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SENATOR CHAMBERLAIN TAKES A RAP AT THE OPPONENTS OF ACT TO GOVERN WATER SITES

PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 25.—"It will generally be found that the same elements which in time past have opposed the withdrawal of public lands for forestry and other purposes, are arrayed against any efficient restrictive or regulative legislation affecting water power sites or the development of hydro-electric energy," declared United States Sen. Chamberlain in his address before the joint sessions of the Oregon and Washington Bar associations.

Senator Chamberlain's address was both an indictment of the interests that have exploited the public domain for their own interests in the name of development and an argument in favor of the water power leasing bill now before congress.

In beginning he called attention to improvidence of congress and the states in relinquishing public lands and natural resources without any effort to secure adequate return for the public.

"It might be interesting to discuss in detail legislation which has been enacted from time to time affecting the public domain," said he, "and to show therefrom how improvident congress has been in the disposition thereof, but I can only touch upon the subject."

"Not only has this improvidence characterized congressional action but it has characterized state legislation as well, and lands granted to the general government for the several states for educational and other public purposes have been recklessly disposed of, and at wholly inadequate prices, to the detriment of the people of these states. Each legislation which had for its purpose the bona fide settlement and disposition of the public domain, has in many instances by administrative laxity been used to transfer title from the government to corporations, to timber barons, and to others, placing it beyond the reach of regulation or the general welfare."

Laws Have Been Abused.

"The homestead and pre-emption laws have been availed of time without number, for the fraudulent acquisition of public lands; and the timber and stone act, passed in 1878 ostensibly to enable the homesteader and other settlers an opportunity to acquire timber and stone, has been more generally abused than all other legislation combined, and soon became an instrument for perpetrating the most gigantic frauds against the government."

"In the short period of 30 years after its enactment over 12,500,000 acres were acquired under it, and the smaller part of this immense acreage was obtained by the original locators for their own use, but by far the larger part was fraudulently acquired by timber syndicates and monopolistic combinations for the valuable timber growing thereon."

"In this state alone, 3,560,905.45 acres, in the state of Washington, 2,076,562.35 acres, and in the state of California 2,717,019.12 acres were acquired under this act."

Wagon Road Grant Discussed. Senator Chamberlain discussed the wagon road land grants to interests that never built the roads, and the grants to railroads of great tracts which were withheld from settlement or sale at prices or in quantities violative of the terms of the original grants.

"From 1850 to June 30, 1909, 159,125,724.25 acres were granted to aid in railroad construction, most of which has been patented to the grantees; while 3,229,230.41 acres were granted in aid of military wagon road construction, most of it having been heretofore patented to the grantees."

"The immensity of these grants can be better understood when it is remembered that they equal in area the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia."

Development at Great Cost. "It may be insisted and it is probably true, that the granting of these lands has hastened the development of the western country, but at what a sacrifice!"

"I venture to say that, with the knowledge which the past years have brought to us, if our governmental life had to be lived over again not an acre of these lands would have been so improvidently disposed of, but the government itself would have undertaken the work of wagon road and railroad construction through its own instrumentalities, and would have sold the land and utilized the proceeds with an immense saving, and in fact, with a profit, to the people of the whole country."

"There have sometimes been attached stipulations to these grants, requiring sale to actual settlers at fixed prices and in limited quantities, but these conditions have in most cases been entirely ignored by the grantees, and in this state a suit instituted to forfeit a railroad grant because of the violation of a similar stipulation, has recently been determined by the supreme court of the United States, and the decision of the court in its final analysis is, that notwithstanding the grant violation of the terms of the grant, the railroad company still owns the land, or the proceeds of it to the extent of the price stipulated in the grant."

Government is Molested. "And in all these grants what rights have been reserved to the government. What right to transport troops and equipment without cost in time of domestic or foreign war? What

power of rate or other regulation? What supervisory control was reserved or what subsequently was accomplished without exhausting all the remedies known to law? What right of forfeiture for conditions broken exists that have not required an appeal to congress or to the courts for construction or relief? Not only is the government shown no favors for its great generosity, but in some cases it has to pay more for a given service than is charged a private corporation for the same service."

The senior United States senator from Oregon condemned the advantage which railroads have taken in the right of indemnity selections, a right originally granted for the benefit of individual homesteaders. The result, he said, has been that the railroads relinquished worthless lands and selected in lieu thereof valuable properties. As to Oregon, in this connection he said:

Conservative Policy Indorsed. "Of 16,521,348 acres held in reserves in Oregon most of it can be utilized only for forest preservation, grazing and water power purposes. There are some lands within these reserves that ought to be, and will be in due course as they have been from time to time in the past, released, but the people of the state are not suffering from these reserves, because they understand that the lands embraced therein are unfitted for any other purpose than those herein mentioned."

"For a long time I myself was an opponent of the policy of conservation, but study of the question led me to believe it was necessary to conserve and preserve from waste the resources of the country, if we intended to continue as one of the highest developed civilizations on the globe."

Would Let It Stay.

"Oregon, Washington, California together have 275,000,000,000 feet of standing timber in the forest reserves which is about 40 per cent of all the timber and I believe that the people of Oregon are patriotic enough to prefer that that portion of this magnificent wealth which lies in Oregon shall remain in the federal government, to be utilized under wise regulation and legislation consistent both with the present needs and the needs of generations yet unborn."

"Electric power interests" continued Senator Chamberlain, "insist that natural conditions prevent monopolization."

"How is this development distributed, as far as it has gone, and is there or has there been a tendency toward concentration and monopolization?" he asked.

"It is contended by those representing the power companies—and that, too, very earnestly—that there is not such a concentration of water power development as to rise to the danger of a power trust."

Small Developers Own Little. "And yet it has been pretty well established, notwithstanding repeated denials of the fact, that in the states of California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Washington out of a total development of 1,125,400 horsepower, 1,022,700 horsepower or 90 per cent of the development is owned by 23 companies, while only 10 per cent is owned by small developers."

"Two groups of companies own 90 per cent of the development in Oregon. Taking the evidence before the senate and house committees, and reports which have from time to time been made by public officials, on the water power possibilities of the country, the conclusion is irrefragable that there has been a tendency toward concentration of companies interested in power development."

Need for Regulation.

"This, in itself, might or might not be a menace provided, of course, these companies are engaged only in intrastate development, and in states where utilities commissions have the power of rate regulation and control. "But consolidation of development means the inevitable concentration of ownership of control, either directly or indirectly, of public utilities, water, heat, power and transportation. And therein lies the necessity for control of the power site, for the present and in the future, by the federal government; for its control means the ability to regulate the water power, as well as the public utilities, owned or operated by the power companies engaged in intrastate business."

Fallacious Argument is Potent. "The perpetual ownership by the government of the power site means the authority perpetually to regulate the rates to be charged to the consumer, whether for water, heat, light, transportation, irrigation or energy utilized for any purpose whatsoever."

Senator Chamberlain discussed the facts which add to the evidence of trend toward concentration of ownership in water power throughout the nation, then added: "I know how potent with the unthinking is the argument that every man who insisted upon safe and conservative legislation in the interest of the masses stands against the development of the state. I have seen and heard it made against those who have stood in the breach to oppose legislation that in the end would have turned over to corporate greed the undisposed portions of the public domain."

Not in Homebuilder's Behalf. "It is an argument which is now being made in some quarters, to open up for exploitation the forest and other reserves in the several western states, and that without regard to whether the lands upon which these

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- 27-in. Messalines in all colors, yd. 75¢
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- Corsets in the latest and best fitting models to be had, at from \$1.00 to \$3.50.
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Better Goods for Less Money. (Former Wohlenberg Dept. Store Location.)

A CAR-LOAD OF AUTOS ARRIVE AT PILOT ROCK

(Special Correspondence.) PILOT ROCK, Ore., Aug. 25.—The Bond Auto Co. received a carload of automobiles today.

Jean Hassall returned home today from Portland.

Mrs. Cora Knotts left Wednesday for Heppner where she will visit friends and relatives for a few months.

Miss Grace Gilliam was a Pendleton visitor Wednesday.

K. G. Warner of Butter creek, was a visitor here Wednesday.

Mrs. Burton Hutchinson spent Wednesday in Pendleton doing some shopping.

Chas. Miller was a business visitor in Pendleton Wednesday.

Dashing Exploit Told.

BERLIN, by wireless to Sayville, N. Y., Aug. 25.—The adventurous career of the German auxiliary cruiser Meteor, which was blown up by her commander to escape the British warships after she had sunk the British auxiliary cruiser Ramsey, is described by the Overseas News Agency as follows:

"According to private reports, the Meteor, a converted merchant steamer, succeeded in breaking through the lines of British patrol ships and traveling to the Orkney Islands, 550 miles from her base. She laid a large number of mines and destroyed British merchant ships."

"Finally she encountered the British cruiser Ramsey, which she sank after a splendid maneuver. The captain of the Meteor, whose crew consisted of about 25 men, saved and captured 45 men from the Ramsey, and it is probable that more than 50 others were drowned."

"British battle cruisers, notified by wireless, pursued the Meteor. After the Meteor had burned the Danish merchantman Jason, the little German craft, facing four British cruisers, stopped a Norwegian steamer, transferred the captured British crew of the Jason and also put the Danish sailors on board. This boat escaped from her pursuers and reached port safely with the captured Englishmen. The Meteor was sunk by exploding her mines."

At Bornou, narrow strips of cloth are used instead of coats.



A Message for You— From Headquarters!

New Post Toasties

for Breakfast

A delicious food—different from ordinary "corn flakes." Each flake has a body and firmness—doesn't mush down, but keeps crisp when cream is added.

New Post Toasties are the tender meats of white Indian Corn, skillfully cooked, daintily seasoned, and toasted to an appetizing golden-brown. They come to you oven-fresh, in tight-sealed, wax-wrapped packages—ready to eat with cream, milk or fruit.

New Post Toasties

—the Superior Corn Flakes

Your grocer has them now.

Great Old Remedy For Skin Diseases

S. S. S. Clears Skin of Eruptions Drives Poison From the System.

Get it fixed in your mind that skin eruptions, Scrofula, Eczema, burning itching skin, and all skin diseases are due entirely to impure and infected blood. If the trouble was on the outside of the skin, by simply washing and keeping it clean you could obtain relief—not even ointments, lotions, and salves, would be necessary. Agree with us in this

belief, and your trouble can be relieved—you can be entirely restored to health. S. S. S. is a purely vegetable treatment that you can secure from your own druggist—it is a blood tonic that will purify your blood and cause a most decided abatement of your trouble, and finally make you entirely well. Fifty years ago S. S. S. was discovered and given to suffering mankind. During this period it has proven its remarkable curative properties as a blood purifier and tonic, and has relieved thousands of cases of disease caused by poor or impure blood, and chronic or inherited blood diseases. You can be relieved, but you must take S. S. S. Take it if only pimples appear, for they denote bad blood, and may be followed by the sufferings from torturing skin eruptions. Therefore be sure. Don't take chances, don't use lotions. Get S. S. S. from your druggist. If yours is a special case, write for expert medical advice to S. S. S. Co., Atlanta, Ga.

BOXING CONTEST

THURSDAY NIGHT August 26

Oregon Theatre Pendleton, Ore.

15—ROUNDS—15

MAIN EVENT

AL MOSLER

Of Seattle, Wash.

VS.

Billy Farrell

Of Pendleton, Ore.

Contestants will weigh in at 133 pounds.

TWO GOOD PRELIMINARIES.

Show begins promptly at 9 o'clock. Tickets on sale at Welch's Cigar Store.

Ringside \$1.50

Reserved Seats \$1.00

Balcony 50c

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