

NOT TO TAX GRANT LAND

EUGENE CONFERENCE NOT TO ASSESS PROPERTY.

Committee Appointed To Provide For Future Interest of Eighteen O. & C. Counties in Land.

To keep the O. & C. grant lands off the tax rolls of Oregon, but providing for a committee of one member from each of the land grant counties, which committee is to take the validity of the land grant act to the supreme court of the United States, were the two motions passed at the meeting of representatives held in Eugene last week. This committee will also see that the interests of the land grant counties are protected in the disposition of the lands.

The Eugene meeting was attended by representatives from the several counties as well as by Attorney General Geo. M. Brown, Chas. Galloway, chairman of the state tax commission and Attorney D. E. Bean of Eugene, representing the port districts. The meeting was presided over by Judge Watson of Coos county, as temporary chairman. The representatives in the main were county officials and attorneys, familiar with the act as passed by congress. Douglas county, which has over one-third of the land in question within its boundaries, was represented by B. L. Eddy, Attorney O. H. Porter and District Attorney Neuner.

Attorney General Brown was the first speaker and he asserted that the act vesting title of the grant lands in the government was valid and gave the reasons for not putting the lands on the tax rolls. In case the lands were assessed, Mr. Brown pointed out, the counties would be forced to pay the state tax on them, and then, if the government's title was valid, the county would be unable to receive a return of the money paid out in state tax. This was one of the main reasons why no assessment should be made and another reason was that as long as congress had vested title in the government the counties had no right to tax government land. Charles Galloway followed the attorney general and concurred with Mr. Brown in his opinions.

After the addresses the discussion became general and many points were brought out and considered. The Oregon statute which, by sheriff's assessment, permits land to be taxed for five years back, if it can be conclusively shown that the land has been omitted from the assessment rolls, was considered, and it was the majority opinion that this would be the best policy to pursue. A few, however, believed that this policy would not be held as constitutional. After an hour or more of discussion the matter was brought to vote and the decision was made to omit the assessment this year. But a few voted against this motion.

Steps were then taken to effect a permanent organization to protect the interests of the 18 land grant counties in the administration and disposition of the lands by the government. This organization took the form of a committee and the temporary chairman, Judge Watson, was authorized to appoint one member from each county on the committee. This committee will determine the legal questions by proper court procedure and test the validity of the act of congress, if these actions are deemed necessary.

Oregon Has 363 Newspapers.
There are 363 newspapers in the state of Oregon, according to the census report. The total number of newspapers in this country is 31,612. The weeklies and periodicals lead with 16,166. There are 2580 dailies and 570 Sunday papers. The aggregate circulation of the daily papers is 28,436,000, an increase of over 17 per cent in five years. Twenty-four states in the union have more newspapers than Oregon; twenty-three have less.

Nearly Loses Shay Engine.
The Willamette Valley Lumber company had a shay engine literally hanging on the bridge at Black Rock Saturday and it looked for a time as though it would topple into the gap below. The engine left the track while on the bridge and stopped just at the edge. By bracing with ties the lumber company's men were able to save the engine.

Overheard In a Barber Shop.
Walter L. Toone, Jr., patronized a lady barber shop in Portland recently and the lady tonsorialist, referring to Walter's moustache said: "Brushed off or rubbed in, sir?"

Philomath Home Burned.
Just before daybreak Wednesday morning the fire alarm woke Philomath citizens to find J. M. Haskins' new residence all in flames. The residence was about completed and the family was making preparations to move in this week. This is the third burn-out the Haskins family has had in about a year. First their barn,

with hay and cow was burned about a year ago, and the second burn-out occurred one Sunday evening last October when all their belongings were lost. The present loss is only partly covered by insurance. It was fortunate that a new fire hydrant had been installed near by only the day before the fire, otherwise Mr. Bowman's house would have burned also.—Philomath Review.

WALKING IS RATHER COSTLY.

Ocean-to-Ocean Hike Entails Outlay of \$381.65.

It costs \$68.35 to ride from San Francisco to Philadelphia. It costs \$381.65 to walk it.

These are the calculations of John H. Scott, a boss house painter, of 153 Tree street, Philadelphia, who, as an amateur walker, arrived in Philadelphia at 9:30 o'clock in the morning, 82 consecutive days after he left San Francisco, establishing a record for the 3300-mile hike.

For those who wonder why persons walk across the continent, Scott's answer is: "I did it for love of my friends in Philadelphia. I sacrificed my work and my pay as a house painter to prove to my friends what I would do for them."

And so, for members of the Southwark Catholic club, 103 Tasker street, who financed the journey, Scott beat the record of Edward Payson Weston, who in his 73rd year walked the same distance in 104 days and seven hours, and the later record of John Ennis, who made it in 93 days, five hours.

Scott is 55 years old and weighs 130 pounds. He lost 10 pounds on the hike, losing an average of a pound a day, but regaining some of it in the four hours of sleep he took nights.

"Thomas A. Edison only sleeps four hours," said Scott, "and that's all I need. I took Sundays off for rest, so that would cut down my time to 70 days." Scott has several times attempted to lower other walking records. He holds the Philadelphia-to-New York record, having accomplished this walk in the time of 21 hours, 36 minutes and ten seconds, nearly seven minutes less than the previous good record. This distance is approximately 100 miles. He also broke the Boston-Washington walking record in 1914. He traversed this distance in eight days, five hours and 37 minutes. The previous record had been made many years before by Weston, who walked between the two cities in ten days.—Oregonian.

The Poor Guardsman!

Here is a list of "hardships" which made camp life for the Oregon troops on the Mexican border unbearable—almost!

An ideal climate—actually cool. Three square meals a day. Ocean bathing and shower baths. Plenty of ice and water. Unusual camp-leave privileges. Electric lights and sprinkled streets. Good mail, laundry and phone service.

Daily newspaper delivered. Efficient medical supervision. Splendidly equipped Y. M. C. A. Educational classes. Library books. All the magazines one wants. Well stocked "exchange" where credit buys.

Regular auto service to town. A city, and exposition and a famous resort six miles distant. And—the healthiest feeling and biggest appetite we ever had! Clipped from Third Oregon Infantry newspaper.

What Dallas Most Needs.

John G. Brown, a resident of Dallas for 67 years and who was in town when "town" meant just two houses, answered The Observer's question in the following words: "Less religious fanaticism and more of the golden rule. 'Do unto others as ye would have them do unto you,' is the prime need for this city."

Company L Border Newslets.

Seth T. Bailey, The Observer correspondent with the Third Oregon Infantry, was manager of the short lived weekly newspaper—without name—published by the Oregon troops at Imperial Beach.

Chester Minty is now at Fort Rosecrans receiving medical attention. An operation on his knee caused the limb to shorten, and he will soon be sent to the government hospital at San Francisco for further attention.

Company L enjoyed the stay on the border with as much enthusiasm as any one else. The daily routine of drill and the extra duties imposed seemed to be the least of the troubles. The largest business transactions of any interest were performed pay day, of course. Pete owed Bill and Bill owed Tom. Pete collected of Tom so that he could pay Bill—and so on it went.

Herman Hawkins was unfortunate enough to lose his razor but it was lost only a short time.

First Sergeant Morton had a new pet in camp. Some think the animal was afflicted with hydrophobia. Others, though, believe the poor brute was overcome with loneliness. His hours of serenading were 8 and 12—both night and day.

Major Elkins, otherwise Private Elkins, helped install the electric lights in the camp. He requested that

his beard be left on providing he is electrocuted.

Recruits Dickey, Harris and Paine just graduated from the rookie squad, when the order to return home came.

Private Morton—Banker Morton to be exact—said he is going to apply for a collecting job when he got back to Oregon. Without doubt he can get the best of references.—Third Oregon newspaper.

STRONG EVIDENCE

Is the Statement of This Dallas Woman.

Baekaehe is often kidney ache: A common warning of serious kidney ills.

"A Stitch in Time Saves Nine"—Don't delay—use Doan's Kidney Pills.

Profit by Mrs. Dashiell's experience.

Mrs. R. L. Dashiell, Ash street, Dallas, says: "I don't hesitate to recommend anything I know to be of benefit to others and speaking from personal experience with Doan's Kidney Pills, I know they are a medicine of merit and very reliable for kidney troubles. Whenever I notice my kidneys are not acting as they should, a few doses of Doan's Kidney Pills relieve me."

Price 50c. at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Dashiell had. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

Dr. Freeze, the Portland specialist, will continue to make regular trips to Dallas each month. Watch paper for dates. Call Gail hotel. Fourteen years' experience over 7000 cases treated.

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To visit me at my new business, the former Robbie Garage, which is ready for the inspection public. A special invitation extended to friends and acquaintances to pay me a visit. I shall be glad to talk "automobile" with anyone who comes to see me. I shall maintain a first class automobile hospital. I will buy or exchange cars and sell lots of gasoline and oil for cars and will do a general automobile business.

W. E. GREEN

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