufficient for both. After the elapse of some days he received a note from the lady declining the offer. Surprised, he asked if she would accept half of Edward's share. This she also declined.

Charles was puzzled. He had loved the girl and loved her still, but she had accepted his brother, and he presumed she loved or had loved her brother. The idea entered Charles' mind that possibly after a sufficient period had elapsed to enable her to recover from her grief she might accept an estate that she should have inherited from Edward by marrying Charles. So he determined to wait awhile.

But the poorest man in the world to wait is one in love. One evening Charles called upon Miss Sanger with the intention of proposing his plan by which she might after all accept the fortune she should have had. Miss Sanger came into the room wearing the serious demeanor of one who had recently been bereaved. Nevertheless there seemed to be an underlying cause for pleasure. Duffield noticed that she held in her hand a long, fat envelope.

He entered upon his proposition humbly. The lady heard him through; then, instead of replying, she handed him the envelope, saying she had received it by mail from Japan that morning. It was a will drawn by his brother leaving all he possessed to her. Since the father had died ten days before the son, the property involved belonged to Ethel Sanger instead of Charles Duffield.

Duffield rose and was about to depart when she called him back and threw her arms around him. It was she who had the right of proposal, so far as fortune was concerned.

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