The Dog Question In Nazareth.

Among many incidents of his wanderings through Palestine, recounted by Harry Franck in the Century, is this:

"An American who was in Nazareth long ago," said a native, "told me a strange story. I did not believe him, for it cannot be true. He said that in America people buy dogs." And the mere suggestion of so ludicrous a transaction sent the assembled group into paroxysms of laughter.

"They do," I replied.

The pompous ex-mayor fell into such convulsions of merriment that his rotund face grew the color of burnished copper.

"Buy dogs?" roared his sons in a chorus of several languages. "But what for?"

Never having settled that question entirely to my own satisfaction, I parried it with another, "How do you get a dog if you want one?"

"W-w-w-why," answered the eldest son, wiping the tears from his eyes, "if any one wants a dog he tells some one else, and they give him one. But whoever wants a dog?"

Generally Speaking.

She—What do they make in a chafing dish?

He—Indigestion.—Smart Set.

The world and its people are assuredly growing better, not worse. If General Booth thinks otherwise it must be because he has been unable to keep abreast of human progress in his declining years.

But before congress can do much about the cost of living most of the congressmen will have to deliver some impassioned addresses to be read by the folks back home.

Well to do people have now so far recovered from the financial drain of the holidays as to be able to look high prices in the face and order a few of life's necessities.

As the courts have decided that no one should run away with Dr. Eliot's five foot bookshelf, it is evident that some misguided person has tried to.

If Aviator Paulhan is going to keep on climbing higher and higher he should take a bunch of notaries and expert witnesses along.

Naturally the stomach of the ultimate consumer fails to welcome with enthusiasm the idea of a food boycott.

Thanks are due the coal miners for holding up the demand for higher pay until the sun grows stronger.

WOOLGROWERS IN ANNUAL MEETING

COUNTY ASSOCIATION LEVIES TAX FOR COYOTE BOUNTY —OFFICERS CHOSEN.

The Wallowa County Woolgrowers association met in annual session Tuesday, February 9. From the opening of the meeting much interest was manifest and the attendance was the largest ever known.

Mr. Black of the forest service took an interest in the meeting by answering many questions regarding the range, etc.

The coyote bounty was thoroughly discussed and the following was decided on: That ¾ of a cent would be levied on all sheep in the county, the same to be used to pay a bounty on all coyote scalps that the state pays on.

It was further arranged so that the holder of coyote scalps could get both state and county tax.

By conforming with the state law in presenting an affidavit from the county clerk to the Wallowa National bank, a person will be paid $1.50 by the Woolgrowers association.

All having detatched scalps secured prior to Feb. 10, 1910, may get $1.50 for them by sending the same to Thomas Morgan, Joseph.

The scalps must be turned in on or before March 1, 1910; after that date the state law will have to be complied with.

As it is now arranged the price of $5 to $6.50 can be secured for every coyote by complying with the state requirements.

1st. A perfect hide must be presented to the county clerk. He will mark the ears in a way that will not injure the sale of the same.

2nd. An affidavit will be given by the county clerk which when presented to the Wallowa National Bank will get $1.50 from the Woolgrowers association, making $3.00 as bounty and the pelt is worth $2.00 to $3.50.

The election of officers resulted as follows: J. H. Dobbin, president; W. H. Graves, vice president; Thomas Morgan, secretary and treasurer.

An advisory board was elected, the purpose of which is to work with the forest service as regards the range management, etc. The following were elected on the advisory board: J. H. Dobbin, Frank Stubblefield, Ernest Johnson, L. C. Johnson, C. L. Hartshorn.

$3 Framed Picture 98 Cents.

The firm of Ashley & Bue are giving coupon tickets with every $2 purchase which will entitle the holder to a beautiful $3 framed picture for only 98 cents.

Who Cares?

As George folded the fair young creature to his heart a dull, crackling sound smote his ear.

"Ah! It's goodby to those cigars in my vest pocket," he said grimly, "but hang the expense at a moment like this."—Judge.

Timber Sales On National Forests

Threefold Increase in Oregon and Washington—Revenue in Six Months, $114,000.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 10 — A statement received at the Department of Agriculture from the Forest Service office at Portland, Ore., shows that the timber sale business on national forests in the Pacific Northwest is increasing very rapidly. This increase is regarded as an index of the revival of business in the lumber industry generally, and shows also the growing use of national forest resources by the public.

The contrast between the amount and value of timber sold during the last six months of 1909 and that sold during the corresponding period in 1908 is very marked. The figures just received are for most of the national forests in Oregon and Washington, and they show timber sales of over 52 million feet, for nearly $114,000, during the last six months of 1909. This compares with sales of about 17 million feet, for a total of $27,000, during the same period in 1908.

The local officers of the department are much pleased with the fact that the demand for national forest timber is increasing so decidedly. The prospects for the coming six months are regarded as promis-

Continued on page six

RADICAL CHANGE IN HOMESTEAD LAW

CROP PRODUCTION INSTEAD OF ACTUAL RESIDENCE PROPOSED AS CONSIDERATION.

The following letter has been received from Senator Bourne:

Washington, D. C., Dear Sir: I am sending this general form of letter to many newspapers, grange and commercial organizations of Oregon for the purpose of getting before the people the idea I have embodied in a bill I shall introduce in the Senate that production of crops rather than residence upon a homestead is the essential of successful and most efficient development of our resources. I have done this in the hope that the people of Oregon will favor their delegation here in Congress with their views as to the wisdom of the proposed legislation.

I am informed by William Hanley, an extensive stock raiser in Harney county, that there are 20,000,000 acres of vacant land in Eastern Oregon incapable of irrigation, but nearly all of it susceptible of cultivation under the scientific methods now in vogue in "dry farming." Mr. Hanley's suggestion of substitution of crop production for actual residence as the consideration for obtaining title increasingly impresses my mind.

If the bill which I have prepared should become a law, the homesteader on non-irrigable land in what is known as the arid region need not live upon his land at all, but must live within the state. He must cultivate it either personally or by representative and he must show by annual proofs that within a period of five years the land has produced crops of a total value of $1500.

Assuming Mr. Hanley's estimate of 20,000,000 acres of vacant land in Eastern Oregon is correct and that same can be brought under cultivation by adoption of what is known as "dry farming," this area of land, would furnish opportunities for 60,000 homestead entrymen who, before they could acquire title, would be obliged to produce crops of a total value of $90,000,000. Thus it will be seen that the nation, state and community would be benefited in the development of our natural resources, wealth increased, and, what is more important, a class of citizens gained who would be obliged to produce rather than merely live on the land—a population of workers.

In its present condition and in the present state af settlement and of transportation facilities most of this land is not suitable for home-making, though it could be cultivated by men who would make their home elsewhere, or upon the land during only a part of the year.

My bill is based upon the theory that if a tract of land is made productive it will provide some family with a home even though that family lives in a town near the land rather than upon the land itself, and that, therefore, all of the essential objects of the homestead law will be accomplished. The great difficulty under the present homestead law is that a great many men who settle upon land under the homestead act do as little cultivating as the law will permit and avoid as many as possible of the Government's requirements, and their land is not made productive.

Believing that production is the real essential, I made that the most important feature of my bill. Land suitable for "dry farming" is frequently such as a man would not wish to make his home upon for 12 months in the year, butt he present law permitting an entry on 320 acres requires actual residence, and, I believe, without accomplishing any desirable end by such requirement.

Under the plan proposed by my bill an entryman under the 320-acre homestead act could keep his family in any town of Oregon, where his children could go to school and all members of his family have the advantage of attendance at church and socil functions, and, at the same time, by complying with the law regarding cultivation and production, he could secure title to the land. There would be no opportunity for fraud because the bill requires that annual proofs must be submitted showing the amount of land cultivated and the character, quantity and value of crops produced.

I believe that the average farmer on 320 acres of land subject to entry under the enlarged homestead act would be able to produce crops of much more than $1500 in value in a period of five years; but the $1500 minimum limit is fixed as a standard to which the entryman must work, and I believe that even under adverse circumstances any man who is enterprising and diligent will be able to produce crops of this value.

The theory of the homestead law is that the Government should provide cheap homes for the people. This theory is in no way violated by my bill. Land taken under this measure would maintain homes for the entryman even though these homes were a few miles distant rather than upon the land itself.

The residence requirement of the homestead law is in the nature of a penalty, the punishment being inflicted not only upon the entryman but upon his wife and children. At present the entryman takes his family into isolated regions in which vacant lands can be found and keeps them there to live a period of five years of banishment from association with fellow-beings.

In a great many cases the homesteader performs just as little work upon his land as possible, and as soon as he gets it he removes his family to town where they can have the advantages of school and social intercourse. The real object of providing homes is not accomplished by the requirements of actual residence upon the land. This object would be accomplished, however, by the requirement that a man shall bring his land into productiveness. To produce, some one must cultivate the land. To cultivate economically, vicinity, labor and intelligent attention are required of the entryman or his representative. The entryman's desire is the acquisition and ownership of the land; title can only be obtained through production; production necessitates increased population, either of entrymen or their representatives. The value of land acquired by the entryman depends upon continuing production. Thus, it is certain that the land once acquired will, under normal conditions, continue productive, as otherwise there is no incentive for entry nor to purchase after title is acquired. Necessitated production eliminates the evil of idle land due to non-resident ownership.

My bill requires that the entryman shall cultivate at least one-eighth of his land the second year, one-fourth the third year, one-half the fourth and fifth years and that he must file in the local land office by the first of December of each year a sworn statement verified by the affidavits of two persons having knowledge of the facts, showing the character, quantity and value of the crops produced by him.

I would be pleased if the people of Oregon would advise their delegation in Congress of their views of this measure.

Yours very truly,
JONATHAN BOURNE.

Revival Services Christian Church

Audiences Continue to Grow in Size and Interest Increases—Sunday Services.

The meetings at the Christian church continue with growing crowds and interest, and prospects are good for substantial results. Evangelist Gregg preached on "Repentance" Thursday night, emphasising "that as sin is rebellion against God and proceeds from the heart, repentance must therefore be a heart condition." He urges men and women to do right because it is right and enobles character.

Wagner on "Parsifal."

Wagner had finished the score of "Parsifal," and after whistling it softly to himself a few times his face wreathed with smiles.

"There, by ginger!" he said, signing his name to the score. "With all due respect to the Society For the Suppression of Unnecessary Noises, I think that is pretty good stuff."—Philadelphia Ledger.

TO HONOR OREGON'S GRAND OLD MAN

COMPLIMENTARY BANQUET FOR JUDGE GEORGE H. WILLIAMS ON HIS 87TH BIRTHDAY.

Portland, Feb. 11—An event that is of wide interest is a complimentary banquet to be given Judge George H. Williams, Oregon's grand old man, on his 87th birthday, March 27, in Portland. As Attorney General in President Grant's cabinet and prominent in the nation's history throughout his active life, Judge Williams commands the affection and respect of all Oregonians and the most prominent people of the city are proud to show him honor.

Planning to increase the falling lobster supply, the United States Fisheries department will transplant a carload in the waters of Yaquina bay. Whether lobsters will thrive there is not yet known but it is thought conditions are right for them. Lobsters demand a rocky bottom, without silt deposited by nearby rivers, which is the case at Yaquina. This is the reason assigned for the failure of experiments made heretofore in trying to grow Eastern lobsters in Pacific waters. Senator Bourne has been agitating the matter and has secured the promise of Fish Commissioner Bowers to make the experiment at Yaquina.

Special round-trip excursion rates have been made from the East to Portland for the annual Rose Festival in June and the national convention of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in July. Both of these events will attract large numbers of people and the rates are to be as attractive as those made last year for the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition. These fares should be the means of giving thousands of tourists their first view of Oregon during the coming summer.

It is expected that over 2,000 delegates will attend the annual state convention of the Young Peoples' Christian Endeavor Society in Portland Feb. 15-17, which is likely to be the biggest assembly of the organization ever held in Oregon. The sessions will be held at the First Presbyterian church, Twelfth and Alder streets. While in the city the Endeavorers will be entertained by a reception and banquet by the Y. M. C. A.

Oregon roses are to have wider fame than ever soon for the beautiful blooms that have made a reputation for Portland as a rose center are to be copied by Paul de Longpre, the celebrated painter of roses. The well known artist planned to come here on February 22 at the time of the annual roseplanting but was unable to carry out his intention and will come during the rose festival in June. He will paint some of the famous flowers he will see here

Gus Price is quite ill and confined to his bed from the ailment that has troubled him during the last year.

Glucose at Funk's.

HAY FOR DESCHUTES.

Riley & Day shipped a car of hay a day for eight days, ending Thursday. It was baled timothy and went to the Oregon Trunk construction camps on the Deschutes.

Go to A. C. Carpenter's for your souvenir Dutch collar pins. Your name or mon gram engraved while you wait.

ENGRAVING FREE.

Getting Busy

We are very busy just now taking stock, and haven't time to arrange the line that we expect to cut the price on, but will give you good, liberal cuts on lots of winter stuff. Are you satisfied with your rubber footwear? Get a pair of the famous

Ball Band Knit, Laced, Boots and Overshoes

Sold under an absolute Guarantee to give Perfect Satisfaction.

Some Novelties in Men's Caps that are good for these cold days

In taking stock we are finding lots of Remnants in all departments that we will throw on the remnant table as soon as we get through.

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293 acres Alder Slope, $23,000.00
80 acres Alder Slope, $ 8,000.00
160 acres hill land, about six miles out, $2,000.00
320 acres, 12 miles out, $3,200.00

City Lots, $100 to $300

Residence Property, $650 to $3,000

Fire Insurance Surety Bond Live Stock Insurance

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All Goods warranted first class, made from White Swan Flour and Pure Creamery Butter. Orders 'phoned will receive prompt attention. -:-
The Logical Way: With the high price of wood, lard, flour, and other commodities, you will save money and labor by buying your pastry of us.

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