FIGURES ON LAND GRANTS

One Eighth of State's Area Controlled by Railroad and Wagon-Road Companies, According to Commissioner's Statistics.

(Salem Bureau of The Journal.)

Salem, Or., Aug. 22.—Oswald West, member of the railroad commission, has gathered figures and facts regarding the Oregon railroad and wagon road grants that will be of inestimable value to the state. The facts are now being used by Mr. West in a number of addresses he is making on behalf of the Willamette Valley Development league which will hold a congress at Marshfield next week. Mr. West concludes from the facts he has at hand that a graduated land tax should be imposed on the holders of these grants so that they may be opened for settlement. Until they are he maintains Oregon will continue to be undeveloped.

"About one-eighth of the area of the state has been given to corporations to aid in the construction of rail and wagon roads," said Mr. West.

"The grants are as follows:

	Acres.
Oregon & California and Oregon Central R. R.	4,500,000
Oregon Central Military Road company	800,000
Corvallis & Yaquina Bay Wagon Road company	50,000
Willamette Valley & Cascade Mountain Wagon Road company	850,000
Coos Bay Wagon Road company	115,000
The Dalles Military Road company	685,000
Total	7,000,000

"These figures are based upon the mileage of the several roads, but are not exact as some of the lands were lost to the companies on account of overlaps, adverse decisions, etc.," continued the commissioner.

"These grants have a total area of 11,000 square miles and would make a tract 100 miles square, which is as large or larger than any of the New England states and as large as Maryland and Delaware combined. It is equal to the combined area of Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook, Washington, Multnomah, Clackamas, Yamhill, Polk, Marion, Linn, Benton and Lincoln counties, or in other words as large as all that part of western Oregon lying north of Lane county and west of the summit of the Cascade mountains.

Settlers Not Encouraged.

"Perhaps one-half of the acreage included in these grants has been sold but the balance is still intact. The owners have never encouraged immigration with a view of placing settlers on their lands but on the contrary have withheld the lands from sale and have not only shifted the burden of the development of the country to the shoulders of the small settlers but have for years systematically dodged the payment of their just share of taxes.

"The largest of the grants is the Oregon & California railroad grant which parallels the Southern Pacific company's main line and is controlled by the Harriman interests. Let us see what this company has done in the matter of tax dodging.

"The Oregon & California Railroad company postponed the procuring of patents in order to escape taxation and during the 25 years following the date of the grant but few acres had been listed for taxation. During this time the total taxes paid by the company did not exceed $75,000. Since 1891 the assessors have gradually been getting these lands on their tax roll and now practically all are listed. The assessed valuation placed on them in past years was very low and the total amount of taxes paid down to and including 1907 does not exceed $1,000,000, an average during the past 40 years of about 10 cents an acre.

"In early years the corporations escaped taxation by not having patents for their land. Later on, when they procured patents, it led the assessors to believe that their interests were limited to $2.50 an acre as that was the selling price fixed by law. The result was that the lands were assessed at about 50 cents an acre and even down to 1902 the amount paid was a small item. Since 1902 many counties have had these lands cruised and they are now bearing something near their share of taxes. The 2,000,000 acres remaining unsold in 1907 were assessed for that year at about $15,000,000.

"Under the terms of the grants of 1866 and 1870 the two railroads were entitled to about 4,500,000 acres of land. On account of overlaps and other causes some of the grant was lost and patents have been secured to only 2,900,000 acres. But the Oregon & California Railroad company has applications on file for about 200,000, and is claiming about 1,000,000 acres more. No further patents will be issued however until the question as to the forfeiture of the grant has been settled.

"The Oregon & California Railroad company has sold over 800,000 acres of its lands and has realized near $4,500,000, over $5 an acre. The lands sold during the year ending June 30, 1907 brought an average of $37.98 an acre. If the balance of the land is sold at prices equal to its present assessed valuation the company will realize $25,000,000. The deduction of $5,000,000 for taxes, cruising, office and other expenses, would leave $20,000,000, or $5,000 per mile for the 400 miles of road for which the grant was made.

Wagon Road Grants.

"There are no figures available showing how much the wagon road companies have received from the state for the sale of their lands, or the number of acres remaining unsold.

"The Dalles military road grant extends from The Dalles southeast through Wasco, Sherman, Wheeler, Grant and Malheur counties.

"The Willamette valley and Cascade mountain military road grant extends from Albany east through Linn, Crook, Harney and Malheur counties.

"The Oregon central military road grant extends from Eugene south through Lane, Klamath, Lake, Harney and Malheur counties.

"The Coos Bay wagon road grant extends west from Roseburg through the heart of Douglas and Coos counties.

"The Corvallis and Yaquina Bay wagon road grant extends west from Corvallis through Benton and Lincoln counties.

"The construction of these roads was about the biggest graft ever worked in this or any other country. Circuitous routes were followed with a view of securing the most desirable lands. It is about [illegible] miles on a direct line from Eugene to [illegible] valley, but by way of the Oregon central military road it is [illegible] miles. Many of these roads for hundreds of miles were nothing but a wagon track through grazing or wild lands of eastern Oregon, and the only cost attached to their construction was the expense of the route for the purpose of filing maps in order to secure patents to the granted lands, and many miles followed roads constructed by settlers, yet the company claimed and secured patents for a distance of three miles on either side of the road.

"Many acres of the mountainous and worthless lands acquired under these grants were worked into forest reserves and became available as base for forest reserve scrip, and in that way sold for $5 and $6 an acre.

Graduated Land Tax.

"The way to break up these large holdings is by taxation. The constitution should be amended so as to permit the levying of a graduated land tax on unimproved values, as they do in New Zealand. In New Zealand every land owner, large and small, pays an ordinary land tax of about 4 mills upon unimproved values, but holdings, the value of which amount to $25,000, are taxed an additional ¼ of a mill and this is gradually increased until it reaches 12 mills—the rate on estates valued at $1,000,000 and over.

"Non-resident owners pay an additional tax of 50 per cent of the amount of the graduated tax. In other words, the large land owner pays four or five times as much per acre as the small land owner does. An acre of wild land is assessed just the same as an adjoining acre of highly improved land. The result is that it becomes unprofitable to hold these large tracts of land and they are put upon the market and sold in small tracts."

WINSTON CHURCHILL'S TALK.

Winston Churchill, President of the London Board of Trade, Who in an Address Before the International Free Trade Congress in London, declared that Great Britain remained prosperous and powerful although she had pursued the free trade policy. During his speech Mr. Churchill was frequently interrupted by a party of suffragettes, and had finally to be ejected by the police.

OREGON BENEFITS BY MOORE'S BILL

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Astoria, Or., Aug. 22.—Acting Secretary W. L. Moore of the department of agriculture has written Senator Fulton that as a result of his bill, passed by congress, the agricultural appropriation has been increased from 10 to 25 per cent, that the total amount due the fifteen districts for school and road purposes amounts to $129,254.07.

Twenty-five per cent of this amount, $32,313.52, will come to Oregon. In concluding his letter Acting Secretary Moore says: "It is with great pleasure that I am able to notify you of this direct contribution of the national forests to the counties in which they lie."

PROPOSES ANGLICAN AND ROMAN REUNION

(United Press Leased Wire.)

Milwaukee, Wis., Aug. 22.—Considerable interest is being manifested by church people here today over the publicity given letters exchanged between Rev. F. H. Fairbanks, pastor of St. Patrick's church of this city, and Lord Halifax of Doncaster, England, in which the English lord strongly favors a union of the Anglican and Catholic churches. Lord Halifax is president of the English Church union, which is organized for the purpose of uniting Christendom.

Mail-Carriers, Attention.

Before ordering your uniform see Chas. Cooper & Son, tailors, 309 Oak street.

LOST TWO DAYS IN SAGEBRUSH

San Diego Tourists Reach Ogden Ill From Hunger and Exposure.

(United Press Leased Wire.)

Ogden, Utah, Aug. 22.—Ill from hunger and exposure, Mr. and Mrs. George Pierce of San Diego arrived here in an automobile today after having been lost for two days and nights in the desert near Lucin, 50 miles from here. They were on their way from San Diego to New York in the car. When they lost their way they had no food supplies. When Pierce realized he was lost he tried to keep the truth from his wife, but she soon became aware of their plight. They became confused by the sagebrush and got clear away from the road. Pierce said that after traveling for several hours in the rain he came upon tracks of his own car and realized that he was making no headway. The first night they remained in the car and tried to continue their trip. Last night, however, they were so weak from lack of food and from exhaustion that they were compelled to take advantage of the shelter of a dry ditch, where they slept for a few hours. Early this morning by a lucky chance they came upon the road and soon reached this city.

Mrs. Pierce is under the care of a physician at her hotel and Pierce is scarcely able to stand. They declare, however, that they will continue the journey.

Lightning Destroys Barn.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

North Powder, Or., Aug. 22.—The comparatively new barn on the Miller ranch northwest of town, valued at $800, was struck by lightning during the electric storm last night and destroyed, with six tons of hay belonging to S. Simons. In order to save the dwelling, Mr. Simons and family had to keep throwing water on it until relieved by the downfall of rain which followed. There was no insurance.

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DUNLAP & CO.

REG. U.S. PAT. OFFICE

FALL STYLES
In Men's Hats

With above Celebrated Hall Mark of Fashion, Quality and Distinction
WILL BE ISSUED
Thursday, August 27

Robinson & Co.
CAMBRIDGE
CORRECT CLOTHES

289 AND 291 WASHINGTON ST.
PERKINS HOTEL

Butterick Patterns for September—New Fall Styles—Butterick Fashion Book for Autumn 1908

Lipman, Wolfe & Co.

Smart Outer Garments for Autumn

Hundreds of Tailor-Made Suits for autumn are now displayed, in conservative new styles as well as extreme novelties. The beautiful new colors are shown in all their varied beauty — catawba, smoke, olive, amethyst, wistaria, electric, sage and verd. The most novel suits have the long, clinging lines of the Directoire period, with broad revers and other characteristic touches. We call special attention to a full showing of the exquisite Tailored Suits of PELLARD of New York and Paris. In these suits are seen the novel ideas of the leading dressmakers of Paris. The colors are exclusive— the styles are entirely different from the lower-priced suits. We show PELLARD SUITS at **$50** to **$200**.

Lipman-Wolfe attire for autumn has, as usual, an intangible touch of authoritativeness in every line and curve. Every day we are adding beautiful creations to our superb showing of Tailored Suits and Coats, revealing the highest perfection of art in the evolution of exquisite fall apparel.

Advance Showing Imp. Pattern Hats

Monday we will show for the first time the exquisite novelties from Paris and London. You will find in the display many ideas for your fall hat.

Autumn Millinery at $3.95, $4.95, $5.95

At these popular prices we can supply you with all the latest light-weight hats for immediate and early fall wear—new shapes, new colorings, etc. Also a wide selection of new hats at from **$5.00** to **$50.00**.

Regular $1.75-$2 Nadia Corsets 98c

Monday we offer an extraordinary opening-of-season sale of our famous Nadia and W. B. Corsets, in new models, made of fine coutil, with hose supporters, medium or high bust, princess hip or short hip. Regular $1.75-$2.00 values....... **98c**

2-Clasp Silk Gloves 39c

These are regular 75c Kayser and Fownes two-clasp Silk Gloves, double-tipped fingers, in black and white, all sizes. Regular 75c grade, only **39c**

Kayser and Fownes two-clasp Silk Gloves, double-tipped fingers, in black and white, all sizes, reg. $1 and $1.25 grade. Monday sale...... **59c**

~~$5~~ Coat Sweaters $2.39

About 150 Women's Sweaters are left of a recent big lot of 1,200, in new styles, just received from New York. Mannish coat style, with pockets, in white, red, gray and navy. Some have knitted bands in contrasting colors **$2.39**

Complete Gas Lights 75c Vals. 38c

Complete Gas Lights, 175 candle-power, imported Jena globe, extra strong weave cap mantle, equipped with latest improved burner, patented and highly adjusted regulator. Will fit any fixture. Every light guaranteed. Regular 75c values **38c**

25c Mantles Now 10c Ea.

Extra Strong Double-Weave Gas Mantles, best quality linen fiber. Produce a brilliant white light. Mantles of exceptional quality that sell regularly for 20c, 25c and 35c. Slightly discolored, but good as new. Regular 20c, 25c and 35c values. Special **10c**

25c Gas Torches **12c**

25c Imported Jena Gas Globes.. **18c**

Wash Suits and Dresses Values to $25 for $4.85

A few fine Tailormade Wash Suits of khaki, rep and linen; also Lingerie Dresses of white mull. Only a few odd sizes. Values to $25.00 for **$4.85**

Embroidered Collars Reg. 19c-25c Vals. 12½c

Embroidered Linen Collars, all sizes, in pure white, regular 19c and 25c quality. One thousand dozen are ready Monday. Greatest values of the year, at **12½c**

Plain and Fancy Ribbons Values to 35c Yard at 19c

Four-inch Dresden Ribbons and five-inch Plain Taffetas, all the wanted shades in plain colors, newest floral effects and plaids. Regular values to 35c the yard for **19c**

Sheets and Pillow Cases

Extra good quality Sheets, ready for use, size 81x90 inches. Special at **69c**

45x38½-inch Pillow Cases, made of good quality cotton. On special sale at **16c**

Scarfs and Squares at 25c

Union Linen Scarfs and Squares, hemstitched and drawnwork, sizes 18x50 inches and 30x30 inches. Regular 50c values **25c**

500 New Fall Lingerie Waists Regular Values up to $6 for $1.68

These 500 Lingerie Waists are a sample line of new fall models, many with the new style long sleeves. They were bought in New York at a very low price by our Mr. Levinson. The styles are varied and extremely beautiful. Some have embroidered panels, others yokes of Baby Irish lace. One lot has yoke entirely of fine pin tucking, as well as cuffs, collar and back. They are all waists that sell regularly from $3.00 to $6.00. On sale Monday at 8 o'clock for only **$1.68**

75c Underwear 57c

Women's Medium-Weight Vests and Pants, high neck, long sleeves, ankle length, white or gray. Regular 75c values at **57c**

75c Gingham Aprons 49c

Women's Gingham Aprons, made of extra quality gingham, wide shoulder straps, pocket, deep ruffle, 59 inches long, full width. Never sold for less than 75c. Sale price **49c**

Lace Curtains

500 pairs Lace Curtains, in Renaissance, Cluny, Marie Antoinette, Irish Point and Battenburg. Lace Curtains made of best quality imported bobbinet, white or Arabian color, 2½ and 3 yards long.

$4.50-$4.00 Lace Curtains.... **$3.19**

$6.50-$6.00 Lace Curtains.... **$4.79**

$8.00-$7.50 Lace Curtains.... **$5.89**

Black Lisle Stockings Reg. 50c Values 35c

Women's Fine Black Lisle Hosiery, **Onyx** dye, spliced heels and soles, garter **tops**. Regular 50c value at 3 pairs for **$1.00**—each pair **35c**

Hair Mattresses $25 Values at $16.85

Fine quality 35-pound **Hair Mattresses, best hair and ticking, a mattress sold everywhere at $25.00. Wonderful Monday value at only** **$16.85**