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A SONG OF CHEER.
 "When you've cast your all on a single die,
 And your stranded bark lies high and dry,
 What is the use to sigh and cry
 Brace up.
 "When friends are false and none are true,
 And the world stands back and mocks at you;
 What is the use of feeling blue?
 Brace up.
 "When you've tried and tried in vain,
 And all you get was a tear and pain,
 And the ghost of a hope which had lived in vain—
 Brace up.
 "Some time, somewhere, will the fates be kind;
 And your storm-tossed bark will be another find;
 So bravely smile and say 'Never mind.'
 Brace up."
 —James Wells

PREPARING FOR A GREAT SWINDLE

BY its action taken the so-called land grant conference has implored congress in the name of the people of Oregon to prepare the stage for the most gigantic and outrageous land fraud swindle in the history of the west.

There can be no other sane view of the request that the grant lands be sold at \$2.50 per acre. The land is worth seven or eight times that amount. Therefore the profits for some one or some group of men will be in the vicinity of forty millions of dollars.

With much hypocrisy the conference urges that the land be sold to "actual settlers." But all who know conditions know that "actual settlers" will have as much chance in this connection as would an

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Esquimaux trying to sleep with the equator.
 The land will be taken by secret agents of the Southern Pacific or some syndicate that is after the timber. The entomymen will get a few hundred dollars each for their trouble and the "skindicate" will get the valuable land for a song. If here and there real and bona fide settlers should get land it would do them little good because a man with one timber claim in a forest is at the mercy of those who hold big tracts. He cannot make use of the timber and must take what they offer him or get left in the lurch.

The sane thing to do with the grant land would be to sell it at its true value and let the state of Oregon use the proceeds as a school fund. The public would then get the good out of their own property. This was the line of action suggested by ex-Governor West and a resolution to this end was presented by Mr. Strain of this county. But of course such a proposal was received very frostily by the conference. It was ridiculous to the Southern Pacific attorneys and to the timber grabbers. It was virtue where virtue was not desired.

The East Oregonian is not astonished by the action of the conference. It expected nothing more. The conference was organized and directed by the same forces that worked the midnight resolution through the legislature at 3 a. m. on the closing night of the session when the majority of members were ignorant the subject was under consideration. Since it was their game and was staged according to their own directions the action taken was obvious.

DR. ELIOT'S VIEW

THE subject of military preparedness is one of vital interest to the country and the views of men who are not fanatics, of one extreme or the other, are of importance. Dr. Charles W. Eliot, justly renowned as a clear and sound thinker generally has written an article for the North American Review wherein he sets forth his views. The following from the paper gives a line on the ideas of Dr. Eliot:

The limits of preparedness, however broad or narrow, ought to be determined by both of two different needs: first, the need for a limited aggressive strength, and second, the need for a defensive strength, limited, but capable of sudden effective expansion.

Just how much aggressive strength the United States will hereafter need depends on the issue of the present European struggle. If Germany comes out of the war holding Belgium, maintaining her complete military organization, and both free and able to enlarge her navy, the United States, in defense of her own rights and of the rights of all the free nations of the world, will need to join the alliance which has been holding Germany in check, though thus far unable to defeat her. In joining that alliance, the United States will wish to furnish such a quota of vessels, men and munitions as will be suitable for a rich nation 100,000,000 strong, and united in adherence to fix standards of public and private liberty, truthfulness and justice. If, on the other hand, the entente nations succeed in defeating the German undertakings in the present war, or in bringing the contest to a stalemate, there will probably result an international league for the prevention of war, in which the United States will wish to take part, if requested by the entente belligerents to do so. In that case this country must be prepared to furnish whatever quota the international council or commission created by treaty for the prevention of war, asks of us. The quota of the United States in the second case would, of course, be smaller than in the first, and might be chiefly naval; but, in either case, the quota should be of the best possible quality in all respects—vessels, artillery, munitions, submarines, aeroplanes, auto-

mobiles, hospital equipment, and all kinds of military and naval supplies. Therefore, the United States should now put itself in condition to produce rapidly all these implements of war, should acquire a considerable stock of them all, and should train some moderate number of men—like 50,000 in the navy and 100,000 in the army—to use them with skill and thorough efficiency.

Wheat closed in Chicago yesterday at a price one and a quarter cents above the closing price for the previous day. Yet in describing the market the Portland Oregonian uses headlines like this: "Offers Are Larger, With Farmers Free Sells Chicago Wheat Drops, Tone at Close is Weak." Even when the market is rising the bears won't admit the fact.

What is Stefansson doing hunting the north pole after it has already been discovered? He should try something new.

The coming water power conference in Portland will be another frost, from the public standpoint.

HE IS ALFRED AUSTIN.
 Echo, Ore., 9-15-15.
 Editor East Oregonian:
 Will you kindly tell me whom the poet laureate is of England
 Yours respectfully,
 RALPH DORN.

STRAIN RESOLUTION IS TURNED DOWN BY DELEGATES AT SALEM

PROVIDED FOR SALE OF LANDS AND PROCEEDS TO O. A. C.

Southern Pacific Supporters Opposed to Such a Plan—Another Resolution Is Adopted, Urging Upon Congress to Provide for Sale of Land Among Settlers.

Assessor C. P. Strain of this county introduced a resolution before the land grant conference at Salem yesterday asking that congress permit the state to purchase the lands and to sell them at their actual value, the proceeds to be used for the benefit of the Oregon Agricultural College and the common school fund.

It was contended by Mr. Strain that through such a course a fund of many millions could be provided for the schools of the state. His idea is that if the lands are sold at \$2.50 per acre the valuable timber will be filed on by agents of the railroad company or some other interests and that property of immense value will be secured for a song.

The Strain resolution was not adopted, presumably because of the fact the conference was packed with supporters of the Southern Pacific.

The resolution adopted by the conference is as follows:
 Whereas, The people of the State of Oregon, by their representatives, duly assembled at Salem, Ore., September 16 and 17, 1915, have been brought together by a common inspiration to consider the material welfare of Oregon made imperative by the rendition of the opinion of the supreme court of the United States in the case of the Oregon-California Railroad company, et al., vs. the United States, popularly known as the land grant case, and

Whereas, In said case the supreme court has construed the acts of congress of the United States, approved July 25, 1866, as amended by the act approved June 25, 1868, and April 10, 1869, and the act of May 4, 1870, to be not only laws but enforceable and continuing covenants, and

Whereas, Said acts contain conditions for the sale of the lands granted thereunder, requiring the said lands to be sold to actual settlers in quantities not greater than 160 acres and for sums not exceeding \$2.50 per acre, and

Whereas, The said conditions plainly imply an obligation upon the grantees in said grant to sell said lands to actual settlers who comply with the conditions of said grant, and bring themselves within the conditions of said grant as actual settlers, and

Whereas, It is apparent that the grantees in said grant by the acceptance of said grant plainly agree to convey the said lands according to the terms of said grant to such settlers upon the payment of the amount specified in said grant, and to make such conveyance upon the full performance of the terms of said grant by said actual settlers, and

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the disposition of said lands in accordance with such policy as it might seem fitting under the circumstances and at the same time to secure the defendants, at all times keeping in view the policy which will insure actual settlement of the lands rather than speculation, and

Whereas, The United States government has heretofore created national forests within the state of Oregon, occupying approximately one-third of the area of the state of Oregon, and thereby militating greatly against the growth and development of the state of Oregon; therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of this conference that the congress of the United States should enact laws defining and settling who shall be considered an actual settler under the terms of said acts, and what shall be considered an actual settlement and requiring the grantees under said act to perform the terms and conditions of said act, and sell and dispose of said lands according to the true intent and purpose of said acts to such actual settlers, and, be it further

Resolved, That we are unalterably opposed to any further increase of forest reserves in the state of Oregon; and lastly, be it

Resolved, That we urge upon congress the enactment of legislation which shall provide for the immediate sale of said grant lands in areas of not greater than 160 acres to any one person and to actual settlers at a price not in excess of \$2.50 per acre, and to provide against all fraud in the settlement and disposition of said lands.

Notice of Change in Firm.
 Notice is given that N. P. McLean has purchased the interest of W. J. Burns in the City Auto Co. of Pendleton and after this date the firm will be known as N. P. McLean & Co. and will be conducted by N. P. McLean and Bert Peterson at the same location. D. H. Nelson, trustee, has turned over the entire business to the new company and the said N. P. McLean & Co. assume all obligations and will collect all outstanding accounts of the former City Auto Co.
 D. H. NELSON,
 W. J. BURNS,
 N. P. McLEAN,
 BERT PETERSON.
 Dated this 9th day of September, 1915.—Adv.

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