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A MISTAKEN PUBLIC POLICY

The earliest great land grab was in the shape of a grant to the Illinois Central railroad, and then, and ever since, government has continually erred in giving such aid to public enterprises. The action of Congress has been on the apparent idea that our continent was composed of illimitable space, and the lands never could be utilized, but men in middle age, who saw all the wilderness beyond the Missouri, and much of wilderness east of it, will live to see their children seek in vain for a good quarter section of farming land to locate at a dollar and a quarter an acre, or to improve as a homestead.

In almost every instance, says the Willamette Farmer, government could have built the roads and owned them, and the people could have had transportation at a fair rate, and the public lands have been reserved for actual settlers, instead of having them become the property of corporations, to be held at speculative prices. Take the Union and Central Pacific as an example. Those roads could have been—and were—built with the government bonds loaned the builders as a basis of credit, without the land grant. The government was the only party that could have afforded to undertake the work. Had it done so, and then managed the roads economically, charging enough for fares and freights to cover interest on their cost, it would by this time have saved the people nearly a hundred millions of dollars, above a fair transportation rate, which they have been taxed by those monopolies. It is a safe computation to say that Oregon is overcharged ten dollars per head for all its population, paid by us for the transportation we are obliged to have over those roads. It is a drag of millions annually on the people of the North Pacific.

The Northern Pacific could have been constructed by government and completed in 1878, or sooner, and would before this have been a profitable investment, but in the hands of able men who also had its prodigious land grant to aid them, it was a failure. With its unlimited credit, government could have carried this road through at less cost than any corporation, by letting contracts to the lowest bidder. This would have insured the settlement of the whole line of country, and it would have given us wonderful prosperity, all the greater because lands would have remained part of the public domain.

In making grants, the giving of land without restriction was another fatal mistake. All lands should have been sold at government price, and then only to actual settlers, and in limited quantity, as prescribed by our land laws. The public domain has been squandered at a fearful rate, and that, too, by the people's own representatives. When we look back at the course of legislation, it is almost impossible to believe that honest men, selected and trusted by the people to protect their interests, have knowingly thrown away the people's birthright, as has been done.

Take our own State legislation, for example, and look at the reckless manner in which our swamp lands have been manipulated in the interest of sharpers. The State of Oregon had never acquired any title to swamp lands, and there was no reason for anticipating a title and disposing of property that had not even been located; there was no such land known to exist in any legal form; a general law of Congress dating back to '41

had provided that swamp lands should belong to the States for purposes of reclamation. That was title enough to call the vultures together.

The only prudent way for the State would have been to get the government to locate our swamp lands for us and secure action of some kind to confirm our title; abundant time should have been taken to learn how best to dispose of them, and no disposition should have been made that could in any manner damage the rights of actual settlers. An unscrupulous ring got up a scheme to gobble up these lands, and stood ready to file immense claims the moment the bill became a law. Two Houses of our Legislature and a Governor, all elected by the people, carried out this robber's programme. Not only so, but a Legislature took time by the forelock, with a vengeance, and to gratify other schemers, before we had an acre of swamp land located or acquired by a shadow of title, made haste to issue bonds on an imaginary "Swamp Land Fund" to build imaginary wagon roads, and bestowed enough such grants, in all probability, to eat up any possible swamp land fund by paying interest, without ever reaching the principal. The whole performance was such a barefaced swindle that the words "swamp land" are a "hissing by-word" all through Oregon.

By this infamous law honest settlers have been dispossessed, by ring claimants, of lands they improved and built houses on long years ago. They often vacated there because they had not money to fight the swamp land grabbers. East of the Cascades, very often, swamp land is essential to the settler—a necessary part of his farm—and without it farmer or stockman cannot thrive. The swamp land grabber locates his domain by wholesale, designates counties, and besides this, to secure all the good upland adjoining, he employs "fellows of the baser sort" to locate the adjoining dry soil as "desert," under the "Desert Land Act" that A. A. Sargent pushed through Congress—another outrageous swindle—so that between the two an intending settler, though out in a "howling wilderness," cannot find room to locate a homestead.

When the next Legislature meets some action ought to be taken, if possible, to undo the evils of the Swamp Land Act; and Congress should hasten to repeal that other swindle, the Desert Land Act, before it does more harm in Oregon. When it passed, Colorado objected, and was exempted from the sphere of the bill's action, and it looks as if our own delegation in Congress could have done as much in behalf of this State. People, of course, talk of carrying out the promises of the State in good faith, but we could risk considerable of "dishonorable reputation" if it were humanly possible to thwart the swamp land pirates in their schemes, though there are, no doubt, honest men who located land in good faith, and deserve to have their titles confirmed.

Western Oregon.

The man who has the means to come to Western Oregon and buy a farm already improved, and will leave himself surplus means to use afterwards, can buy small or large parcels of land, as his means permit, with generally, buildings and orchards, and by a little careful outlook can find a place just suited to his resources. With money in reserve he can reform the farm management to suit himself. He can buy good sheep, swine, cattle and horses for a rea-

sonable, price and will be surprised at the excellence and cheapness of our Berkshire and Poland-China swine. A man can use \$3,000 to \$10,000 in this way, and find himself situated among first-class people and surrounded with privileges of an old, settled country. He can survey the field and lay out his life's work to suit him. Fruit culture will pay well; hops are becoming an important staple here; root crops can be made to aid him in fattening pork; sheep and stock of all kinds can be made to aid his prosperity; dairying is something that he can count on if he understands it. All these things are open to him, but whatever he does, let him not begin by embarrassing himself with debt, but so invest that he can "fix" himself with means to make money. The farmer he buys out has probably put all his faith in wheat; has got his land foul, and sells to get away from it; but the buyer need have no fear if he can command his time and tide over a single year, during which he is putting the farm to rights, and getting it in shape well for the future.—*Willamette Farmer.*

Brother Gardner's Views of Cranks and Cards.

"Am dar' a crank present in de hall to-night?" softly asked Brother Gardner as the meeting opened. Not a voice answered.

"Have any of you seen a crank aroun' town dis las' week?" continued the President.

No one had, or at least no one admitted it.

"Two weeks ago de kentry was full of 'em. You could find 'em on de street kyar, at de depot, aroun' de hotels, an' eben in church. All of a sudden you can't skeer up a single crank. De bizness has got to be unhealthy. The plea of insanity doan' go down wid de jury as slick as it did. De time when one man kin put a knife into anoder an' make de jury believe he was bo'a dat way and couldn't help it has 'bout expired. De crank mus' go. He mus' quit shootin', stabbin', stealin', an' bein' heard of in de land. When de crank fust brought for'd de ideah dat de Deity was behind him an' urged him on, it was sunthin' new an' novel, but dat ideah am played out wid de rest.

"My frens, let de cantankerous bizness alone. Doan' call stealin' by any odder name. If your hands itch far money dat belongs to some one else, take an skip, an' when de law overhauls you, doan' set up de plea dat an angel from heaven urged you on. Legal farces have had deir day in dis kentry. Insanity, kleptomania, sudden emotion, drunkenness, an' loss o' memory will be poo' excuse before fucher juries."

The President stated that he had received the following personal letter:

Boston, February 1, 1882.
Bro. Gardner: Is there anything in playing a game of cards? Very truly, CRANBERRY JONES.

"When Elder Lightfoot an' his wife come ober to my cabin," replied the President, "an' we sot down for a game o' euchre, we feel as innocent of wrong as a two-year-old child foolin' wid a revolver, but under certain odder condishuns a game of cards may result in great evil. If a pusson stacks de keards, dat's wrong. If he plays a lone hand, dat looks suspicious. If he winks at his partner to take up or turn it down, it isn't a 'suar' game. Ordinarily speakin' dar's nuffin' wrong in a game of keards, unless you git all de nine an' ten spots and de odder man holds all de bower an' aces."

—*Detroit Free Press.*

Notice.

Just received per steamer Columbia, a fine lot of eastern oysters, which will be served up in first class style at Roscoe's, Occident block.

To the Ladies.

Dressmaking in all its branches; neat and reasonable, at Mrs. Denny Curran's, Cass street, near Congregational Church.

Wanted.

A young man wants a situation as groom or second-class engineer. Inquire at this office.

An American girl wants a situation to do housework in a family; wages \$15 per month. Inquire at this office.

For Rent.

Two splendid front rooms, suitable for offices. Inquire of Alex. Campbell.

Eastern Oysters.

Another fine lot of Eastern oysters just received at Roscoe's, per steamer Oregon. Occident block.

Rooms to Rent.

Anyone who wants a nicely furnished room in a pleasant locality can be accommodated at Mrs. Denny Curran's, near the Congregational Church.

Sherman Bros. Express.

Will receive orders at the store of I. W. Case for upper Astoria or any other part of the city. Leave your orders on the slate and they will be promptly attended to.

Artistic Lodging House, Portland, Oregon.

New house and first class in its appointments. Third street, in R. R. Thompson's block, opposite Capt. Ainsworth. Rooms by the day, week or month. Mrs. E. A. Hargrove.

Skinny Men.

Wells' Health Renewer. Absolute cure for nervous debility and weakness of the generative functions. At drug stores. Oregon Depot, DAVIS & CO., Portland, Or.

Take Notice.

On after this date an additional 10 cents per cord will be charged on all orders for sawed wood not accompanied by the cash, at Grays wood yard. July 1st, 1881.

"Rough on Rats."

The thing desired found at last. Ask Druggists for "Rough on Rats." It clears out rats, mice, roaches, flies, bedbugs. 15c. boxes.

Buy the Weekly.

THE WEEKLY ASTORIAN for this week is full of just such information and news of the country as your friends in the east want to read. It has very few advertisements, and is checked to the muzzle of information that no family can successfully squeeze along without. Two dollars will buy the whole year for a year. \$1.25 for six months, or ten cents per copy.

Peruvian Bitters.

The Count Cinchon was the Spanish Viceroy in Peru in 1630. The Countess, his wife, was prostrated by an intermittent fever, from which she was freed by the use of the native remedy, the Peruvian bark, or, as it was called in the language of the country, "Quinaquina." Grateful for her recovery, on her return to Europe in 1632, she introduced the remedy in Spain, where it was known under various names, until Linnaeus called it Cinchona, in honor of the lady who had brought them that which was more precious than the gold of the Incas. To this day, after a lapse of two hundred and fifty years, science has given us nothing to take its place. It effectively cures a morbid appetite for stimulants, by restoring the natural tone of the system. It is a powerful tonic virtue of the Cinchona is preserved in the Peruvian Bitters, which are as effective against malarial fever to-day as they were in the days of the old Spanish Viceroy. We guarantee the ingredients of these bitters to be absolutely pure, and of the best known quality. A trial will satisfy you that this is the best bitter in the world. "The proof of the pudding is in the eating," and we willingly abide this test. For sale by all druggists, grocers and liquor dealers. Order at Loeb & Co., agents for Astoria.

—Shiloh's Catarrh Remedy—a positive cure for Catarrh, Diphtheria and Canker Mouth. Sold by W. E. Dement.

—Hæmorrhoid—a lasting and fragrant perfume. Price 25 and 50 cents. Sold by W. E. Dement.

The Peruvian syrup has cured thousands who were suffering from dyspepsia, debility, liver complaint, bilis, humors, female complaints, etc. Pamphlets free on any address. Seth W. Fowler & Sons, Boston.

—SHILOH'S CURE will immediately relieve Croup, whooping cough and Bronchitis. Sold by W. E. Dement.

A Nasal Injector free with each bottle of Shiloh's Catarrh Remedy. Price 25 cents. Sold by W. E. Dement.

A cough, cold or sore throat should be stopped. Neglect frequently results in an incurable lung disease—consumption. Brown's Bronchial Cure does not disorder the stomach like cough syrups and balsams, but acts directly on the inflamed parts, allaying irritation, giving relief in asthma, bronchitis, coughs, catarrh and the throat troubles which singers and public speakers are subject to. For thirty years Brown's bronchial cure has been recommended by physicians, and always give perfect satisfaction. Having been tested by wide and constant use for nearly a century, generation, they have attained well-merited rank among the few staple remedies of the age. Sold at 25 cents a bottle everywhere.

Furnished Rooms to Let

At Mrs. Munson's lodging house.

Notice to the Public.

I have opened a new boot and shoe store on the roadway, and am prepared to do first class work in my line. I. J. ARVOLD. Opposite O. R. & N. Co's dock.

"Buchupalpa."

New, quick, complete cure 4 days, urinary affections, smarting, frequent or difficult urination, kidney diseases, etc. It is furnished to single subscribers at \$2.00 per year in advance.

The Weekly Astorian

Is a mammoth sheet, nearly double the size of the Daily. It is just the paper for the fireside, containing in addition to all the current news, choice miscellany, agricultural matter, market reports, etc. It is furnished to single subscribers at \$2.00 per year in advance.

War! War! War!

Water front offered free to any person that will build a saw mill in the city of Willamette. Lumber we must have to build this city. We have one store in running order at present. Quite a number have already located homes in this city, and yet there is room. Sold on time to suit purchasers. Located one mile south of Astoria, on the sunny side of the hill, on Young's bay.

J. WILLIAMSON, SR.

Various Causes—

Advancing years, care, sickness, disappointment, and hereditary predisposition—all operate to turn the hair gray, and either of them inclines it to shed prematurely. AYRES' HAIR VIGOR will restore faded or gray hair, or red hair to a rich brown or deep black, as may be desired. It softens and causes the scalp, giving it a healthy color. It removes and cures dandruff and humors. By its use falling hair is checked, and a new growth will be produced in all cases where the follicles are not destroyed or the glands diseased. Its effects are beautifully shown on brassy, weak, or sickly hair, on which a few applications will produce the gloss and freshness of youth. Harmless and sure in its operation, it is as valuable as a dressing, and is specially valued for the soft luster and richness of tone it imparts. It contains neither oil nor dye, and will not soil or color white hair; set it last long on the hair, and keeps it fresh and vigorous.

FOR SALE BY ALL DEALERS.

—Frank Fabre has oysters in every style. Stew and pan roast a specialty.

Get your legal blanks at THE ASTORIAN office. A full line of over two hundred styles.

—Those writing desks at the City book store are the best in the city. They are something nice and durable, and just what most young ladies would appreciate from the giver.

—All citizens of Oregon who desire to inform their friends in the states of the condition and progress of this state, can have no more complete and comprehensive volume of facts to send them than by subscribing for this journal, and having us mail it weekly to their friends. We mail it as directed. For \$3.00 in advance, we mail three copies of THE WEEKLY ASTORIAN one year.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SAINT MARY'S HOSPITAL.

ASTORIA, OREGON. THIS INSTITUTION, UNDER CARE OF THE Sisters of Charity, is now ready for the reception of patients. Private rooms for the accommodation of any desiring them. Patients admitted at all hours, day or night. No physician has exclusive right, every patient is free to and has the privilege of employing any physician they prefer.

United States Marine.

Seamen who pay Hospital Dues, are entitled to Free care and attendance at this Hospital during sickness. Permits to be obtained for United States Marines at the Custom House.

SISTERS OF CHARITY.

Dress Making.

MRS. W. G. ROSS, & MISS ELLA LOGAN. The third house west of the Congregational Church.

NICE SUITS FOR LADIES

Made for from \$4 to \$10.

Hotel for Sale.

A hotel now running and doing a good trade in the city of Astoria. Centrally located. A first class bar room attached. In health on the part of the proprietor is the only reason for selling. Inquire at ASTORIA office, or address Lock Box 73, Astoria, Oregon.

Health is Wealth.

Dr. E. C. West's Nerve and Brain Treatment: A specific for Hysteria, Dizziness, Convulsions, Nervous Headache, Mental Depression, Loss of Memory, Spermatorrhea, Impotency, Involuntary Emissions, Premature Old Age, caused by over-exertion, self-abuse, or over-indulgence, which leads to misery, decay and death. One box will cure recent cases. Each box contains one month's treatment. One dollar a box, or six boxes for five dollars; sent by mail prepaid on receipt of p. c. We guarantee six boxes to cure any case. With each order received by us for six boxes, accompanied with five dollars, we will send the purchaser our written guarantee to return the money if the treatment does not effect a cure. Guarantees issued only by W. E. Dement, druggist, Astoria, Oregon. Orders by mail at regular prices.

Proposals for Piling.

BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED UP TO noon on Friday, March 10, 1882, for furnishing, driving and capping the piles for the building of the O. F. L. & B. Association of Astoria, at the office of L. W. Case, where the plans and specifications can be seen. The right to reject any and all bids is reserved. C. REED, President. A. J. MOORE, Secretary.

MISCELLANEOUS.

S. ARNDT & FERCHEN, ASTORIA, OREGON.

The Pioneer Machine Shop

BLACKSMITH

SHOP

AND

Boiler Shop

All kinds of

ENGINE, CANNERY,

—AND—

STEAMBOAT WORK

Promptly attended to.

A specialty made of repairing

CANNERY DIES,

FOOT OF LAFAYETTE STREET.

ASTORIA IRON WORKS.

BENTON STREET, NEAR PARKER HOUSE.

ASTORIA, OREGON.

GENERAL MACHINISTS AND

BOILER MAKERS.

LAND AND MARINE ENGINES

Boiler Work, Steamboat Work

and Cannery Work a specialty.

A. D. WASS, President.

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Corner Main and Chenamus Streets,

ASTORIA, OREGON.

DEALER IN

CIGARS AND TOBACCO.

The Celebrated

JOSEPH RODGERS & SONS

GENUINE ENGLISH CUTLERY

AND THE GENUINE WOSTENHOLM

and other English Cutlery.

STATIONERY!

FAIRCHILD'S GOLD PENS

Genuine Meerschaum Pipes, etc.

A fine stock of

Watches and Jewelry, Muzzle and

Breech Loading Shot Guns and

Rifles, Revolvers, Pistols,

and Ammunition

MARINE

GLASSES.

Also a fine

Assortment of fine SPECTACLES and EYE

GLASSES.

I. W. CASE,

IMPORTER AND WHOLESALE AND RE-

TAIL DEALER IN

GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Corner Chenamus and Cass streets.

ASTORIA, OREGON.

MAGNUS C. CROSBY,

Dealer in

HARDWARE, IRON, STEEL,

Iron Pipe and Fittings,

Plumbers and Steam Fitters

Goods and Tools.

SHEET LEAD STRIP LEAD

SHEET IRON TIN AND COPPER.

Cannery and Fishermen Supplies

Stoves, Tin Ware and House

Furnishing Goods.

JOBBER IN SHEET IRON, TIN, COP-

PER PLUMBING AND STEAM FITTING

Done with neatness and dispatch.

None but first class workmen employed.

A large assortment of

SCALES

Constantly on hand

BUSINESS CARDS.

E. C. HOLDEX, NOTARY PUBLIC, AUCTIONEER, COMMISSION AND SURANCE AGENT.

D. A. MCINTOSH, MERCHANT TAILOR, Occident Hotel Building, ASTORIA, OREGON.

DR. C. C. GLASS, PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON, Office over A. V. Allen's Store, ASTORIA, OREGON.

F. D. WINTON, Attorney and Counselor at Law, Office in C. L. Parker's building on Benton street, opposite Custom House, ASTORIA, OREGON.

JAY TUTTLE, M. D., PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON, OFFICE—Over the White House Store, RESIDENCE—At Mrs. Munson's boarding house, Chenamus street, Astoria, Oregon.

F. CRANG, M. D., PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON, Room No. 3, Astorian Building, (UP STAIRS), RESIDENCE—Corner of Benton and Court streets, Astoria, Oregon.

F. P. HICKS, DENTIST, Rooms in Allen's building up stairs, corner of Cass and Squemoche streets.

J. Q. A. BOWLEY, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Chenamus Street, ASTORIA, OREGON.

C. H. BAIN & CO., DEALER IN Doors, Windows, Blinds, Trusses, Lumber, Etc. All kinds of Oak Lumber, Glass, Boat Material, etc. Steam Mill near Weston hotel, Cor. Genesive and Astor streets.

J. H. D. GRAY, Wholesale and retail dealer in FLOUR.

ALL KINDS OF FEED, Hay, Oats, Straw, Wood, Etc. General storage and Wharfe on reasonable terms. Foot of Benton street, Astoria, Oregon.

MRS. DERBY, DEALER IN New and Choice MILLINERY.

Desires to call the attention of the Ladies of Astoria to the fact that she has received a large assortment of the LATEST STYLES OF

Hats, Bonnets, Trimmings, AND FANCY GOODS.

Corner Main and Squemoche Streets.

E. Detrick & Co., Sole agents on the Pacific Coast for Tower's celebrated

OILED CLOTHING, (Send for price list.) Importers, manufacturers and dealers in

Twines, Tents, Hose, Cotton Sail Duck, Belting, Waterproof Tar-paulins, Waterproof Covers, Patent Solid Cotton Belting.

Nos. 5, 7 and 9 California, and 108, 110 and 112 Market Streets, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

TAILORING, CLEANING and REPAIRING, NEAT, CHEAP AND QUICK, BY

GEORGE LOVETT, Main Street, opposite N. Loeb's.

Painter and Ruffner, DEALERS IN

PILING, OLNEY, OREGON.

L. H. G. SMITH, Importer and Wholesale dealer in

Cigars and Tobacco, Smoker's Articles, Playing Cards, Cutlery, Etc., Etc.

The largest and finest stock of Meerschaum and Amber goods in the city. Particular attention paid to orders from the country and vessels.

Chenamus street, Astoria, Oregon.

THEO. BRACKER, Manager.