

CHAMBER LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN TO AMEND O.-C. LAND GRANT ACT

Sinnott Amendment, Designed
to Have Reclamation Al-
lotment Spent Here, Urged

"LETTER DAY" PROPOSED

Every Organization of State to Be
Urged to Line Up Behind Bill and
Present Facts to Congress.

Campaign for a state-wide appeal to congress for support of the Sinnott amendment to the O. & C. land grant bill has just been launched by the Chamber of Commerce. Letters are now being sent out to every commercial organization, state society and newspaper in the state and to congress and the Oregon development bureau, asking that they join in urging the principle that Oregon's resources belong to Oregon.

These interests are asked to communicate to the congressmen of their old home states to support the amendment, which provides that the 40 per cent of proceeds of sales of the grant lands, heretofore assigned to the general reclamation fund, be expended upon Oregon reclamation projects. The Oregon development bureau of the chamber is promulgating the following statement, containing arguments in favor of the Sinnott amendment:

Urges State to Unite.
The Portland Chamber of Commerce is asking the people of Oregon to unite in one gigantic campaign to secure to Oregon her just share of the money derived from the sale of the Oregon-California land grant.

Congressman N. J. Sinnott has introduced a bill which provides that the 40 per cent of the revenue assigned to the reclamation service shall be expended by that service for the reclamation of Oregon lands. This is known as H. R. No. 16,597.

Monday, July 31, has been fixed as the day for mailing letters. The letters should be directed to any member of congress with whom any Oregonian is acquainted. If Oregonians do not know congressmen, it is probable that the residents of this state can reach members of the senate and house through getting in contact with influential people in the states where they originally resided.

To all Oregonians who have given the matter any thought it is apparent that the members of congress from the eastern and southern states carry their votes on the Chamberlain-Ferris bill without giving the State of Oregon that consideration which is rightfully to be expected from legislators of the United States.

The Chamberlain-Ferris bill provides the means for the disposal of the Oregon-California railroad grant lands and the division of the funds to be secured therefrom to be made to the manner of appraisal and settlement of the lands, and we are awaiting the division of the funds as provided in the bill, which was: 25 per cent to the school fund of Oregon, 25 per cent to the state treasury, in which the lands are situated, 40 per cent to the general reclamation fund and 10 per cent to the federal treasury. The objection does come, however, from all sections of the state as to the plan following the reclamation bureau to expend the money represented by the 40 per cent division wherever its officers may decide.

Oregon Resources for Oregon.
The contention is made that the 40 per cent referred to, whatever the general sum may be, should be spent for the reclamation of Oregon desert lands which can never be brought under settlement until irrigation plants are constructed and water carried to them. Oregon lands are just as deserving of attention from the reclamation service as are lands of Wyoming, Montana, Colorado, New Mexico or Arizona, and the fund being taken from the sources of Oregon, it would appear that Oregon desert lands should in all fairness be given the preference in the construction of reclamation works.

In support of the Sinnott bill, the Portland Chamber of Commerce has sent copies thereof with explanatory letters to all of the state societies represented in Portland, to all the commercial clubs and chambers of commerce of the state, and to every newspaper. Each is asked to make an urgent request of every resident of Oregon request it can reach to begin writing a series of letters to members of congress with whom they may be acquainted, particularly those from the eastern and southern states, and to persons with whom they have an acquaintance residing in such states. In these letters the request will be made that they ask their representatives and senators to do justice to Oregon in this matter and support the Sinnott bill.

Figures Are Cited.
For the benefit of those writing letters, the following figures have been tabulated and it is considered advisable to quote:

The taxed lands of all kinds in the state of Oregon amount to 35,031,276 acres.
The non-taxed lands in the state of Oregon amount to 2,357,204 acres. These include Indian reservations, national parks and monuments, national forests, military reserves, power sites, reservoir sites, coal reserves, unappropriated government lands, lands held on but not patented, state lands, and the Oregon-California land grant.

There are in the state, largely in the southern, central and eastern tiers of counties, 32 projects for reclamation of desert lands. These cover 1,198,699 acres, and the total amount of money which will be needed to complete them is \$5,644,000. It is not expected that such a sum of money can be realized through the 40 per cent of the sale price of the grant lands which is devoted to the reclamation work, but whatever the sum may be, it will serve a valuable purpose in preparing these lands for the occupation of settlers. If all of the lands could be reclaimed they would furnish homes for over 15,000 families and increase materially the tax valuation of the state. It is probable that over 2,000,000 acres of such desert lands can be ultimately reclaimed and turned into prosperous farms in this state.

Ten Million Contributed.
Oregon has already contributed \$10,717,000 to the reclamation funds of the United States, most of this money being used in the construction of projects in other states. Only \$3,761,000 have been expended by the reclamation service within the state of Oregon.

From the foregoing figures it is evident that Oregon has the best claim on all the revenue to be derived from the grant lands which lie within this state, and earnestly urge every citizen of the state to begin an aggressive campaign for writing of these letters to senators and representatives and friends throughout the east and south," said C. C. Colt, retiring president of the Portland Chamber of Commerce. "The only chance the Sinnott bill adopted will be through a vigorous campaign, and every citizen must do everything in his power to have it backed up. I believe that eastern senators and congressmen will do the right thing by Oregon when they understand the situation."

It is suggested that Oregon people write the eastern newspaper, dailies and weeklies, published in their old home states, and by every means that occur to them, arouse the adoption of the Sinnott bill, which should always be referred to by number—H. R. 16,597.

LETTER COMES LIKE A MESSAGE FROM DEAD



Neil McPhail

STORY OF TERRIFIC BATTLE IS RELATED BY TRENCH FIGHTER

Roar of Big Guns and Lighter
Artillery Almost Deafening
and the Earth Trembled.

A first hand description of fighting on the British battle front in France comes to Portland this week as a message from the dead. The letter tells of the most sanguinary trench attacks and counter attacks in the vicinity of Ypres, in which the losses to both the British troops and the Germans were almost unbelievable.

In a single attack fully 50 per cent of the Canadian battalions were wiped out by machine gun fire and the German losses were described as being much heavier than the British.

Writer Reported Killed.
The letter was from Private Neil McPhail, Fourteenth Canadians, Third brigade, First division, who was reported killed in a later engagement early this week, and was addressed to his sister in this city. It bore date of June 20 and was written from a rest station in the rear of the first lines.

While the great offensive drive of the British and French troops has been generally reported to have begun on July 1, this report of heavy fighting about the middle of the previous month would seem to indicate determined attacks in preparation for the big offensive stroke. The letter follows:

Boots On Eight Days and Nights.

"Somewhere in France, June 20—Dear Sister: Just a line to let you know I am well. We came down to a rest camp this morning and to tell you the truth I am not sorry. I have not had my boots off for eight days and nights. The trenches were something terrible, waist deep with mud and water. It rained for five days straight and during that time we had four attacks. We lost many men at Hill No. 60 at Ypres. Lost very close to half the battalion and had to take to cover. They had the big guns and the machine guns turned on us on the whole front, but a charge had to be made. We lost two trenches, but the following night we made a counter attack, took our own trenches back and 10 of the Germans, with 1000 prisoners.

German Loss Heavy.
"Their loss was much heavier than ours was the previous night. We gave them their own medicine right back. We had all the big guns turned upon them while we took the trenches. Our loss was very light.

"It was something terrible and beyond description. For 24 hours the roaring of the cannon and heavy artillery was frightful and kept the sky a solid mass of fire. It was almost impossible at times to stand on your feet, the earth trembled so much on account of all the explosives.

Ypres Is a Total Wreck.
"I can not explain half to you. The city of Ypres is a total wreck. It was considered one of the busiest cities in Europe at one time. There is not now a living person in the city except the troops.

"It is only a chance whether this will reach you, but if it gets through you will know I am still alive.

Your brother,
"NEIL MCPHAIL."
Some time within the week following the writing of this letter the writer was killed in what is presumed to have been a continuation of the same action.

Mr. McPhail joined the Canadian Volunteers at Edmonton, Alta., about a year ago. He was a brother of Mrs. Charles P. Howard of this city and was known to many here, having visited Portland previous to joining the army.

New Organization to Assist Militiamen
Parents and Relatives of Members of Machine Gun Company to Meet This Afternoon.

There will be a meeting of the parents and relatives of members of the machine gun company, Third Oregon, O. N. G., at the Imperial hotel at 1 p. m. today. An organization devoted to the interests of the men of the company will be formed.

Gold Brings Reduction.

Berlin, July 15.—(U. N. S.)—The German racing clubs and the managers of the race tracks have hit upon a new plan to collect gold for the Reichsbank. In a statement just issued they announce that all purchasers of tickets who pay with gold will receive a reduction of 50 to 75 per cent. It is expected that this will bring out many of the 10 and 20 marks gold pieces which are still stored away by the wealthier classes, in spite of the order that all gold in private possession must be turned over to the government.

COMMON SENSE PRINCIPLES SHOULD APPLY IN COURTS AND GOLDEN RULE OUGHT TO BE LEGAL BEACON LIGHT, ASSERTS WANAMAKER

Courts Belong to People and Not to Judges, Says Eminent Critic; He Advises Jurists to Get in Closer Touch With Masses; Technical Rulings Are Scored.

PERTINENT REMARKS BY JUDGE WANAMAKER

The courts belong to the people, and not to the judges. Judges should go home and get in touch with the people every five months.

Know where your candidate stands. Don't vote for the fellow who straddles the fence.

The Golden Rule should be applied in our courts, and common-sense principles alone should prevail.

The law's delay complained of is not the law's delay, but the judges' delay.

The lawyers who make money are not those who go into the courts, but those who advise others on how to stay out.

The judge who permits delays should be impeached and driven from the bench.

Too many judges permit the lawyers to run their courts. Most judges are like umpires in baseball games.

Had Rip Van Winkle been a lawyer and slept 50 years, he would have felt perfectly at home upon awakening, so little has the law changed.

Oregon has the greatest political laboratory in the world. Some state must take the initiative, and Oregon has.

The sooner members of the bench who overrule the Golden Rule and fail to apply common sense principles in their decisions are out of office the better off the country will be, according to Judge R. M. Wanamaker, of the Ohio supreme court, speaking to nearly 3000 people at the Chautauqua at Gladstone Friday afternoon.

Judge Wanamaker explained in detail the workings of the present judicial system and then proceeded to criticize the judges whom he referred to as being out of tune with the people.

Would Send Them Home.

"If I had my way," said Judge Wanamaker, "I would send judges home every five months at least. The law's delay is not the law's delay, but the judges' delay. The lawyers who make money are not those who go into the courts, but those who advise others on how to stay out. The judge who permits delays should be impeached and driven from the bench. Too many judges permit the lawyers to run their courts. Most judges are like umpires in baseball games. Had Rip Van Winkle been a lawyer and slept 50 years, he would have felt perfectly at home upon awakening, so little has the law changed. Oregon has the greatest political laboratory in the world. Some state must take the initiative, and Oregon has.

"My subject is, 'The People and the Courts.' It should be, 'The People and Their Courts.' The courts belong to the people and it is about their courts of which I am talking.

"The only way the courts can be controlled by the people is by their votes. The people should not even then as they fail to exercise their rights.

"If I had my way I would make Americanship worth while. I would make it possible for the American to have a better life than the Roman or king."

"The people run the government. It is their government and not the government of those in office. When the constitution was drafted it began with these words, 'We the people,' so you see it was always intended in this country that the people should run the government. They have it in their power to control the government. Their power is delegated to their representatives who in turn should follow the dictates of the people.

Criticism Good Thing.

"A reasonable amount of criticism is good for a judge. It makes him remember that he is only a public servant. Some forget that they are servants. Others remember it only until elected.

"Lincoln said, 'The leading object of government is to elevate men.' Government by the people does that. They are only one way to govern and that is to put out of office the man who fails to follow the wishes of the people. I believe in the recall of judges.

"You've heard a lot about the 'invisible government' in the last year. Many people doubted that there was any such thing as 'invisible government.' It was at the constitutional convention held in Albany, N. Y., last year that Root referred to the 'invisible government.' Many people had thought that the government was conducted at Albany. They learned that it was conducted from Wall street.

"If the 'invisible government' controls the legislature then it controls the judges. The legislature makes the laws and the judge either interprets them or invalidates them.

In Middle of Road.

"Why vote for a man for the legislature or for the bench unless you know where he stands. Some try to stand in the middle of the road—at least they say they are in the middle of the road. As a matter of fact they are not there at all, but are trying to straddle the fence. You can't take a chance on the lukewarm fellow—the fellow who straddles the fence.

"There are only two kinds of eggs, good ones and bad ones. Did you ever hear of a housewife breaking a spoiled egg into a frying pan of good ones? The candidates should be watched like the eggs are watched. Never take a chance on the doubtful fellow when you are at the polls."

"Certainly there is something wrong with our courts," he continued. "God Almighty made the first court and it has survived the ages. It is open 24 hours a day and 365 days a year. It is the court of conscience, the court which brings a judgment of shame upon you when you violate some law of God. There are no delays in this court. It is always working. It is infallible, the most infallible court I know of. The only rule of this court is the Golden Rule. 'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.'"

"If we would strengthen the weakness of judiciary we should go back to the rule of God's court. The rule should be applied along with a little common sense.

Judge's Delay Scored.

"The law's delay is the thing most complained of. The law's delay is a misnomer. It is not the law's delay but it is the judge's delay. Seven years in the trial courts and three years on the supreme bench have convinced me that the delay complained of is the judge's delay. Our longest was three days. We confined the evidence to the issue and stuck to the facts. More regard is needed for the natural justice than for the technicalities.

"Many cases should never be tried. Most of them can be settled in a few minutes without action being brought. The lawyers who make money are not those who go into the courts but are those who advise others on how to keep out of court.

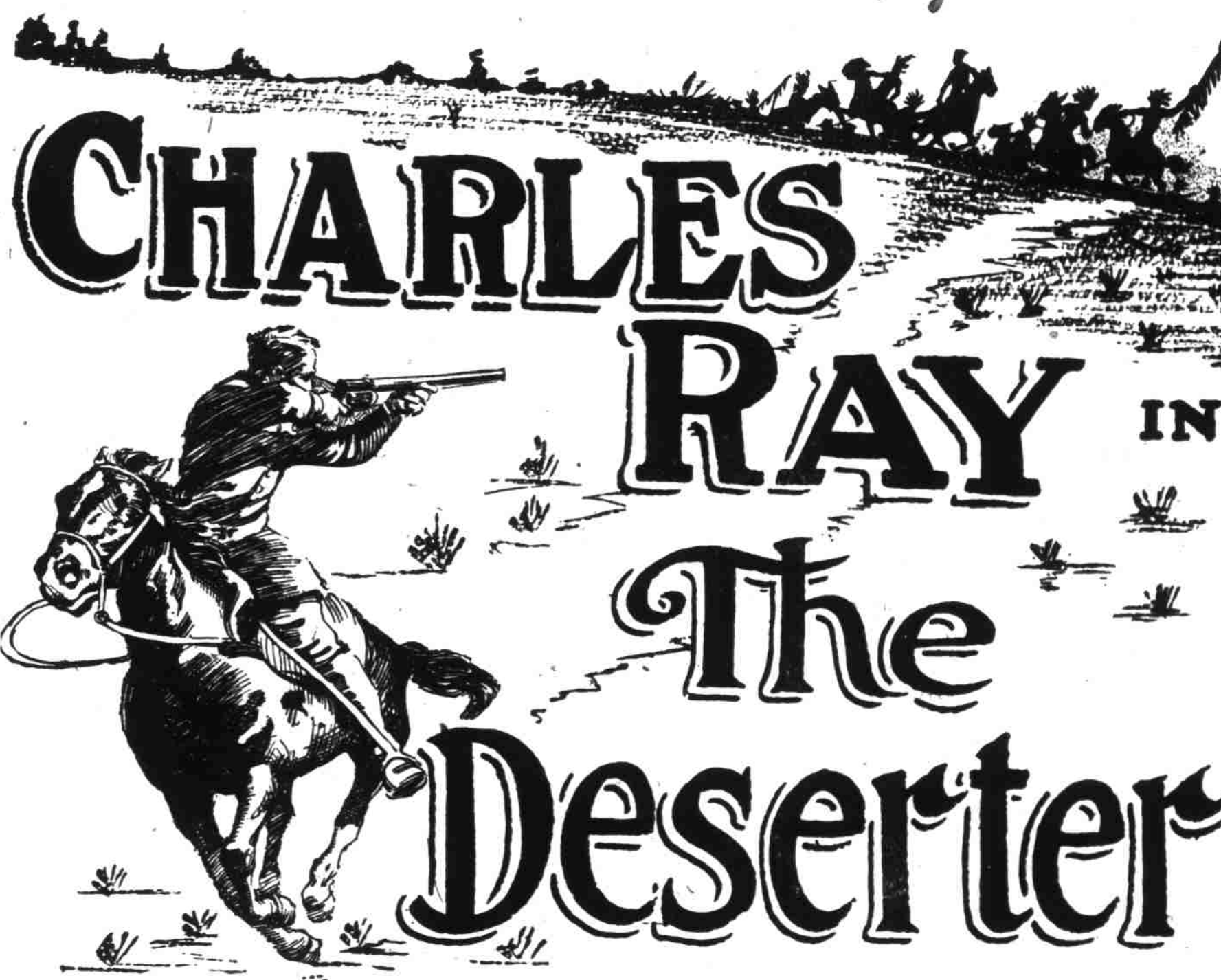
"For delays and extravagance of our courts, look at the now famous Orpet case. I am told it cost the state \$40,000 to get a jury to try Orpet. It took three weeks to get a jury which should have been selected within a few minutes. Endless and

COLUMBIA

The Theatre Beautiful—Sixth at Washington



Plays with a purpose—Pictures with a punch—Not a disappointing action in the entire 10,000 feet of photoplay WITHOUT QUESTION THE BIGGEST FEATURE OF THE WEEK



A motion picture star in a real motion picture drama—a super-feature that for sheer strength of story, splendid staging, dramatic action and sweeping effect is unparalleled

Keystone--Laughter

"His First False Step"

The memory of this comedy will keep you merry a long time—"Chet Conklin" plays lead

CATALONIA

A travel picture, showing some ports in this Spanish Province—You can afford this interesting and beautiful trip

South American Excursion Is Urged

Leading Business Men of Portland
Asked to Join in Trip as a Return
Compliment.

Efforts are being made to recruit a committee of Pacific coast business men to visit the ports of the east coast of South America to return the call of a group of business men from that part of the world. James A. Farrell, president of the United States Steel corporation, is chairman of the general committee of the United States and he has telegraphed John Clausen, manager of the foreign department of the Crocker National bank of San Francisco, asking that he organize the coast committee.

George E. Hardy, executive secretary of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, said yesterday that any Portland business man who desired to make the trip would be accredited from this chamber. He will be required, however, to defray his own expenses.

At present, about the only commodity from the Pacific coast that can be successfully exported through the Panama canal to the east coast of South America is lumber. However, as the trip being arranged by Mr. Farrell is one of encouragement in general trade, it may be that the people of the southern republics may be brought to look to this section for more goods of various kinds.

Bombarding at Verdun.

Paris, July 15.—(U. P.)—Violent reciprocal bombardment on the Fleury sector northeast of Verdun was reported in tonight's official statement from the war office.