

# DEPARTMENT ISSUES RULINGS UNDER NEW THREE-YEAR HOMESTEAD LAW

Washington, D. C.—The Interior department has just issued instructions for the enforcement of the three-year homestead bill, which passed congress and was signed by the president on June 6. These instructions will be sent to the various local land offices, and will not only guide registrars and receivers in the carrying out of the law, but will be a guide to homesteaders who come under the law. Already, the department has forwarded to every homestead entryman a copy of the act of June 6, 1912, and instructions will be available at local land offices for those who desire further enlightenment. The instructions are explained in the following synopsis prepared by the commissioner of the general land office:

1. The period of residence is reduced from five years to three, the credit to begin, however, from the establishment of actual residence upon the land; proof must be submitted within five years from the date of entry.

2. Cultivation for three years, counting from the date of entry, is required, including actual cultivation of not less than one-sixteenth of the area beginning with the second year and not less than one-eighth beginning with the third year and until final proof. Tillage of the soil is required; a mere breaking of the soil is not sufficient, but this must be accompanied by planting or sowing seed. Grazing is not accepted, except with respect to certain lands opened to entry under special acts providing therefor. Except as to certain lands in Idaho and Utah hereafter mentioned, the cultivation required is the same on entries under the enlarged homestead acts as on ordinary entries; that is, the cultivation of the former (heretofore required) as reduced by half.

3. The secretary of the interior is authorized to reduce the required area of cultivation; this will not be done on account of the physical or financial disabilities or misfortunes of the entrymen, but only where exaction of cultivation to the statutory proportion is unreasonable under the peculiar conditions governing the lands. The entryman must make application for the reduction during the first year of his entry. Forms will be furnished for that purpose. These applications are primarily passed upon by the general land office, but the ultimate decision thereon rests with the secretary of the interior.

4. After residence upon the lands for one year, soldiers and sailors who served in time of war may have credit for the period of their service. They must, however, show cultivation of not less than one-eighth of the area for at least one year.

5. The general land office is authorized to extend for not more than six months allowed for establishment of residence, on account of climatic conditions, sickness or other unavoidable cause. Applications for this relief will not be considered in advance, but the homesteader's rights will be adjudicated when the question is raised. The homesteader is required to go upon the land when the hindering cause is removed.

6. The entryman may absent himself for one continuous period of not more than five months in each year following establishment of his residence, but he must show bona fide continuous residence during remaining portions of the three-year period. Two five-months' periods of absence immediately succeeding each other, though in different years of entry, will not be allowed; six months' absence renders the entry subject to contest. Moreover, in considering either final proof or contests, extended periods of absence are respected only where notice has been given to the local land office of the beginning of the intended absence and also notice of the homesteader's return. The acts allowing leave of absence to be granted by the local offices have not been repealed.

7. The privilege of commutation (where it heretofore existed) is not affected by the new act, except that the entryman must be a citizen of the United States, and the old practice

under which commutation was allowed by persons who had merely declared their intention of becoming citizens is now abrogated as to all entries.

8. Where a homestead entryman dies, his widow or other statutory successors may make up the three-year period by adding together the period during which the entryman complied with the law and the period during which they cultivated the land, residence not being required of them. However, if the entryman himself has not complied with the law in all respects before his death, the entry is forfeited by his default, and, upon proper proof, the entry will be cancelled.

9. Unless a homestead claimant files an election on or before October 4, 1912, to make proof thereafter under the old law, the entry is subject to the provisions of the three-year law of June 6, 1912. The required residence is thus reduced from five to three years, but the specific cultivation provided by the act must be shown. Moreover, proof must be submitted within five years after the date of entry.

10. Any hardships which might result from the above are eliminated by the ruling of the secretary that a person having an entry under the old law may show the cultivation of the proportions named in the new law for two successive years, though they may not be the second and third years of the entry. Moreover, he holds that where the proof, showing compliance with the new law, is submitted upon an old entry after the expiration of five years from its date, the entry may be, in the absence of adverse claims, submitted to the board of equitable adjudication for confirmation. Said board consists of the secretary of the interior and the attorney general.

11. Where the price of a tract of land is required to be paid, the annual installments extending beyond the period of residence required under the new law, proof may be submitted in other cases, final certificates not issuing until the entire purchase price has been paid.

12. On entries of arid lands in Idaho and Utah for cultivation without residence, the period of cultivation is not reduced; this must amount to one-eighth during the second year and one-fourth during the third, fourth and fifth years. Seven years is allowed for submission of proof.

13. All the provisions of the act apply to entries under the reclamation acts and the Kinkaid entries in Western Nebraska, excepting the provision as to cultivation.

14. Persons having entries made prior to June 6, 1912, are especially warned that it may be to their advantage to have their entries adjudicated under the new law, and that they should carefully consider the matter; if they desire to submit proof under the laws under which their entries were made, they must on or before October 4, 1912, file at the local land office an election to do so; blank forms will be furnished by the various local land offices.

Lewis and Clark.—There is little probability that the Jones-Borah homestead law will greatly affect the 1249 entries of interest at the Lewis and Clark land office, according to the lack of interest being shown by the entrymen here who have not made final proof on their lands. It is believed that there will be scarcely 10 per cent of the entrymen who will elect to make proof under the new law, preferring to prove up under the old five-year ruling.

The reason assigned for the lack of interest rests on the impossibility of many of the homesteaders to comply with the regulations, which say that at the beginning of the second year one-sixteenth of the area of the land shall be under cultivation, and at the beginning of the third year one-eighth shall be cultivated.

There is a large proportion of the farms in which there are not 30 acres tillable, and in many cases the ground is hard to clear in the time allowed.

Americans Win in France. Rheims—Several members of the American Olympic team took part in the games here in competition with the best French athletes, and carried off the honors. Leo Goehring, Mohawk A. C., won the standing high jump, clearing the bar at 5 feet 3 inches.

David S. Caldwell, Massachusetts Agricultural college, won the 800 meters run in 1 minute 57 1-5 seconds. James Thorpe, Carlisle Indian school, captured the 110 meters hurdles race in 15 4-5 seconds.

Alaska Judge is Named. Washington, D. C.—Believing in the policy of giving Alaskan offices to Alaskans, the president, on recommendation of Governor Clark, nominated Frederick E. Fuller, of Alaska, as United States judge for the Fairbanks district, Alaska, and reappointed James J. Crousey district attorney for that district. Judge Overfield, of Fairbanks, has been transferred to Valdez to succeed Judge Cushman, and Judge Fuller is to succeed Overfield.

Festival to Erin to Be Revived. Chicago—The first of a series of celebrations, planned by the Gaelic league of Ireland to revive the ancient festival of Erin, the Feis, will be held here soon. The Feis was organized 2700 years ago at Tara and compares with the Mod of the ancient Scottish Highlanders and the Eisteddfod of Wales.

## CITY WILL FIGHT I. W. W.

### Los Angeles Prepares for Threatened Invasion of Harbor.

Los Angeles—An important conference was held in the mayor's office regarding the threatened trouble with the Industrial Workers of the World at the harbor.

The San Pedro people wanted the council to pass an ordinance forthwith against street oratory. Sergeant Smith said that if enough policemen were given him he would cope with the situation, despite the rumor that a shipload of "workers" was to land at the harbor. The conference decided not to change the laws, saying that they were adequate, but that they felt that drastic action must be taken at once. The police department announced its willingness to send any number of men to San Pedro if they were needed.

After a three-days' attempt on the part of the Industrial Workers of the World to foment disaffection among the longshoremen of the harbor district by ordering a general strike, a summing up of the strike situation brings out these facts:

The Los Angeles I. W. W. have sent out a call for reinforcements to such I. W. W. centers as San Diego and Bakersfield.

To keep interest alive, principally among those who have walked out, leading members of the I. W. W. sent out a circular calling a mass meeting. "Stick, brothers, and we will win the strike," was the ending of the summons.

About 30 men returned to work under the old schedule of wages, and employers think that the other 150 strikers will soon repudiate the I. W. W. and return to work.

## AMENDS HOMESTEAD LAW.

### Entrymen Must Specify If Old Law Is Preferred.

Washington, D. C.—The senate has adopted an amendment to the sundry civil bill, proposed by Senator Borah, providing that homesteaders who made filings prior to June 6 last may perfect title under the three-year or five-year homestead law, as they prefer, even though they fail prior to October 4 to elect under which they will proceed.

The Interior department construes the three-year law to require that all old entries be perfected under the three-year law unless entrymen elect otherwise before October 4.

Washington, D. C.—Every homestead entryman who made his initial filing prior to June 6, 1912, and who had not submitted final proof prior to that date, will be expected to complete his proof under the three-year homestead law unless, by October 4, next, he files with the local land office a statement to the effect that he wished to complete proof under the old law under which his filing was made. This, in brief, is the interpretation which Secretary Fisher places upon the new law, and he holds that under the language of the act, such interpretation is mandatory, and no discretion is given him.

## DEMOCRATS DISAGREE.

### Caucus Declares Against Additions to Battleship Fleet.

Washington, D. C.—A serious split in the Democratic organization of the house of representatives is threatened as a result of the action of the party caucus in declaring against additions to the battleship fleet. The prediction is made that before many days have passed Speaker Clark and Leader Underwood will be fighting one another out in the open.

Speaker Clark voted against the battleship programme. Leader Underwood voted in favor of battleships. The charge is made by the Democrats that Mr. Clark, angered by the failure of Mr. Underwood to support Mr. Clark in the Baltimore convention, has decided to join issues with the majority leader.

The Democrats who favor navy additions, charge that the speaker some weeks ago, promised to give his support to an amendment to the naval bill authorizing one battleship.

## Artists for Fair Named.

San Francisco—Five important appointments for departmental work on the Panama-Pacific exposition were made by President Moore, of the exposition company. The following are the men and positions: Jules Guerin, director of color; A. S. Calder, chief of sculpture; Carl Bitter, adviser in sculpture; E. E. Carpenter, civil engineer; A. H. Markward, chief of construction. Guerin is widely-known mural decorator. He designed the mural decorations in the new Pennsylvania depot in New York.

## Re-trial Held of No Benefit.

Washington, D. C.—War department officials hold that the four West Point cadets who were court-martialed and expelled from the military academy on September 5, 1911, for drinking intoxicating liquors will not be benefited by the senate's joint resolution directing President Taft to reconvene the court and try them again. Army officers maintain they may re-enter the military academy only through appointment.

## Australia Opposes Canal Rebates.

Melbourne—The senate of the Commonwealth of Australia passed the resolution adopted by the house of representatives on July 13, in reference to the Panama canal. Its terms are: "In the opinion of the house, any system providing for a bonus or rebate of canal dues to American shipping in the Panama canal would be detrimental to the interests of Australia."

# IMMENSE HOP CROP IN SIGHT

## Yield for 1912 Estimated at 1,597,000 Hundredweight.

### 1911 Crop, Though Short, Left Surplus On Hand—High Prices Forced Economy.

Estimated Production This Year, Compared With 1911 Crop.		
	Cwt. 1912	Cwt. 1911
United States	442,000	365,500
England	290,000	225,000
Continent	775,000	628,000
Australia	20,000	20,000
World's Crop	1,597,000	1,241,500

Portland, Or.—There will be no hop famine in the world this year. In every hopgrowing country the prospects are good for large crops on the acreage. The United States will produce about 260,000 bales or 45,000 bales more than last year, and Europe will have about 1,125,000 hundredweight, or 269,000 hundredweight more than in 1911. The total world's crop is estimated this year at about 1,597,000 hundredweight, which is 355,500 hundredweight more than was grown in 1911.

A year ago figures that were compiled showed a probable shortage of 300,000 hundredweight in the world's supply. The estimates were substantially correct for the market advanced more or less steadily until the price of hops reached 245 cents on the Pacific Coast. The statistical shortage, however, was apparent rather than real, because the high price caused the brewers to economize, and their requirements were not as heavy as in previous years. That there was more than enough hops to go around has been demonstrated by the fact that there are still several thousand bales of the 1911 crop unsold on the Pacific Coast, and the price of these is steadily declining. There have been sales of several lots recently at 22 cents by growers who might have obtained 45 cents last winter.

If the short crop of 1911 was more than sufficient the much larger crop of 1912 is likely to leave a surplus on the market. That is why the price pendulum is swinging backward. New crop contracts opened in the spring around 27 cents, and since then the decline has been uninterrupted. The price of the 1912 crop is now 20 cents. Whether or not the market will go lower will depend on various developments. The crop has not been made anywhere in the world yet, and there is ample time for disaster to overtake it somewhere. Up to the present time, however, everything has been favorable.

Beer sales in the first half of this year did not show the increase that was recorded in the preceding five years. The brewery output barely held its own in the first part of the year, and has lately decreased.

## OHIO HEADWATERS RAGING.

### Torrential Rains Flood Pittsburg District in Few Hours.

Pittsburg—For the second time this week the Pittsburg district was flooded by one of the heaviest rains in years. In less than six hours the precipitation was nearly three inches.

The torrents have crippled transportation facilities, while inestimable damage has resulted in a dozen small towns.

Turtle creek, near here, rose 14 inches an hour. Families living in the lowlands of Turtle creek, Bradock, East Pittsburg and Wilmersburg were endeavoring to get household goods to safety, while merchants have moved perishable goods to second and third floors.

Horsemen dashing frantically down the Redstone valley often with water up to the saddle girths, made a journey of nine miles in time to save the lives of hundreds of persons at Smok, a mining village. Aside from the great quantity of water due to the cloudburst, it was feared a huge reservoir was about to let go.

## Quake Destroys City.

Lima, Peru—A destructive earthquake occurred at Peru, capital of the department of Piura, the most northerly of the Pacific departments. The shock lasted 40 seconds and the city is said to be almost in ruins. While advice from that district is meager, it is reported a number of children were killed and many persons injured. The dry bed of a river was torn open and jets of water thrown out. Piura, or San Miguel de Piura, lies 120 miles north-northwest of Lambayeque. It has a population of 12,000.

## Mrs. Atherton Registers.

San Francisco—Gertrude Atherton, the famous California novelist, and leader in the woman's suffrage movement, has given up a trip to Germany, and has come to this city in order to exercise her right to vote in the September primary election. It was necessary for her to be here at this time in order to register. Mrs. Atherton announces that she will campaign in behalf of Woodrow Wilson.

## Alaska Bill is Passed.

Washington, D. C.—The Alaskan civil government bills, establishing a legislature of one house in the territory, with authority to enact local laws, passed the senate with practically no opposition. The house has passed the bill, but a conference will be necessary to adjust differences.

## THOUGHT IT WAS SALL GAME

### Man Returning Late at Night, Drenched With Ice Water, Calmly Asks for Rain Check.

"Wasn't it awful about Mr. Wugglo-thorpe?"  
"What happened to him?"  
"Haven't you heard about it? He came home night before last in a perfectly awful condition."  
"How do you mean?"  
"My dear, how do you suppose I mean? He had been attending a stag dinner at some club."  
"Oh! Dear me, why w! men do such things?"  
"But you haven't heard the worst of it. He stumbled up to the front door and rattled around there for a long time without being able to unlock it, and then he went to the side of the house, where he stood under his wife's window and called so loudly that all the neighbors could hear."  
"I shouldn't have let him in if I had been in her place."  
"She didn't. She opened her window and emptied a pitcherful of water on him."  
"It was what he deserved."  
"Yes, and the absolute depravity of the man was shown when he looked up while the water was being poured on him and asked for a rain check."

NOTHING BOTHERED HIM.



Kind Old Gentleman—My poor man, how came you to be a tramp?  
Tramp—I joined the "Don't Worry Club," an' then I didn't care whether I lost me job or not.

## Hadn't Seen Them.

"You know," said Miss Oddways, looking critically at a picture a friend had purchased, "that landscape does remind me so of Mr. Vermilion's work. You've seen his pictures, of course?"  
"No," said the friend, frankly, "I haven't."  
"Not seen Mr. Vermilion's paintings! Why, my dear, and you an art connoisseur! I understand he has a picture in every saloon in Paris."

## Appalling Mistake.

"At the prayer meeting the other night," confided Mrs. Goodsole, wife of the pastor, "Brother Jollifer made the most awful blunder you ever heard of."

"What was it?" inquired Mr. Hardisty.  
"He started the hymn, 'Tell Me the Old, Old Story,' to the tune of 'Has Anybody Here Seen Kelly?'"

## You Know This Fellow.

"Bluffington," said Dumley, "started to tell me today how terribly ashamed he was—"  
"Yes," interrupted Wise, "I know his habit. Whenever he wants to brag about something he's particularly proud of he always begins 'Well, I'm ashamed to say—'.—Catholic Standard and Times.

## Just as Good.

"I should hate to be Grump. He seems to be unpopular with everybody."  
"You've been out of town for a while and don't know what you are talking about. Grump is the most popular man in town."  
"Then he must have changed his disposition."  
"No, but he inherited a fortune."

## It Often Happens.

"How did you happen to lose your girl?"  
"I entertained her so lavishly while we were engaged that she acquired expensive tastes. Then she wisely decided that she would be unhappy with anybody but a millionaire, which I wasn't."

## A Carping Friend.

"A college offers me a degree for a million."  
"Do you want to be a college roth?"  
"No; but I'd like a degree."  
"Oh, why spend all that money? Join the boy scouts."

## Too Many of Them.

"The wickedest man, when stricken by remorse, doesn't regret his past any more than Miss Sereleaf regrets her past."  
"Good heavens! What is there in her past to make her feel so sad?"  
"Nothing but years."

## Evidences of Experience.

"What makes you think that man has had experience with sailboats and gnoes?"  
"He doesn't show any inclination to get into any of them."

## A Surface Opinion.

"There is one good thing about a swimming contest."  
"What might that be?"  
"There is no ground for complaint."

# EXCISE TAX BILL PASSES SENATE

## Democrats and Progressives Combine on Measure.

### Reciprocity Law is Dead—Income Tax As Substitute Lost—Tariff Commission Made Permanent.

Washington, D. C.—Democrats and Progressives united again in the senate and by a vote of 36 to 18 passed the Democratic excise tax bill, extending the present tax on corporations to the business of individuals, private firms and co-partnerships.

Attached to the measure also by the aid of Republican votes, were amendments for the repeal of the Canadian reciprocity law and the fixing of a two-dollar a ton tariff on print paper, and for the establishment of a permanent non-partisan tariff commission.

On the passage of the excise bills the bills were supported by the following progressives and insurgent Republicans: Bourne, Bristow, Clapp, Crawford, Cummins, Gronna, Jones, Kenyon, LaFollette, Nelson, Poindexter, Townsend and Works.

The measure was changed from the original house bill only in minor particulars, except for the addition of the Canadian reciprocity repeal and the permanent tariff commission provision. It will go back to the house for the approval of that body and it is believed an agreement soon will be reached so that a perfected measure can be laid before the president.

The excise measure would levy upon all persons, firms or co-partnerships, an annual tax equal to one per cent of net income in excess of \$5000.

Senator Cummins' permanent tariff board amendment, which was carried in the wool fight and then lost in the final upheaval when the La Follette bill passed, was attached to the excise bill by a vote of 38 to 29. All Republicans except Heyburn, of Idaho, supported it.

The chief fight aside from that over Senator Borah's income tax measure, came upon the Canadian reciprocity amendment offered by Senator Gronna, of North Dakota.

The amendment adopted by the senate, 37 to 26, provides for the complete repeal of the reciprocity law and for the establishment of a duty of \$2 a ton on print paper imported from Canada in place of the present duty of \$3.75. The duty on chemical wood pulp is fixed at "one-twelfth of one cent a pound dry weight, if unbleached, one-eighth of one cent a pound if bleached, and the duty on printing paper at one-tenth of one cent a pound, if valued at not above three cents a pound; two-tenths of one cent a pound if valued above three cents and not above five cents a pound, and 7 1/2 per cent ad valorem if valued above five cents a pound."

The senate changed the excise bill so that the tax would not apply to labor organizations, agricultural associations or fraternal insurance organizations. A plan to check the tobacco monopoly by a special excise tax on production above a certain amount, offered by Senator Hitchcock, was defeated.

## Cur Dogs Get Joy Ride.

Los Angeles—Mrs. J. M. Herndon, a wealthy Pasadena woman, went to Venice Saturday in her largest touring car, drove to the dog pound and told the keeper to lead out all the canines confined there and she would give them a joy-ride. As the invitation included himself, Poundmaster Jaeger was not long in getting out the animals—about 15 curs of all descriptions.

They jumped all over the automobile and Mrs. Herndon, but she seemed to enjoy it and directed the chauffeur to speed up and the run began. The homeless dogs and their keeper were driven 15 miles along the beach and back and then brought half way to the city before they were returned to the pound.

## Opium Smugglers Caught.

San Francisco—A plan of the United States secret service to arrest opium smugglers on the steamship Korea, was partially successful, when Lee Chong and Wong Fi, Chinese, members of the crew, were arrested here. A white man, supposed to have been a member of an opium-smuggling ring which the Federal officials are seeking to break up, escaped. The arrest of the two Chinese was brought about through a secret service agent who boarded the vessel at Honolulu and gained the confidence of the smugglers.

## Wheat Crop to Be Bumper.

Seattle, Wash.—Washington's 1912 wheat crop will total about 38,000,000 bushels, 4,000,000 bushels more than last year, according to the estimate made by C. J. Holset, chief grain inspector of the public service commission. Figures obtained from all parts of the state indicate a crop of 8,500,000 bushels of oats and 5,000,000 bushels of barley. Newspaper reports from the fruit districts indicate large yields of all kinds of fruit.

## Differential is Settled.

Seattle, Wash.—The grain commission of the Merchants' Exchange has established the differential between sacked and bulk wheat at four cents, one cent more than last year. The wider spread is due to the fact that grain bags this season cost 1 1/2 cents, the highest price ever paid in the Pacific Northwest.