Southern Pacific Soon to Place Holdings on Market.

Portland, March 17 .- In about two months a large tract of the Southern Pacific railroad lands in Oregon, comprising the public land grant to the Oregon & California railroad company, will be offered for sale to settlers. The Southern Pacific company has a large force of legal talent at work clearing ap an accumulated mass of legal technicalities affecting titles, and strenuous efforts are being made to get the remaining lands, about 2,000,000 acres, ready to be thrown on the market by the time the crest of this year's immigration reaches Oregon.

Charles W. Eberlein, acting land agent of the company, took charge of the task some months ago. It was found that a very large an ount of lega! work would have to be done before the lands could be offered for sale. Hundreds of titles to small and large tracts were defective, and contracts had elapsed by reason of non-performance by purchasers at the time of the previous sale. G. W. Morrow was appointed tax commissioner, and he has had a large force of men examining tax records in the various counties through which the land grant extends, from the Columbia River to the California line. The legal end of the task proved far too great for the legal department of the Southern Pacific in Oregon, and other attorneys were engaged to assist the force in W. D. Fenton's office. The work has been rushed with the greatest speed. At the office of Mr. Fenton, it is said, the undertaking is not yet completed, but the number of men now engaged is as large as can be worked to advantage.

The company is very anxious that the lands be ready for sale in time to meet the demands that will come from homeseekers who will visit Oregon in the exposition season. When the work was begun it was thought the lands would be ready for the market this spring, as published some time ago, and that the people who were to be brought to Oregon on the colonist rates now in effect would be able to purchase. It is understood the comyany will not wait until the lands of the entire grant are reviewed, but will first list those located most conveniently to the railway lines, adding sections as fast as they are ready.

There will be a considerable increase over the figure at which the lands were last offered, when prices ranged from \$1.25, the government rate, to \$12 an acre, according to location and soil. Since that time most of the desirable government land has been taken by settlers, the value of Oregon hill lands has advanced, and besides, the company teresting stories of the occurrences at where they will be the guests of King has paid taxes and is rolling up a bill of Tsaiskoe-Selo are current in St. Peters- Victor Emmanuel and Queen Helene at expense in the present work of relisting burg d awing-rooms, where sometimes the Quirinal.

these things will enter into consideration in fixing prices.

NEED CASH.

St. Petersburg, March 17 .- An internal credit loan of \$100,000,000 on a 5 per cent credit basis is now being negotiated by the Ministry of Finance. The loan will be floated probably in a short time. The price of issuance has not been determined, but probably will be 93 to 95. The Associated Press was informed at the Ministry that the issuance of this loan is entirely independent of the French negotiations, which have not yet been concluded. Domestic rentes will be issued for a long term and will, as in the case of the internal credit loan, not be subject to the obligations of foreign loans. The payment of the interest and principal will be in gold and probably will be taxable.

The determination of the government to turn to Russia itself for funds was taken only recently. Yesterday the Minister of Finance conferred with a number of the principal bankers of St Petersburg and Russia generally, and re eived the assurance that the project was feasible. The banks are prepared to underwrite on suitable terms. The Government Savings Bank, it is said, will assume \$25,000,000 of the total, and such banks as the Moscow Merchant Vo'ga and the Kama banks are well able to underwrite large portions of the loan from their resources.

A director of a prominent bank said that the banks of Russia could, if re quired, take the bonds and hold them in their own vaults. Questioned about the price, he declared that 93 would be "very cheap," but he said the conditions on that point had not yet been de-

Practically the loan is similar in terms to the one issued last Fall, which was fully subscribed in half an hour.

Japan Will Go To Germany

New York, March 17 .- Negotiations are now under way in Berlin looking to the placing of a Japanese loan by German bankers. Advices to this effect were received by New York backers today. The negotiations, it is understood, have been under way for some days, and a definite ann uncement on the subject is expected shortly.

If satisfoctory arrangements are agreed upon, New York banks will participate with German financiers in arranging the proposed Japanese loan.

Czar Will Not Hear of Peace.

St. Petersburg, March 17 - Many in March 25, and later proceed to Rome, and checking up the titles of every court news first leaks out. The mos, I There were upwards of 500 presents

quarter section in the entire grant. All important statement is that Emperor received, including a costly collection of peace and tendered his good offices. have declined, answering that it was impossible under the present circumstances.

> According to the story, M. Witte, president of the committee of ministers, was at the Alexander Palace when Emperor William's message was received and Emperor Nicholas asked his opinion. M. Witte is reported to have replied that he was ready to implore his Majesty on bended knees to accept the advice, whereupon Emperor Nicholas showee great displeasure and M. Witte again requested to be relieved of his functions as president of the committee of ministers.

> > Oregon Apples First.

Oregon apples have commanded the highest price ever paid for any apples sold in the European market. This fact is stated today by E. L. Smith, of the Oregon Development League, who has just received advice from London that Hood River Pippins were selling there for 22s 6d per box, equivalent to \$5 43. At the same time a lot of 1000 boxes of Newton Pippins sent to Edinburgh. Scotland, sold at 2 is per box, equivalent to \$4 83, while apples grown in Scotland were selling at 1s 6d per box.

These prices are equivalent to about 7 cents each for Oregon apples, breaking records for prices for the fruit in foreign markets.

This info mation that Oregon apples excel those grown elsewhere is authentic, comeing from the London dealers to whom the fruit was consigned by the Hood River Apple Growers' Union, in an official commonication to President A. I. Mason, of that organization. Occupying first place in the foreign market is regarded as one of the best advertisements it is possible to give to Ocegon appies, for only the choicest fruit is desired for export, and a large amount of Oregon product is already consumed annually by the English people.

Marcont Married.

London, March 16-The marriage of Guglielmo Marconi to the Honorable Beatrice O'Brien, fifth daughter of Lady Inchiquin, attracted many people to St. George's, Hanover Square, today. Signor Marconi's mother and brother, the latter being the best man, came from Italy for the ceremony. Lord Inchiquin gave a ay the bride, who was attended by four bridesmaids. The coup e afterwards started on their honeymoon, which will be spent in Ireland.

They expect to sail for New York

William early this week strongly ad- jewels. The usual public interest in vised Emperor Nicholas to conclude the event was evidenced by the fact that the crowds which collected outside the The Russian Emperor is declared to church were so dense that traffic had to be stopped. The couple were loudly cheered as they drove away.

> "Black Nell" has secured the job to scrub Astoria's City Hall and jail. The woman received the package in the shape of a sentence imposed by Acting Police Judge Leberman. The contract calls for completion of the work within 45

> At North Yakima Judge Rigg has continued permanently the injunction against the city restraining it from selling sewer bonds. He held the votes at special elections must be registered. Of 642 votes cast at the sewer election, he held that only 79 were registered.

> > Tragedy Averted.

"Just in the nick of time our little boy was saved," writes Mrs. W. Watkins, of Plessant City, Ohio. "Pneumonia had played sad havoc with him and a terrible cough set in besides Doctors treated him, but he grew worse every day. At length we tried Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, and our darling was saved. He's now sound, and well." Everybody ought to know, it's the only sure cure for Coughs, Colds and all Lung diseases. Guaranteed by Slocum Drug Co., Druggists. Price 50c and

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