

WOULD PUT END TO SPECULATION

Secretary Lane Seeks to Aid Bona Fide Settler.

Says Speculation is Bane of West—Cannot Be Discovered Until Too Late.

Portland, Or.—"We ought to make it just as easy as possible for a man to get a home, and just as hard as possible for a speculator to get hold of the public land and hold up the man who wants to get a home."

That is the conservation policy of the Wilson administration, as enunciated by Franklin K. Lane, secretary of the interior, who is inspecting the proposed reclamation enterprises of the Deschutes country.

"The trouble is that it is hard to distinguish the homemaker," continued Mr. Lane, speaking to the group of local Democrats who, with a number of persons interested in the public land policy, welcomed him at his headquarters at the Oregon hotel.

"We do want to weed out the speculator, the man who is hired by the big timber companies to locate the land and then relinquish, and all others who are not bona fide settlers," said Mr. Lane.

"It is the same with reclamation projects as it is with the administration of the homestead laws," he asserted. "We find that we have the speculator to contend with. Every reclamation project, virtually, comes to the government as a bankrupt proposition. Reclamation bonds are a drug on the market. Investors have bit and been bitten, and they want no more of them. So when the government takes hold of a project it finds that a part of the land, or much of it, often 40 to 50 per cent, is privately owned."

"The speculator participates in the benefits of the project, and then boosts the price of his land to \$100 or \$200 an acre. How to eliminate him is our great problem. We don't want him at all, but we can't tell who he is until we have him on our hands. We would have to look into a man's very soul to tell."

"Why not extend the time of payment for reclamation benefits to bona fide land-users, and decrease the time for those who do not use the land, but merely pay for the water to hold the land for speculation?" asked J. W. Brewer, of Redmond, vice president of the Central Oregon Development league.

"A very good idea," remarked Secretary Lane, asking Mr. Brewer to outline it further.

"I think proof of cultivation should be required every year," said Mr. Brewer, "that the period of payments should be extended to 15 years, with the first five years free, and that the water benefits should be withheld after the land has not been cultivated for three years."

HARRY THAW MAKES ESCAPE

Murderer Eludes Officer and 60-Horse Auto Takes Him.

Matteawan, N. Y.—Harry K. Thaw, the slayer of Stanford White, escaped from the hospital for the criminal insane here at 7:45 o'clock Monday morning. A dart for liberty through an open gate, a dash into the open door of a powerful automobile that stood quivering outside, and a flight like a rocket for the Connecticut state line, 30 miles away, accomplished his escape.

At nightfall he was still at large and the hospital authorities felt certain he was outside the state. Once beyond its boundaries, Thaw is practically free. Only long, perhaps years, of litigation can bring him back, and then only in one event—that he be adjudged insane in the state to which he has fled.

Five confederates manned the car in which Thaw escaped and a big black limousine which trailed it past the asylum gate. The police have their license number and the names under which they registered at a local hotel, and are seeking them.

The hospital authorities believe Thaw has fled to the shore of Long Island Sound and boarded a yacht, waiting with steam up to rush him to Europe.

South Norwalk, Conn.—It was learned late Monday night that for two hours in the afternoon a large steam yacht was anchored opposite Roton Point, about a half mile off shore. She steamed east late in the afternoon.

Old Tree Changes Fruit.

Colfax, Wash.—A remarkable freak in fruit was brought to Colfax Monday from the S. S. Miller ranch, 12 miles south of here. The fruit appears to be a cherry, but is not quite the shape or color of a Bing cherry, which it strongly resembles. Growing on the same limb with the fruit, which is dark red in color, are Green Gage plums. The tree is 30 years old. The leaves are plum leaves and the tree has always borne Green Gage plums. This year it is covered with the freak fruit, and also many regular plums.

Showers Relieve Kansas.

Kansas City.—Heavy showers Monday over most of the eastern half of Kansas added to the relief that came with the rains of Sunday, and it is believed the drouth is now broken.

ALASKA STEAMER HITS ROCK

Sinks in Three Minutes—40 People Are Lost.

Juneau, Alaska—Thirty-three passengers and seven members of the crew of the Pacific Coast Steamship company's iron steamship State of California perished at half past 8 o'clock Sunday morning in Gambier Bay, 90 miles south of Juneau, when the vessel struck an uncharted rock and sank in three minutes, with many passengers imprisoned in their state-rooms.

The steamship left Seattle Wednesday night for Skagway and way points. Travel to the north is unusually heavy on account of the stampede to the Shushanna gold field. The pursor lost all of his records, and it is not possible to give a complete list of the missing.

A great hole was torn in the bottom of the State of California. Fifty-four passengers sailed from Seattle on the State of California and were booked for Juneau and Skagway and presumably were on the ship when she struck the rock. Twenty-two passengers were taken on board at Prince Rupert, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Wrangell and other points, and these also were on the boat at the time of the disaster, making a total of 76 passengers.

Forty-three passengers were rescued and taken to Juneau by the steamship Jefferson, leaving 33 who have perished. Seven of the crew are dead, making the total dead forty.

The figures of the number of passengers are given by the Pacific Coast Steamship company. They cannot be verified by the pursor, who lost all his records. It is barely possible that some of the 54 passengers booked to sail from Seattle changed their minds at the last moment.

The vessel and cargo, mail and express, are a total loss. The ship was valued at \$400,000. A number of horses for use on the Shushanna trail were on the vessel. The steamship Jefferson of the Alaska Steamship company, southbound, heard the wireless call of the sinking steamship and turned back to rescue the survivors, who had taken to small boats and life rafts. Ten of the passengers had suffered so severely from exposure that it was necessary to take them to a hospital in Juneau for treatment. Miss Lillian Ward died after being taken off a life raft. The uninjured survivors of the crew and passengers were taken to Seattle on the Jefferson.

A cyclone practically demolished the village of Douglas, N. D., without killing anyone.

The senate has put wheat on the free list, but refuses to put duty on eggs and milk.

The free municipal streetcar line of St. Louis will begin charging the regular fare for rides.

A wind storm amounting to almost a cyclone swept Winnipeg, Man., doing immense damage.

Kansas and Missouri still swelter, though local showers have relieved the situation in some places.

A delegation of women appeared before the votes committee of the house to plead for a universal suffrage law.

Despite the fact that he had a wife and young baby, a Portland man was ordered to jail for 5 days for auto speeding.

Danish explorers in the Arctic tell of hardships suffered when boats and supplies are lost and the party lives on dog meat.

PORTLAND MARKETS

Wheat—Track prices: Club, 78@79c; bluestem, 83c; forty-fold, 79@80c; red Russian, 76c; five, 77c; valley, 80c.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$27 per ton; new, \$24.50.

Corn—Whole, \$34; cracked, \$35 ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$24.50 per ton; shorts, \$26.50; middlings, \$31.

Hay—Fancy Idaho timothy, \$17@18; fancy Eastern Oregon timothy, \$15@16; timothy and alfalfa \$13@14; timothy and clover, \$14@15; alfalfa, \$12.50; clover, \$8.50@10; oat and vetch, \$10@11; valley grain hay, \$10@11.

Poultry—Hens, 14@14½c; springs, 15c; turkeys, live, 18@20c; dressed, choice, 24@25c; ducks, 12@13c; geese, young, 11½c.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, case count, 22c per dozen; fresh ranch, candled, 28@29c.

Butter—Oregon creamery butter cubes, 32c per pound; butter fat, delivered, 32c.

Pork—Fancy, 11@11½c per pound.

Veal—Fancy, 14@15c per pound.

Onions—Walla Walla, \$1.50 sack.

Vegetables—Beans, 3@4c pound; cabbage, 2@2½c; cauliflower, \$2 crate; corn, 10@15c dozen; cucumbers, 20@40c box; eggplant, 6@8c pound; head lettuce, 35@40c dozen; peas, 5@7c pound.

Potatoes—New, 75c@1.25 hundred.

Green Fruit—Apples, new, 90c@92.25 box; apricots, 75c@1.25; cantaloupes, \$1.25@2 crate; peaches, 25@90c box; watermelons, \$2 per cwt.; plums, 75c@1.25 box; pears, \$2@2.25 box.

Hops—1912 crop, 15@18c pound; 1913 contracts, 20c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 11@16c pound; valley, 18@19c; mohair, 1913 clip, 31c.

Grain bags—Selling price, 10½c Portland.

Cattle—Choice steers, \$7.75@8.50; medium, \$7@7.50; choice cows, \$7@7.25; medium, \$6@7.75; medium calves, \$6.75@7.75; bulls, \$4@5.75.

Hogs—Light, \$8.75@9.60; heavy, \$8@8.60.

Sheep—Wethers \$3.25@4.25; ewes, \$2.50@3.50; lambs, \$5.25@6.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

General News of the Industrial and Educational Development and Progress of Rural Communities, Public Institutions, Etc.

WARNING GIVEN SETTLERS

No Land Entries in O. & C. Grant Will Be Recognized.

Portland—United States District Attorney Reames has made public the text of a letter received from Ernest Knabel, assistant to the attorney general, commending him for calling the attention of the attorney general to the fact that frauds are being perpetrated on innocent persons by those who profess that they can locate settlers on lands in the Oregon & California land grant, comprising 2,360,000 acres in Oregon.

"Every effort should be made not only to prosecute those guilty of frauds, but also to inform fully the public," says Mr. Knabel.

"By the act of congress of August 20, 1912," the letter continues, "it was expressly declared that none of the lands reverting to the United States by virtue of any right of forfeiture shall be or become subject to entry under any of the public land laws of the United States or to the initiation of any right whatever under any of the public land laws."

Mr. Knabel says all those who have applied to the attorney general for information regarding the lands have been advised that no one can safely make any contract with the railroad company, now in possession of the lands, and that no department of the government has any authority to make any disposition of the lands.

"The question of the prosecution of those responsible for frauds has been taken up with the other departments interested," says Mr. Knabel.

District Attorney Reames and Louis L. Sharp, chief of the field division of the attorney general's department, are busy collecting evidence against those who have been engaging in the business of locating people on the lands, which will be in controversy for at least two years.

There can be no settlement until the case involving the title to the lands has gone through the Circuit Court of Appeals at San Francisco and the Supreme Court of the United States on appeal from the decision of Judge Wolverton, of the United States District court, declaring the lands forfeited to the government by reason of violation of the terms of the grant.

LAND SUITS ARE BEING FILED

F. A. Hyde and Associates Accused of Taking 30,000 Acres.

Salem—Seven complaints to recover about 30,000 acres of school land alleged to have been obtained by fraud, are being filed in various counties by Attorney General Cawford. The land is valued at several million dollars.

F. A. Hyde, of the firm of Benson & Hyde, who operated in Oregon and other states on the Pacific Coast, is the principal defendant. The complaints charge that Hyde obtained the land through confederates who were paid small sums to make the entries. An appropriation was made at the recent session of the legislature for the prosecution of the cases.

The attorney general believes he has a good case against the defendants and that most of the land will be recovered for the state. The statute of limitations probably will prevent criminal prosecutions.

Welfare Talks Attract.

Ashland—Grand Army hall was thronged at the closing sessions of the General Welfare school, under the auspices of the Oregon Agricultural college. The attendance of women during the demonstrations in domestic science and addresses respecting pure food and adulterated products especially was noticeable.

Illustrated by object lessons, the hidden dangers in filthy markets, unclean bakeries, cheap restaurants and dirty dairies were discussed. On the other hand harmless germs were revealed also, and a powerful microscope in the bacteriological department was the center of much interest in connection with the practical application of the instrument to the question under discussion.

Vetch Ripens and Shatters.

Airlie—Vetch in this vicinity ripened excessively and is shattering badly. Many binders have been busy cutting the crop during the past few days, and before all could be taken care of, the ripe heads were heard bursting. A fair yield is expected and the growers think the price again will be good this season. Polk county's large area of clover is showing up well, but reports from all sections say that the seed is not filling sufficiently, which may cause some fields to be cut for hay.

Norwegian Colony Coming.

Eugene—Twenty Norwegian families will settle on a tract on the Oregon Electric a short distance north of Eugene, according to plans announced here. J. F. Adrianson, of Moscow, Idaho, and M. G. Hansen, of Cottage Grove, are at the head of the colonization scheme and have secured 250 acres for the use of the newcomers.

Many Seals Enter River.

Astoria—Large numbers of seals are entering the river at present, and every day hundreds of them can be seen on the sands above Tongue Point. Deputy Warden Ankeny is shooting seals there, and is reported to be meeting with good success.

RAISE PRICE FOR PRINTING

New State Printer Plans to Adopt Portland Wage Scale.

Salem—That the flat salary bill providing for the state printing, which became effective at the death of State Printer Duniway, will not mean a saving to the state, as was argued by its promoters, became evident when State Printer Harris insisted that he had no intention of receding from his plan to pay his men the union scale of Portland, which is \$4.50 more a week than the Salem scale paid by Mr. Duniway.

Mr. Duniway said a few days before his death that his profits had never been more than \$7500 a year. The proposed increase in wages by State Printer Harris, will cost the state about \$5000 a year. Mr. Harris' salary is \$4000 a year. The secretary of the state printing board—a position created by the law—receives \$2000 a year. The state, under the law, must purchase a printing plant which will cost about \$20,000. It is estimated that the annual depreciation in the value of a printing plant is about 10 per cent of the original outlay. The interest on \$20,000 at 6 per cent is \$1200.

These figures total \$14,200 a year, as against Mr. Duniway's profits of \$7500 a year, and if Mr. Harris succeeds in having the Portland scale put into operation the department will cost the state, under the new law, which was proclaimed by its promoters as a money-saving proposition, \$6700 a year more than under the Duniway regime. Mr. Duniway, in opposing the law, said this would be true, but Mr. Harris, who virtually framed the law, and waged an unsuccessful fight on the late state printer, denied. The figures, however, speak for themselves.

So far as is known not a member of the state printing board favors the Harris plan of putting into effect the Portland scale in the state printing office. One member called attention to the fact that the work had been done satisfactorily by Mr. Duniway's force under the Salem union scale. He said he could not understand why Harris wished to put into operation a scale which was not asked.

HARVEST REPORT IS GIVEN

Grain and Fruit Conditions Along O.-W. R. & N. Are Good.

Grain and fruit conditions at points along the line of the O.-W. R. & N. Co. are shown in the weekly crop report compiled by the railroad for the past week.

Near La Grande, Or., harvesting is reported in full blast, with fall grain averaging about 25 bushels to the acre so far. No spring wheat, oats or barley has yet been threshed.

Rain has stopped harvesting about Elgin. If the weather clears, the damage will be hardly noticeable. Showers near Baker and hard winds are reported to have damaged the grain. Spring grain is reported fine. The timothy crop, about all in stack, runs 2½ to 3 tons per acre.

From the sections about Heppner, reports are to the effect that previous predictions as to the wheat yield will hold good. The fruit crop is in good shape.

In the Walla Walla district farmers are pleased with their crops. Already 40,000 bushels of wheat have been ordered shipped from points between Walla Walla and Pendleton.

Bee Man to Play With Swarm.

Salem—Locked in a cage and playing with a swarm of bees will be the form of entertainment for the State Fair patrons furnished by James Davis, a bee expert. Mr. Davis has signed an agreement with Frank Meredith, secretary of the fair board, to give "demonstrations" daily.

"The bees don't bother me," Davis is quoted as saying. "I let them crawl all over me, and even go under my shirt. They never sting. They know I am their friend. My movements are such the bees are not angered. A man who understands bees is never in danger of being stung." Friends of the bee expert, however, say he is often stung, but he has such fine control of himself the audience never knows it.

Broom Factory Expands.

Ashland—The Ashland Broom factory was organized formally and will enlarge its scope of operations at once. About 1500 acres are planted to broom corn throughout the valley, which will yield 50 tons of raw product. Six grades of brooms are manufactured, including whisks. Besides supplying the home market, the factory has been filling orders in territory extending from Southern Washington points to Central California. To meet increased demands the factory will install over \$1000 worth of new machinery.

Many Go to Mountains.

Hood River—Parties of people pass through the city daily en route to Cloud Cap inn. The absence of forest fires this year has caused the atmosphere to be especially clear, and mountain parties have enjoyed splendid views of the surrounding country. The wonderful flora of this district is now at its best, and guests at the inn are enjoying the strolls among the dwarf pines at the snowline as much as the trips among the crevasses of the glaciers.

OREGON MAN WINS TROPHY

Sergt. Pearson, of Roseburg, Takes Rifle Prize.

Camp Perry, O.—With the remarkable score of 103 out of a possible 105 points, Sergeant S. W. Pearson, Company 4, Coast Artillery, who lives at Roseburg, Or., won the Catrow cup match here in the National Rifle Association shoot. The match was shot on the 800, 900 and 1000-yard range.

L. K. Spooner, of the Oregon Naval Militia, won 21st place in the same match, in which there was a total of 388 competitors. Out of a possible 105 points, his score was 101.

Five men tied at 103 for the cup, but Pearson scored the full 35 on the 100-yard range and nosed out his competitors.

Corporal Thomas E. Vereer, U. S. Infantry, won the Wimbledon cup match. His score was 99 out of a possible 100, with eight bulseyes to his credit.

Lieutenant Colonel C. B. Winder, of Ohio, was second, also with a total of 99, but with only four bulseyes.

One hundred and sixty-three prizes were awarded in this match. Scores were so high that the first 1500 men all had records of 92 or better.

This match was for the long-distance championship in the 1000-yard range. Seven Oregon men won prominent places. The official score of all competitors has not yet been officially announced. It is said many of the scores made were sensations.

The Hale cup match, which was the second event of the National Rifle Association matches, closed with B. F. Cole, of West Virginia, winner of a score of 50 plus 10 consecutive bulseyes, and E. H. Martin, of the United States M. C., a close second, with 50 plus six bulseyes.

Captain Cole had 22 consecutive bulseyes including his sighting shots, before he missed.

COUNTY OFFICIALS RECALLED

Judge and Commissioner of Clackamas Lose Their Jobs.

Oregon City, Or.—Clackamas county has voted to recall the old County court and seat a new judge and commissioner.

Unofficial returns from 39 out of 44 precincts in the county show that H. S. Anderson defeated R. B. Beatie, incumbent, for county judge by 331 votes, and J. W. Smith beat N. Blair, incumbent, by 464 votes for county commissioner.

The 39 precincts, complete but unofficial, show that the recall carried by 794 votes. Anderson ran six ahead of Smith, and Beatie 139 ahead of Blair. Judge Beatie said:

"I concede my defeat and will not contest the election. I believe I was beaten on account of the small vote."

This is the first time in Oregon's history that a recall election has resulted in defeat for officeholders.

Only about 5000 votes out of a total registration of 15,000 were cast. The vote of the women, however, was particularly heavy, and to their activity is attributed the defeat of Beatie and Blair.

Dairy Is Ordered Closed.

Oregon City—Dr. Calvin S. White, of the state board of health, has ordered the Star Dairy closed and forbidden the further sale of milk from the establishment until permission should be given by the state board. The act followed an investigation made at the request of Superintendent Howell, of the board of city water commissioners, and City Health Officer Norris, both of whom asserted that all typhoid cases recently discovered in this city were in families taking milk or cream from the condemned establishment.

Eight cases of typhoid made it appear recently that there was danger of a further epidemic. Investigation showed that not only was the well at the establishment contaminated and unfit for drinking purposes, but three additional cases of fever were found among those employed or living at the establishment.

Water Rights Assessable.

Salem, Or.—Charles V. Galloway, tax commissioner, in an opinion, holds that fishing rights are "rights and privileges" and "local advantages" belonging to the land. He says they should be taken into consideration in determining the value of the land for assessment and taxation.

The opinion was asked by James A. Davis, assessor at The Dalles, who had prepared to make assessments of fishing rights in the Columbia river and water rights on the Deschutes river.

Jellyfish Hold Up Ship.

Los Angeles—For two days the three-masted schooner Azalea, which arrived in Los Angeles harbor Wednesday, was surrounded by "men-of-war." No shots were fired, and the schooner drifted lazily in the fleet, striking the "men-of-war" on all sides and ramming them with her prow when she would dive down a long swell, causing an enormous mortality among them. The "men-of-war" were fish, a species of jellyfish, termed by seafarers "Portuguese men-of-war," and were met by thousands.

Girl of 13 Wins Honors.

Fort Smith, Ark.—Adeline Lincoln, 13 years old, won a scholarship in the University of Arkansas. She defeated a class of 32 applicants, all of whom were several years her senior. The girl, a high school graduate, is the youngest to get a university scholarship in the state.

ELECTION MAY BE CALLED SOON

Views of U. S. Made Known to President Huerta.

Feeling in Washington Optimistic—Constitutionalists May Accept Plan Offered by Ling.

Washington, D. C.—The Huerta government, through conferences between John Lind, President Wilson's personal representative, and Foreign Minister Gamboa, now knows the viewpoint of the United States and its desire for only a peaceful and friendly solution of Mexico's troubles. The formal communication Mr. Lind bears, however, will be transmitted to the Mexican government by diplomatic representatives of foreign powers in Washington.

What the result of publishing these views will be, officials here do not venture to predict. They have no assurances that the Huerta government will accept them, but they believe the spirit thus far shown by the Huerta officials justifies a hopeful feeling for the success of Mr. Lind's mission.

Observers of the situation generally look for a pronouncement of some kind from Huerta immediately following the presentation of President Wilson's message through Mr. Lind. It is expected in diplomatic circles that President Huerta will announce a call for an early election, even setting the date.

Constitutionalists hitherto have asserted they would not engage in any election in which the Huerta government is in control over the election machinery. The possibility of an agreement, however, for a non-partisan commission of Mexicans to conduct the election is being discussed and should the situation actually progress to that point, it may be that informal efforts will be made by Mr. Lind to secure the participation by the constitutionalist leaders in such a plan.

There is no intention, at present, of lifting the embargo on arms; in fact the President is said to have taken a strong position against it.

There is a confident and conspicuous feeling of optimism among administration officials that a peaceful settlement is in sight, though they admit the delicacy of the situation forbids any detailed discussion at this time of the circumstances on which their hopes are based.

OPIUM IS FORCED ON CHINA

British Government Refuses to Release From Contracts.

London—Lieutenant General Chang, a delegate of the National Opium Prohibition Union of China, who has been in England for three months endeavoring to induce the British government to release China from her obligation to receive any more Indian opium, has started for China to report to Provisional President Yuan Shi Kai the failure of his mission. In a statement issued to the British public General Chang said:

"Our people are in earnest in their efforts to rid themselves of the opium evil and they cannot help feeling resentment against a country which is forcing upon us the very article by which we were degraded and disgraced. It is intolerable when we reflect we are sacrificing millions of revenue and hundreds of lives in struggling against enormous difficulties that a foreign country should force us to receive for two or three years longer the poison we earnestly are striving to stamp out."

Receives Peaches by Mail.

Washington, D. C.—Postmaster General Burleson inaugurated the new regulations changing the parcel post rates and weight limit by mailing President Wilson a box of fine Georgia peaches. The box, which weighed 17 pounds, was delivered at the White House early in the day.

The new regulation, which became effective Aug. 15, raises the maximum weight of parcel post packages from 11 to 20 pounds and makes certain changes in the rates. The local delivery rate of postage was reduced from 5 cents for the first pound and 1 cent for each additional pound or fraction thereof, to 5 cents for the first pound and 1 cent for each additional two pounds or fraction thereof.

St. Louis Riots Incessant.

St. Louis—The third day of the local garment makers' strike was characterized by incessant rioting in which guns, spears, bricks, stiletos, lead pipe billies and pieces of sewing machines were used as weapons. Before dark more than a score of arrests had been made. Striking men and girls, strikebreakers, coat manufacturers and private detectives were included in those taken into custody by the police. Only minor charges, such as peace disturbance and mutilation of property were placed against those arrested.

Forest Fire Losses Kept Down.

Washington, D. C.—Reports to the Forest service from all of the National forests in the West indicate that favorable weather and active patrolling were keeping fire losses down to a minimum. This week 125 small fires started, as against 200 last week, and all but 16 of these were put out without damage.