PASSAGE OF BEAN BILL CERTAIN TO LEAD TO MORE LITIGATION, FURTHER DELAYING OPENING OF O-C. LANDS TO SETTLEMENT

Approval of Bill Also Would Be Declaration of Hostile Attitude by People of Oregon Towards Chamberlain-Ferris Act, Constitutionality of Which Is Established.

By Clarence Reames.

United States Attorney. At the special election to be he'd the official ballot for the consideration of the electors of the state a measure entitled "A Bill for Taxation of Oregon & California Grant Lands." session of the Oregen state legislaratified it will become of full force (a)—Twenty-five per

the decision of the supreme court of roads, highways, bridges and port districts; independent, a most serious mistake if of the general fund in the treasury of the bill should be approved by the United States. people. If it is approved at the elec- Section 9 of the act appropriates tion it will be accepted as the atti- from the genereal fund of the treasury

What Bean Bill Provides, The Bean bill declares, among other

things: Railroad company is the owner of the complete and absolute title to the lands embraced within the Oregon & California railroad land grant.

2-That notwithstanding the- decision of the supreme court of the United States reported in volume 238 United States Reports at page 393, the Ferris-Chamberlain act declares the title to the unsold grant lands to revest in the United States.

3-That said granted lands are in private ownership and should be subject to taxation. 4-That the removal of these grant lands from taxation and the loss of taxes to the port districts of Oregon

imposes grossly unfair burdens of taxation upon the port districts. 5-That the proper county officers are directed to place all of these unsold granted lands upon the assessment roll of the respective counties for the year 1916.

Pacts Are Suppressed.

Bean bill either by the title of the appearing upon the ballot or in for the treasury of the United States. fact by an inspection of the act itself, the Ferris-Chamberlain bill approved by the president on June 9, provisions and confers many advan-Oregon, among which are:

sold and disposed of and the proceeds of said sales applied in a large meas- are the true facts disclosed. pre to the direct benefit of the peo-ple of the state of Oregon.

braced within the land grant are to be opened to entry under the homestead laws of the United States and to be actual settlers for the price of \$2.50 per acre in order to encourage settlement upon said lands and to invite homeseekers to come to the state of Oregon.

3—That the timber upon said lands is to be sold by the secretary of the interior by plan of competitive public bidding and that said timber is to be sold as rapidly as reasonable prices can be secured therefor in a normal

4-That the proceeds of the sales of the land and the timber estimated to be a sum in excess of thirty millions of dollars is to be placed in a separate fund known as the Oregon separate fund known as the Oregon! United States, then the treasury of the California land grant fund; that the United States should, as any other Oregon & California Railroad company is to be paid the sum of \$2.50 per acre and no more for its equity in these lands (less, however, all sums of money in excess of \$2.50 per acre which said company has heretofore United States to enact the Ferrisreceived); that the taxes accrued and unpaid on all of said lands at the my opinion, a most short-sighted poldate of the passage of the act, toicy for the people of the state at this
time to pass a bill which, if presented
to the committee on public lands of
to the committee on public lands of interior to the several counties in the state of Oregon; and that the bal-ance of all of said fund is to be dis-pensed by the secretary of the interior annually in the following pro-

Disposition of Funds. a-Twenty-five per cent thereof to the state treasurer of the state in which the land is located for the irreducible school fund of the state.

b—Twenty-five per cent to the found even now by the taxpayers of the county for common schools, roads, highways, bridges and port districts, to be apportioned by

the county courts for the several pur-

poses above named. c-Forty per cent to the general At the special election to be held reclamation fund created by the act on Monday, June 4, there will be upon of congress approved June 17, 1902. d-Ten per cent shall become a part of the general fund in the treasury of the United States.

And when these deductions shall have been made if there shall remain This is the bill enacted by the 1917 in this fund any additional sums of money realized by the government on account of its suits against the ture and which has been by the leg- railroad company, the balance is to (a)-Twenty-five per cent to the

The bill is so directly contrary and cible school fund of the state;
opposed to the act of congress known

(b)—Twenty-five per cent to the (b)-Twenty-five per cent to the the Perris-Chamberlain act and to county treasury for common schools,

of the people of the state of Ore. of the United States a sum of money toward the Ferris-Chamberlain sufficient to immediately pay all of the taxes due on June 9, 1916, to the several counties,

These facts do not appear in the Bean bill, and it is quite probable that many people will be called upon to vote upon this measure not knowing that the Ferris-Chamberlain act contains these provisions so beneficial to all of the people of the state.

Chamberlain-Ferris Act Constitutional. By the decision of the supreme court the United States rendered April 23, 1917, the Ferris-Chamberlain act proper exercise of congressional power. It is also held by this decision to be a proper interpretation of the tempt to declare that the lands, the decision of the supreme court of the title to which rests in the United in the Bean bill. Congress dealt very quent to the passage of an act of con-liberally with the people of the state gress declaring the title vested in the of Oregon in the passage of the Ferris- government. Pending the settlement the treasury of the United States di- undoubtedly feet themselves bound by rectly the money necessary to pay the the provisions of the Bean bill and several counties the accrued taxes; it the case would probably go to the provided that the agaricultural lands courts of last resort for final deter-should be open to entry under the mination. That the Bean bill would homestead laws and that the proceeds be held to be absolutely void I do not from the sales of the timber should believe any attorney who has studied The people of the state of Oregon be divided between the school fund, the decision of the supreme court and who will be called upon to vote upon the road fund, the port districts and the Ferris-Chamberlain act would sethis measure are not apprised by the the reclamation fund, leaving but 10 riously question. per cent of practically the entire fund

If the people of the state of Oregon, ecognizing and understanding all these things would then voluntarily 1916, contains the following express pass the Bean bill, no officer of the federal government would have any ages upon the people of the state of right to challenge their good faith in so doing; but the fact is that at no 1-That these ungranted lands applace in the Bean bill either in the proximating 2,300,000 acres are to be manner in which it will appear upon the ballot or in the entire act itself,

If Bean Bill Is Approved. If the bill be passed it will undoubt edly be taken and considered as an expression of the people of the state of Oregon to the congress of the United States of what the people of Oregon think of the Ferris-Chamberlain act, which act, in my opinion, is the most beneficial piece of legislation to the State of Oregon ever enacted by any congress.

The people of the state of Oregon certainly cannot expect that the govrnment of the United States is going o contituue to pay taxes upon its pubic domain, classify and sell the lands for the state, and then, in addition to that, pay the state the proceeds of the sale. If what the people of the state of Oregon want is simply to receive the taxes upon this land while the ownership thereof is vested in the

ability and influence of Senator Cham-Chamberlain bill, and it would be, in the house and senate, would be considered by those bodies as an act of base

ingratitutde. In making these statements I am not actuated by any political feeling whatsoever, but only for the good of the people of the entire state. The matter is a very serious one; the Bean

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PASSAGE OF BEAN BILL IS OPPOSED



Clarence Reames, United States attorney for district of Oregon.

this bill to be placed upon the ballot, then I trust that every newspaper in Oregon will do everything to fully advise the people of the danger of passing the Bean bill.

Purther Legislation Certain.

If the bill should be passed it would amount to not only a declaration of a hostile attitude of the people of Oregon toward the Ferris-Chamberlain act, but it would also make it necessary for the institution of a suit to test the validity of the Bean bill. How held to be constitutional, valid and long this would hold up the opening of these lands for settlement is problematical. It would constitute an atinited States attempted to be quoted States, are subject to taxation subsehamberlain act, It appropriated from of this question, the assessors would

> The government has many problems to solve in properly disposing of the trust committed to its care, and I respectfully submit that it should not at this time be hampered by legislation such as this in its efforts to dispose of these lands in the fair and equitable manner outlined in the fers-Chamberlain act,

People's Rights Jeopardized.

The passage of the bill would held up the settlement of these lands and their opening to public entry until the bill could be tested in the courts, or further congressional relief obtained If the Bean bill is passed and the people of the state, through court action, are not able to have it declared invalid, then our delegation in con gress must again petition congress for relief. When this is done we could not expect to again receive from congress the very favorable consideration we received in the passage of the Fer-

ris-Chamberlain bill. The long ten-year fight made by the government of the United States against the railroad company was made for the benefit of the people of the state of Oregon, as is evidenced by the passage of the Feerris-Chamberlain act. It certainly would be a crying shame if this should now all be defeated or the benefits endangered by the passage of this very inappropriate legislation.

landholder, expect to receive all the money derived from the sales. It required a man of the recognized Negro Is Adept at Bouncing Diplomats

Washington, April 28.—The halls leading to the office of the secretary of state are buzzing with the drone of many languages. Keen, alert, dapper men pass to and fro.

To Eddie Savoy, the aged negro mes-senger of the state department, such sounds means but little. For 47 years Eddie has been employed in his present capacity, and a few diplomats more or less are nothing in his young life. Eddie Savoy probably knows more

people in the capital than any other living human. He has seen presidents come and presidents go, and in the turmoil and trouble that has changed the personnel of many an administra-tion Eddie has remained on "fixed

Eddie's own particular pet job is handing ambassadors their passports. He enjoys this more than anything else in the world, for he is the last connecting link between the government of the United States and the dis-

missed envoys.

It was Eddie who, in 1898, bade farewell to the Spanish ambassador when he was sent home before the war with Traffik Spain. It was a somewhat more white-haired Eddle who speeded Count von Bernstorff on his way to face the wrath of the kalser, and just the other day Eddie, in all the might and maj-esty of his five feet, delivered the papers which sent the Austrian diplo-

matic staff back to Vienna. So you can see that Eddie is quite some personage. As a diplomat he has had the benefit of long experience under many a master, and he is as evasive on matter pertaining to the department of state as the secretary

Skeleton of Snake Soultion to Mystery

Calexico, April 28,-The finding of the skeleton of a coiled rattlesnake over four feet long, under the doorstep of the house in which William Sibbetts, a recluse, died more than two years ago, has removed the brand of "dope fiend" which the coroner's jury placed upon Sibbetts at the time of his death. Sibbetts, who once was arrested for smuggling opium, died alone in the cabin. His body was terribly bloated and a verdict of "death from an overdose of opiates" was returned at the inquest. A few days ago a contractor wrecking Sibbetts' former abode found the skeleton of the rattle snake, all evidences indicating that the snake had caused the death of

LITTLE TORPEDO BOAT HAS BEST CLAIM TO

Arc Rescued 471 Men on a iterranean,

Paris, April 28.—(U. P.)—If ever tore the transport in two. here should be competition in records of lifesaving at sea, the little 300-ton French torpedo boat Arc probably will tically patrolling the vicinity in an ef- slowly moving toward the ship. There the loss of the Admiral Magon gave stituted.

Not much larger, perhaps, than some New York harbor, the Arc is safely back on war duty today after a human SAVING RECORD carried them all to port in a heavy sea, though 32 were wounded. Added to the interest the plunging surface of the water. Streaming into the center of the wreckage, human and other wise, the little torpedo boat began its enormous task. Minutes were precious, salvage feat almost without parallel-

> It all happened in the Mediterranean, when the Arc was convoying the Admiral Magon, a transport ship conveying men, horses and material of war. northwest, the sea was extremely rough. Suddenly the periscope of an ment later a heavy explosion literally

Tried to Attack Submarine. The Arc raced shead and back, fran-

atter had disappeared and the Arc's duty immediately resolved itself into of the tugs which scoot up and down saving of life. The Magon had disappeared, leaving great masses of wreckage and its hundreds of soldiers floating together on the plunging surface of the water. Streaming into the centhese aboard the little ship were and some of the Magon's survivors were more, the crew, making 541 in all. jority were rapidly becoming behumbed by the cold water in which they strug-

More than half of the Arc's crev Single Occasion in Med-ing men, horses and material of war. manned the sides of the ship with manned the sid aboard while the others manned the enemy submarine appeared and a mo- guns. The commander knew that the submarine was probably watching and waiting its chance to terpedo the Arc. Chose to Save Men.

Suddenly a periscope appeared gently rising above the waves and

soon calmed by the commander who ordered his sailors to go on with the ifesaving. The periscope was visible for a few moments and then disappeared. The Arc's commander could not have rammed the submarine, fired torpedo or shell without wounding or killing many of the struggling umans around him. He chose to save

For two hours the little torpedo boat continued to take aboard the survivors. most helpless or wounded were that the ship would hold no more, another vessel arrived and saved what As the Arc steamed toward port she was almost a human beehive. Men were everywhere, the wounded holding he choicest places, Besides the Arc's 41, the other rescue boat carried about

The official communique telling of

the number of saved but like all brief official communications it didn't begin to tell how the deed was done.

Bakers Ask Revision Of Bread Ordinance

Los Angeles, April 28.-Declaring that under present prices of lard, flour and other foodstuffs which enter into the manufacture of bread, 12 ounces of escued first. Finally when it appeared the staff of life cannot be sold for 5 cents and leave a profit for the baker, two dozen Los Angeles bakers have the Arc might have been forced to appeared before the city council and leave, including the rafted survivors. asked the repeal of the present ordinance requiring that 12 ounces shall be the minimum weight for a loaf of bread sold in Los Angeles.

In place of the 12-ounce requirement the bakers claim that a provision requiring that the weight of all loaves be stamped upon them should be sub-

NE of the first places where the people of the United States are going to feel the effect of this nation's entry into the war is in increased food costs.

This is inevitable. No matter who you are or where you live, you are going to feel it-unless you do something about it right away. What can you do, and how shall you do it? Every man and woman who has room in his yard or who can get the use of a vacant lot near his home to start a garden should think and act right now.

You to whom this idea is new will be surprised to know that the yield from even a small plot of ground will produce enough vegetables to feed a family of five all summer. Figure this out in dollars and cents and you will be surprised at the amount of money a small garden will save you in a single season. Invest the cost of necessary seeds and the small amount of labor required and you will be delighted at the additional goodness you will enjoy in fresh garden truck picked right out of your own patch. Try this plan, beginning now -this month is planting time, and you will find that you will be distinctly benefited physically, yes, and mentally, too-by the wholesome outdoor work of pottering around in the ground among growing things.

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The article "Soil" (Vol. 25, p. 345) tells how to make the best quality of soil. The article Manures and Manuring tells about fertilizing, the supplying of ingredients the soil needs to make it most fertile. There are articles on Bacteriology, the effects of Sunlight, Shade, Heat, Cold, Water enough, Drainage, Irrigation, Reclamation of

There is an article that tells how to fight all kinds of pests from bug and the like to the larger enemies like the rabbit. It is safe to say that any amateur gardener with the help

Prepare NOW for War-Time Food Prices

and instruction to be found in the Britannica can multiply his chances of success and the yield from his patch many, many times.

Think of this matter of food supply seriously. It will become very serious if the war runs on.

Every farmer of a dozen acres or many hundreds of acres, growing such staples as wheat, barley, corn, rye, hay, cotton, etc., will be called upon to increase the yield and reliability of his crops. The farmers of big farms will find in the Britannica articles full of information and help to them, for the agricultural articles and articles on correlated subjects are written by agricultural experts of world-renown.

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nica articles on the Bee (Vol. 3, p. 625) and Honey (Vol. 13, p. 776) are complete and instructive.

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