

RANGE AT PROEBSTEL BETTER THAN LINNTON FOR U. S. ARMY'S USE

Cupidity of Landowners Is
Cause of Failure of U. S.
to Establish Range There.

PRICES PLACED TOO HIGH

Startling Discrepancies Between As-
sessed, and Asked Valuations
Leads to But One Conclusion.

By Fred Lockley.
Vancouver, Wash., March 1.—"Why was the range at Linnton selected in preference to the one at Proebstel?" inquired a well known citizen of Vancouver recently. I was unable to answer his question, so I started to do a little investigating. If the war department is to maintain Vancouver barracks at its full efficiency—and I have a letter from the adjutant general in which he says this is to be done—then it goes without saying that a good rifle range and artillery range should be secured for the use of the troops. In the course of my investigation I fell into talk with a group of men, several of whom had served in the army.

One of the number had given the selection of the target range considerable thought and I said to him, "If you were buying the target range strictly on its merits which would you buy?"

Proebstel Range Favored.
"I would buy the range at Proebstel," he responded, "and I will tell you why. If you will look up the reports of the officers who, at various times have investigated the merits of the sites offered you will find that almost without exception they have favored Proebstel. The reason is obvious. At Proebstel the government will secure three times the amount of land for the money that it will require to purchase the site near Linnton. Not only this, but the range at Proebstel makes an ideal artillery range, while the range at Linnton can only be used as a rifle range. It will require a large expense to grade the land at Linnton while the range at Proebstel requires comparatively little earth to be moved.

When told that the determining cause of the selection of the Linnton range was its accessibility, the speaker said: "The range at Proebstel is six miles from the end of the car line. To my mind this is no serious objection. The troops are constantly being taken on practice marches to keep them hard and in good condition and a six mile hike to the target range is no serious objection. One of the objections offered to the Proebstel range is that after walking six miles the soldiers will not be in as good condition for making records as if they were able to land from the cars directly at the range. Well, all I have to say to that is that the object of the practice shooting is to enable the troops to be able to give a good account of themselves against an enemy. The probability is that the enemy may care to arrange to be at the end of the car line to be shot at. In fact, they may have to march a good bit more than six miles to get to shoot at enemy troops.

Pressure Is Hinted.
"Do you suppose any pressure has been brought to bear?" inquired another member of the group.
"What kind of pressure and how could it be brought to bear?" I asked. Several of the group laughed and the first speaker said: "I will answer your question by asking you to investigate the purchase of the site for Fort D. A. Russell in Wyoming. Senator Warren of Wyoming was chairman of the committee on military affairs in the senate. He wanted a military post for Wyoming and in-

centially he had, I am told, a sheep range that he thought would just meet the needs of the government for a military establishment. How to get any influential army officers to recommend the site or which he wanted to dispose of to the government was the problem.

The Plot Unfolds.
"It so happened that the military increase of pay act came up shortly before congress. This act provided for the increase of pay to army officers and the army officers were naturally greatly interested in its passage. There was no coarse work done, of course, but it developed that Senator Warren was not at all sure of the advisability of passing this measure. Incidentally some of his Wyoming friends gave out the information that if the army officers got behind the demand to have a military post established in Wyoming Senator Warren might increase the rate of pay and further study and decide that it was meritorious.

Records Show Support.
"Go and look up the records and see what a large number of influential army officers wrote their opinion that the proposed site of Fort D. A. Russell would make an ideal army post. Some thought the high and dry climate would be good for cavalry horses. Others thought the salubrious air would be of great benefit to the men. Practically all of the officers who made any report were in love with the ideal climate.

Weather Changed Soon.
"The men were in their shirt sleeves and I noticed they were making all kinds of fun of one of the troopers who had his overcoat back of his saddle. They came back from the ride in a driving snow storm nearly frozen with the exception of the solitary trooper who had taken his overcoat along. He was wearing it and looking quite serene and contented."

"At both sites the government, on some of the land, is being asked an excessive price," said one of the men. "Look up the assessed valuation of the land at Linnton, then look up the estimated cost of grading. Then look up the history of the Proebstel range.

Prices Much Too High.
"You will find a few short-sighted land owners optioned their land at a fair price and then when the short time option expired and they learned the government wanted it they could not resist showing their cupidity and raising the price of their holdings. When it was seen that the government did not have to be held up they took new options at, in many cases, greatly reduced figure. Take the case of the 120 acres owned by R. H. Powers near Proebstel. His land is assessed at \$600. He is asking the government \$6000, just 10 times its assessed valuation. It is evident that either he is deceiving the assessor as to the real value of his land or he is trying to hold the government up for an excessive price.

Jensen Tract Interesting.
"Take the Rasmus Jensen tract of 18 acres. This is assessed at \$180. Yet he sets a price of \$1800 to the government, just 10 times its assessed value. Look up some of the other tracts and you will find the same thing is true. Though possibly you will not find such an excessive overvaluation. You can't blame the government for becoming disgusted. Pierce county is giving 70,000 acres free to the government at American Lake. Vancouver and Clark county should have seen to it that the water at least was squeezed out of these fictitious valuations. If there was no other way doing it might have been well to let the assessor set this land at the values set upon it to the government by the land owners."

Partial List Given.
Several civilians have the list of tracts offered at Proebstel and as I was unable to secure any information from the officers or soldiers at Vancouver barracks relative to the matter Fort D. A. Russell in Wyoming was chairman of the committee on military affairs in the senate. He wanted a military post for Wyoming and in-

FARMERS ARE BUYING Made-to-Order Suits

WELL KNOWN LOCAL TAILOR GETS
3 MORE ORDERS YESTERDAY

"It is gratifying to note that a good example of the prosperity of this section of the country is evidenced by the number of farmers that come into my establishment for made-to-order clothes," said Ray Barkhurst, Portland's leading merchant tailor, to the writer of this article. "It seems to me to be the forerunner of 'big business' in the tailoring line—for when the farmer begins to appreciate the value of made-to-order clothes it will be but a short while before all other men will 'come and do likewise'—and, believe me, they are certainly doing it in this establishment. I am now making clothes to order for men in every walk of life—because all men are beginning to recognize the value, both socially and commercially, of being well dressed—in fact, a farmer said to me the other day that he is getting a better price for his commodities here in the city, because, through the aid of a few good clothes, he commands more respect from the local commission man, and," continued Mr. Barkhurst, "they are really saving money, because good clothes last longer, look better and cost very little more, if any, than the clothes they have been buying. My large volume of business, my buying facilities and my low rent permits me to make clothes to order at very low prices."

—See her today!

in that greatest
of all vampire
pictures—

THE
Tiger Woman

Also
Scenic
and
Feature
Comedy

FLORENCE TO SECURE SAWMILL FOR MAKING SHINGLES FROM CEDAR

Big Factory Will Be Operated
On North Fork of the Sius-
law River, Near Town.

COMPANY INCORPORATED

British Columbia Capital and Machin-
ery Form Nucleus of Industry That
Has Promising Future.

Eugene, Or., March 1.—A good sized shingle mill will soon be erected on the north fork of the Siuslaw river, on the outskirts of Florence, by the Delta Shingle company, which has filed articles of incorporation with the Lane county clerk. The incorporators are Ernest Walker, recent arrival here from British Columbia; E. J. Adams and J. M. Williams of Eugene.

Mr. Walker has been associated with two other men in the manufacture of shingles in British Columbia for a number of years. They have exhausted their cedar timber and a short time ago bought a large tract on the north fork, from which they will obtain their timber for the manufacture of shingles.

Mr. Walker's associates, who are now attending to the shipment of the shingle-making machinery, are expected to be here in a few days and the work of building the mill will start soon thereafter. The capital stock of the corporation is \$200,000, divided into 200 shares of the par value of \$100 each. The principal place of business is in Florence.

It is expected that the company will be able to begin cutting shingles within 90 days.

Here are the tracts being considered on the Proebstel range:

Owner	Acres	Assessed Value
R. H. Power	120	\$600
N. P. R. Co.	160	\$800
Joseph A. Brown	120	\$600
Andrew Rulhouski	40	200
C. A. Brown	160	1120
W. S. Jones	40	200
N. K. Anderson	40	200
Joseph Dubois	\$3.5	80
W. S. Wood	38	300
Nellie L. Gustin	40	510
Amos Deal	235	2020
Colvin P. White	80.25	400
Reinhold	120	600
John K. Brown Estate	160.40	800
Clarence Spires	33	1370
William Snyder	147	1620
B. M. Smith (homes'd)	160	800
State school land	17.0	170

Additional Land Listed.
If the Proebstel range after reconsideration were to be purchased the following list shows additional tracts which, if purchased, would make an enlarged range giving a rifle and artillery range that would be one of the best in the northwest and still at a cost, it is estimated, no greater than will be required to secure the range near Linnton.

Owner

Acres	Assessed Value	
Antonia Sosnowski	20	\$250
Rose A. Cummings	140	1370
W. Carter	40	200
N. P. R. Co.	160	800
Mary Finn	160	870
Munroe	160	1580
W. S. Jones	40	200
H. T. Jorey	40	200
H. T. Schulerman	40	200
J. Allen	20	300
W. E. Scanlon	20	180
M. E. Gammon	46	380
Home Hottle	40	570
Thomas Eadon	19.55	210
E. P. Hayes	19.55	210
E. Scanlon	80	400
Fred Boyne	40	240
M. W. Eastwood	40	180
Martin Kaller	40	180

Railroad Would Purchase.
The old Oregon Steam Navigation company, prior to its merging or reorganization as the O. R. & N. Co., now the O. W. R. & N. Co., wanted to purchase water front property at Vancouver, according to Captain Love, who was a long time resident of Vancouver. The bidders, thinking they had the company and that they would have to pay the price asked, put the price at an exorbitant figure. The Oregon Steam Navigation company made Portland its principal place of business and gave Vancouver the go-by, and it was this action that was one of the determining causes for Vancouver's lack of growth when Portland was forging ahead.

Some day communities will learn the lesson that it does not pay to take advantage and that there is such a thing as a community, like an individual, having integrity.

In the matter of the selection of a target range the preponderance of evidence seems to point to the superiority of the range at Proebstel, since it is recognized as an ideal range and three times the land can be secured for the money that will be required to purchase the range near Linnton.

Bend Merchant Is
Missing From Home

H. E. Baker Was On His Way From
Portland and Disappeared From
Train—Has Been Ill of Late.

Bend, Or., March 1.—Fears are felt here for the safety of H. E. Baker, a well known Bend merchant who left Portland Tuesday evening on the North Bank train in company with his wife en route to their home in Bend. When seen the last time, Mr. Baker was conversing with passengers and the trainmen on the depot platform at Fallbridge. He was not missed until the Oregon Trunk train was about an hour out of Fallbridge, when Mrs. Baker began a search for him. No explanation has been given as to his disappearance.

Friends of Mr. Baker were talking with him on the train previous to his disappearance, but noted nothing strange in his conduct. Some of his employees say that he has been experiencing violent headaches and has been ill for some weeks.

Five Are Drowned in
Collapse of Bridge

Clarksburg, W. Va., March 1.—(U. P.)—Five men were drowned when a swinging suspension bridge over the Tygart's Valley river at O'Brien station, between Beilington and Philippsburg, collapsed yesterday and threw seven men into the water. The victims are Charles Mitchell of Glenwood, Scott Brown of Gratton, William and Lewis Martin of Thornton and H. Bennett of Taylor county.

DISTRICT MANAGER AMERICAN YEOMEN



Mrs. Rosa Blood.

Portland Star Homestead, Brotherhood of American Yeomen, of this city, has been carrying on a quiet but effective campaign for membership for the past three months, and is now making renewed efforts to place the organization at the front rank on the entire Pacific coast. It has increased its membership 120 in the last two months, and has made arrangements to continue the campaign until its present roll of 562 members passes 700.

Mrs. Rosa Blood, district manager, is aided by a staff of four field workers, who are bringing in applications rapidly.

O. H. Kastelahn has been appointed on the publicity committee, and a banquet is planned at the close of the campaign for new members.

Daly Will Address The Jackson Club

Will H. Daly, commissioner of public utilities, is to address the Jackson club meeting at 8 o'clock Friday night in the Central library. Commissioner Daly will talk on the proposed "Municipal Lighting Plant." Miss Anna Allen will sing and Professor Frank Dietzel will entertain at the piano. The public is invited.

Marriage License Issued.

Oregon City, Or., Feb. 28.—A marriage license was issued to Lillian Maltress and Alvin Sievers of 343 Morrison street, Portland.



Now Playing

Only Three Days More Nazimova

In Herbert Brenon's

WAR BRIDES

—By—
Marion Craig Wentworth

Pathe News

Columbia River
Bridge Opening

Christie Comedy "SOME KID"

Educational
Animal Pictures

Orchestra

Under the masterly direction
of George E. Metcalf.

Prices, Mats. and Evs.,
15c and 25c

COMING SUNDAY

Mrs. Vernon Castle in
her latest adventure as
Patria Channing in

"The Island God Forgot"

BROADWAY
THEATRE

East Side Grocer Will Give Orange For Each Potato

"We will trade you an orange for a potato." This sign is displayed on the window of a Grand avenue grocery and is attracting much attention.

The offer to trade an orange for a potato is said to be in good faith. The storekeeper who makes such an offer is not by any means giving charity or taking the worst of the deal. He is actually coming out on top for the potato is worth more than the citrus fruit.

Villa's Wounded Leg Again Troubling Him

Wound in "Pancho" Villa's leg again has become serious, according to word brought by passengers arriving from Chihuahua City, and the bandit leader has taken to his bed in his headquarters at San Andreas.

This probably accounts for the delay in concentrating the bands and launching attacks against Juarez and Chihuahua City. All trains from the south have been unmolested for several days, but couriers report that bandits are gathering at several points along the Mexican Central.

General Francisco Murguía again is in charge of the garrison at Chihuahua City, after ostensibly taking the field to capture Villa and his army.

Chicago Has Record For Bank Clearings

Chicago, March 1.—(U. N. S.)—Chicago bank clearings yesterday were \$128,125,495, against \$77,087,548 last Wednesday and \$75,329,611 a year ago today. Today's clearings easily smashed all previous records.

Senate Puts Through Administration Bill FOR RAISING REVENUE

House Measure Now Will Go
to President Wilson to Re-
ceive His Official Signature

Washington, March 1.—(U. N. S.)—The senate early today passed the administration revenue bill after a fight which kept the senate in session well after midnight. The measure designed to provide revenue amounting to nearly half a billion dollars to refill the depleted federal treasury was passed by a vote of 47 to 33, along strict party lines.

The measure was agreed upon by the senate in exactly the same terms as those passed by the house and the bill will go directly to the president for his signature.

Senate Democrats voted down a mass of amendments proposed from the Republican side, most of them evidently designed to delay the measure.

Idaho Marriage Bill Interests Japanese

Boise, Idaho, March 1.—(U. P.)—The Japanese government has made it known through its ambassador at Washington that it is interested in the fate of the Atherton anti-Asiatic marriage bill pending before the state senate. In a telegram to the governor, Secretary Lansing says:

"The Japanese ambassador informs me that Senator Atherton has proposed an amendment to a pending bill relating to mixed marriages which will include among forbidden marriages those between Mongolians and whites. I would much appreciate a statement of your opinion as to its likelihood of passage."

Chinese With Gun Arrested.
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