

Dead Letter Law.

Salem, Or., Nov. 4.—According to the traveling men, the law enacted by the last legislature requiring the keepers of hotels and lodging houses to provide their beds with nine-foot sheets is being observed only to a very small extent over the state. Also in the hotels in the city of Portland the law is not being observed, and each day that the hotel keepers of the state neglect to lengthen their sheets to nine feet they are rendering themselves liable to the rigorous penalty of the law.

In some hotels the nine-foot sheets are being provided as fast as the short ones are worn out and have to be replaced. In the great majority of hotels, however, no effort is being made to comply with the law.

Another lack of observance which is receiving the attention of the Traveling Men's association is the one relating to fire escapes. The law passed last winter requires all lodging houses and hotels more than two stories high to be equipped with iron fire escapes, and those of two stories must provide each room with a knotted rope for the use of lodgers. Neither is this law being observed.

The Traveling Men's association, which was instrumental in getting these two laws through both houses of the legislature last winter, will take steps to have the law enforced.

Don't buy a heating stove until you see that Hamord heater at Gilliam & Bisbee's.

Have to Wait.

According to a recent dispatch from Washington, D. C., there seems to be no immediate prospect of the John Day irrigation project will be taken up by which over 200,000 acres of arid land in the northern part of Morrow county could be irrigated owing to shortage of funds. The dispatch says:

As soon as Director F. H. Newell and Chief Engineer A. P. Davis, of the Reclamation Service, return to Washington with the Senate irrigation committee. Secretary Ballinger will discuss with them ways and means of giving to Oregon the full benefits to which it is entitled under the National reclamation act. That one or more new projects shall be undertaken is virtually promised by the Secretary, the number depending upon the cost and upon the possibilities that are open.

Oregon is, or soon will be, \$2,500,000 behind its rightful apportionment from the reclamation fund. The largest contributor save one to the fund, much less money has thus far been expended on work in Oregon than in states and territories that have contributed but sparingly. This condition is deplored by Mr. Ballinger, and it is his purpose to make restitution as quickly as funds available will permit, provided suitable projects can be found and developed.

At this time it is impossible to say where the Government will build. Quite a few possible projects have been examined and reported on by the engineers of the Reclamation Service, their findings having appeared in the

annual reports of the Director. From among the number it is anticipated that some suitable scheme can be selected and placed under contract within a reasonable time.

After mention of many other prospective prospects in Crook, Malheur, Harney and Lake counties the following is said of the John Day project:

The only remaining Eastern Oregon project that has thus far been examined by the reclamation engineers is the John Day. If funds were plenty and that project could be built to best advantage, it would be by far the biggest thing in the irrigation line that Oregon has ever seen, or is likely to see. In its broadest dimensions, the John Day project could be made to irrigate \$200,000 acres of land lying on the south shore of the Columbia River immediately west of Umatilla. The big project would take the waters from several storage reservoirs, on John Day River, and divert them by an expensive canal and tunnel through the mountainous cliff on the east bank of the John Day, out onto the broad, flat country to be reclaimed. Such a tunnel through the mountains from the John Day would be bigger and longer and more costly than the big Gunnison tunnel in Colorado, recently opened by President Taft. Owing to the depleted state of the reclamation fund, such a project is not now feasible.

There is an alternate plan, however, by which a part of this land near Umatilla may be reclaimed. The Government could dam the Deschutes River and with the impounded water develop sufficient electric energy to pump enough water from the Columbia to irrigate at least 30,000 acres. If anything is to be done in the near future in the Umatilla country, it must be along the line of this pumping project.

Incendiary Work in Grant County.

Is it the avenging hand of the night rider, the rough justice of the vigilantes, or the incendiary work of a demented crank that has raised the red flag of anarchy and applied the torch indiscriminately to houses, barns and hay in the vicinity of Range in the northern part of Grant county? Citizens don't know. They do not know whether it is the work of an organized gang or the vengeance of some crank. They are slow to accuse and cautious in their talk, because they do not know whether they will be the next to suffer, or whether it will be their neighbor. It is a bad state of affairs for which at this time there seems to be no solution. One arrest and a damage case has grown out of the trouble so far. Wm. Walker being placed under arrest last week charged with the crime of arson, the complainant being his son-in-law, Wm. Anderson, whose barn was burned, wire fence cut and wagon chopped to pieces.

Chas. Carr has sued a man by the name of B. V. Shilts, asking for \$5000 damages for the defamation of his character, because Shilts accused Carr of burning him out. Open hostilities have not broken out, but many of the citizens are indignant at the many acts of vandalism and live in fear of personal violence and the destruction of their property.

Some time ago the house and barn of Chas. Brigham was burned. The house and barn of Henry Thomas was burned and about a mile of wire fencing cut. William Anderson was burned out, his fence cut and wagon chopped to pieces. These fires were all of an incendiary origin and the cutting of the fencing and destruction of the wagon indicate a maliciousness which would show a wanton disregard for property.

It is not over range matters citizens declare, and if it is a matter of some personal spite it is not known. Why these depredations should be carried on no one seems to know and concerning the people are slow to talk for fear of inciting someone's enmity causing them to be burned out. It is a bad state of affairs and all men can do is to keep their rifle handy and keep close vigil over their property hoping to get the parties redhanded at their work of destruction and shooting them down on the spot.—Canyon City Eagle.

Uncle Sam's Money.

Washington, Nov.—The enormous job of counting Uncle Sam's money will be undertaken tomorrow, by a committee of experts aided by a large corps of assistants.

The occasion for the performance of this task is Lee McClung, treasurer of Yale university, who was appointed some time ago as president of the United States to succeed Charles H. Treat, and who will take the oath of office tomorrow when Mr. Treat will retire.

Before McClung gives a receipt for the valuations that will be turned over to him, he wants to know that nothing is missing. It is the custom as well as the law to count the money when there is a change of treasurers.

The committee began the count last week. The services of 30 or 40 expert counters, laborers and others will be needed. It was said at the treasury it would require about three months to count the funds.

The amount in the reserve fund and trust funds alone is about \$1,500,000,000. The treasury statement shows that the gold coin and bullion held for the redemption of United States notes and treasury notes alone amounts to \$1,500,000,000. In the trust funds held for the redemption of notes and certificates for which they are respectively pledged there is the staggering amount of \$1,865,512,869 in gold and silver coin. Of this the gold coin amounts to \$874,123,000. Altogether there is more than one billion dollars in gold alone in the treasury. The task of counting the gold, however, compared with that of counting the silver. The trust funds contain nearly a half a billion of silver dollars.

Gilliam & Bisbee have just ordered another carload of cement to sell at \$3.50 per barrel.

Railroads Great Work.

Raleigh, N. C., Nov. 6.—"Attractions of the cities, rewards in mining and manufacturing and other lines of business, for exceptional ability, have tended to augment the city and business life at the expense of the farm life in the United States, and in consequence there has been ignorance and shiftlessness in the care of the soils, a depletion of the soil's fertility and lessening yields."

This opinion, which called attention to the great need for increased agricultural population, was expressed by M. C. Richards, land and industrial agent of the Southern Railway, addressing the Farmers' National Congress here today. His remarks were prophetic of wonderful possibilities of American agriculture, and tended to show the part railroads had played in giving the United States its present rank in the markets of the world. Mr. Richards declared he was not one of those who feared that the United States would fall behind as an agricultural country.

"The day is far off," he said, "when we shall be unable to produce, and at prices which will enable us to compete in the markets of the world. Our share of grain, fruits and meats needed to feed mankind. We are steadily advancing to the time when all our soils shall be cared for properly and their fertility retained; to a time when our yields shall double and treble, and old lands now neglected and new lands in every section shall come under profitable cultivation."

"Railroads have it to their credit that their work has developed American agriculture to its present enviable position, and in whatever future development may come they will play their part. Time and again railroads have lowered rates from one locality to another to develop new markets for the farm products in their territory."

Railroads have been active in settling new districts, and in the special development of agricultural lands which they serve."

Bad farming should become a thing of the past, he declared, if the national and state governments would give more time to agricultural problems, and the general extension of the scheme of agricultural education in the United States.

To the Clothes Wearing Public.

I am authorized the following from a Chicago clothes maker of the best class: To take measure for your suit for 25 cents a person and the 15th suit given away free of charge. Who will be the lucky one? J. HENRY BODE, The Tailor.

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In Danger of Forfeiting Respect.
"Come, Josiah," said Mrs. Gottlieb, after the waiter had gone for their salad; "hurry up and make a kick about something or they'll think we ain't never in a first class place before."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Still Worrying.
I wish I were a polar bear—I do, upon my soul. I might have saved these days of care, in which I've raved and torn my hair. And worried till my nerves are bare. By knowing how and why and where And who and which one of this pair Discovered that old pole. —Boston Herald.

Sordid Consideration.
"Will your new play have a happy ending?" asked the friend.
"I won't be able to say," answered Mr. Stormington Barnes, "until I balance my books at the close of the season."—Bohemian Magazine.

Accomplishments.
Jane had a wondrous mind; Ethel was fair; Guendolin had a kind Of haughty air; Maude can sing well; Marie For painting has a bug. I shall wed Mabel—she Is nice to hug! —Boston Herald.

Helps Some.
"Smith must be prosperous at last."
"Why? Has he paid what he owed you?"
"No, but he tries to borrow bigger sums than he used to."—Cleveland Leader.

Disappointing.
The pumpkin is most fair to see. For yellow luster you can't beat it. Perhaps that's why it seems to be A gold brick when you try to eat it. —Washington Star.

Up on Grammar.
When she was eighteen Mabel thought she was old enough to go out to work and naturally turned to stenography as the line of her endeavors. "I've studied grammar," she told her mother, "and I know all about punctuation, spelling, division and those things."
"I don't think," teased her mother, "you would know a pronoun if you saw one."
However, Mabel was firm and secured a place. She did not reveal her ignorance (for, of course, she did not know everything) until she wished to divide the word "invisible." Then she turned to a girl working on her right.
"Say," she remarked, "invisible is divided invisible, isn't it—divided and accented on the pronoun?"—Philadelphia Ledger.

The Eskimo Dog.
The husky pup That draws a sledge And sleeps curled up Beneath a ledge Has steadfast been In every role And helped to win The distant pole.
He lives on hide Or castoff boots, This canine pride Of the Aleuts. A true friend he, As you'll allow, And one to be Remembered now. —Louisville Courier-Journal.

Of Course.
"The public," remarked the broker, "is always bullish—always inclined to buy for a rise."
"I s'pose," said the other man, "that it's hard for the public to grasp the idea that anything is going down in price."—Pittsburg Post.

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