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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 1902.

FOREST RESERVE ALARM.

There is more than one class alarmed over the new forest reserve as announced by the government. It came with such a suddenness and so unexpected that the interested persons hardly know where they are "at." While the real purpose was doubtless to stop the wholesale stealing that was going on in the great timber belts of the country, by certain corporations who were hiring citizens with easy consciences to prove up on the lands for them, yet it has not only interfered with this game, but has alarmed settlers, stockmen and sheepmen alike, as well as the leading property owners in the counties where the timber belts lie.

It is feared by the property owners that the settlement of the country will be retarded, and homeseekers, who were honestly seeking homes and had selected valleys near these points, intending later to take timber claims, and those who were preparing to settle are disappointed in the matter. Stockmen fear that grazing will be stopped on these reserved lands, or that grazing privileges will be so restricted as to largely interfere with their business. Sheepmen do not know but that they will be debarred entirely.

Those who have already filed will receive lieu land certificates instead, and they will have to seek lands elsewhere and this will make competition stronger for the more favored spots.

The effect of protecting the timber belts under the reservation law is also discussed under many theories. It is claimed by some that the reservation is a good thing, as these timber belts all lie along the mountain ranges at the head of streams, and that the timber causes a greater rainfall at these points and through this process of nature the deserts lying at the foot of the mountains are irrigated and thus a great benefit is derived. Then it is claimed on the other hand that the timber reserve thrown open the country would be settled up much more rapidly, and that the vegetation growing out of this would eventually cause sufficient rain for the entire country. Of course, all of these theories are reasonable to some extent but the most vital point to the people is the settlement of the country. While it looks wrong, and is wrong for the corporations to completely gobble up the vast forests of the country, yet anything that retards the settlement of the country is doing great harm. In the settling up of the Pacific Northwest lies its future, and to retard this not only injures the people living here, but the many homeless ones who are looking this way. The great resources of this country are for the people and they should be ever ready for the proper ones to take charge of them.

If it could be done, the scoundrels who have been stealing the lands, as well as their henchmen, should be run to the earth and prosecuted to the full extent of the law, and such other laws be passed and such restrictions thrown around the matter as to prevent further stealing, and then the reservation should be thrown open for honest acquisition. The country is in a bad state of affairs if all of this cannot be done.

In the meantime such regulations as to grazing should be made as to give all an equal show at the grasses growing on the lands, at the same

time not permitting their obliteration or injury to the forests.

England devoted a day to prayer and thanksgiving over the recovery and crowning of Edward. Apparently the time for prayer for such things is more successful after the thing happens. The prayers of a Christian world went up for the recovery of Garfield and McKinley. Prayers also went up for the conversion of Bob Ingersoll. There is no other explanation for the failure of the Ruler of the Universe to answer these prayers than that they were not offered in the proper spirit, or that doing all things for the best is His invariable rule and that it was best that Garfield and McKinley's lives should not be saved, and that Ingersoll should not be saved.

A false idea may have been given out as to the amount that is being paid here in the way of wages, but it is safe to say that every man who wants work can get it here and can get every cent he is worth for doing it. There are always men who are hunting for soft snaps, but the honest worker, who has his employer's interest at heart always gets work and good wages, and especially in this section at this season of the year.

All those people camping out, sleeping on hard beds, eating poorly-cooked food, suffering from cold at night and following up the shade of a tree by day, will soon be in telling what a "nice time" they had.

Edward is crowned, Tracy is dead and Mount Pelee is quiet, yet the country is favored with baseball.

And Mark Hanna is now saying good things about organized labor.

ACTION MUST BE SPEEDY.

Since our last issue, the order of temporary withdrawal of an immense area in the Blue mountains as a forest reserve has been issued. All fears have become facts. This mining district is confronted by an event destined to be of immense significance. Such a reserve as that indicated may retard development 30 years, or it may promote it. Now, while the temporary order is in effect and the Interior Department is open to suggestions, is the time for action. Men of this community must think quickly, and act with equal haste, else the day of deliberation will be over before they conclude.

When we contemplate the effects of such a reserve as has been indicated, an evil suggested in our last issue takes gigantic form. Timber is the most available resource of the district. With transportation, it is ready to yield the owner rich returns immediately. While not one of the permanent industries, in the first instance it is the most attractive. Timber more than any other resource, has caused construction of branch railroad lines in this state. It offers the greatest inducement for construction of others. In the wilds of the Blue mountains there is little agriculture. Mines and lumber alone are Nature's louny here. When such scarcity of resources exist, it seems more likely to insure the district longer handicap under the curse of undeveloped wastes, if one of the inducements for the entrance of capital is removed. While not necessarily related, in this district the lumber and mining industries stand close together. Incidentally lumber gave mining a hand when the Sumpter Valley road was constructed. It was offering another from the John Day. Lumber removed, how soon may we expect a railroad to open up Susanville, Quartzburg, and the Greenhorns? Mines invite, but rail lines hesitate. With the clear profit to be made from timber as an additional inducement, there was hope for early relief.

There is but one avenue for escape from the dilemma. While the temporary withdrawal is maintained, the Interior Department officials will be open to suggestions. They should be

informed on the nature of the Blue mountain range, the respective altitudes of the land where timber is sought and that where snow would be conserved for summer and fall water supply. They should be impressed with the isolation of the district, the solitariness of the mines if timber is withdrawn, the urgency of development and other facts weighing upon local residents as the situation is analyzed. If mining and other interest were unanimous in this effort, doubtless enough timber land could be withdrawn from present boundaries to maintain the inducements for railroads, to which we have been looking so hopefully. Citizens should meet and discuss the matter. A plan of action upon which all would agree for strenuous effort could not fail to be evolved.—Sumpter American.

THE MINE REGION MURDERS.

The brutal murder of Daniel Sweeney, a non-union mine worker while on his way to his home in Hanover, Pa., following closely the equally shocking murder of the merchant Joseph Beddall, shows only too plainly that there is an element among the strikers whose lawless impulses President Mitchell and the union's district officials cannot control. The tide of public opinion and sympathy will be turned with overwhelming force against the strikers by such deeds as these.

Another Mollie McGuire reign of terror in the coal country is not to be tolerated. And it is quite clear, as Father O'Reilly said in his recent courageous sermon, only the presence of the troops prevents it. In such a situation there is nothing to be done except to use all the military force that is necessary to hold down this murderous element, which is almost entirely made up of ignorant and passionate foreigners who cannot even speak our language, much less understand our laws and the respect they owe thereto.

Until life and property are perfectly safe from attack in the mining region further argument on the merits of the strike is unprofitable. The maintenance of liberty under law is "the previous question," and until decided it takes precedence of all others.—New York World.

The Oregon state fair this year promises to be the grandest industrial exposition and livestock show ever held on the Coast. The fair has been good the past two years, but it will be better this year.



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Ladies' Undervests, 3 cents each.
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Fancy Silk Waist Patterns, 85c regular, sale price 69c yd.
Light weight Black Hose, No. 112, regular 10c, sale price 3 pairs 25c.
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Gents' Clothing and Furnishings

All Summer weight Suits cut 20 per cent for this sale.
Boys' Suits, special reduction of 20 per cent for 10 days.
Boys' Knee Pants, special reduction of 20 per cent for 10 days.
Men's Summer Underwear, halbriggan, 25c per garment.
Men's Fancy Blue French Balbriggan, 75c per garment.
Men's and Boys' Straw and Crash Hats, all grades reduced 20 per cent.
Boys' and Men's Bow Ties, 25c, 20c, 15c, 13c, 10c and 5c each.

AUG. 9th Saturday's Specials on Dry Goods and Staples AUG. 9th

Summer Dress Goods, all grades reduced 20 per cent.
Calico, regular 5c grade, all colors, 10 yds to one person, 3c per yd.
Gingham, apron check, regular 7c grade, 10 yds to one person, 5c yd.
Bleached Muslin, 10 yds to one person, 3c per yd.
White Outing flannel, 10 yds to one person, 4c per yd.
Japanese Silk, all colors, 25c per yd.
Yard wide Percale Remnants, 2 to 8 yds in piece, 5c per yd.

Come and bring your neighbor and get your share of the splendid bargains offered during this sale.

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5 Geldings—have been worked—weight 1200 and 1350.
1 Stallion, half Clyde half Shire, weight 1500 lbs, nine years old, used in band three years. Stallion used before him, full blood Clyde (registered).

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