

GIVE NEW EVIDENCE

Effect of Judge Hunt's Ruling in Land Fraud Cases.

HAD BEEN SHUT OUT PREVIOUSLY

Prosecution Scores Point Despite the Vigorous Efforts of Attorneys for Defense.

Portland, Sept. 9. — The sensational feature of the Williamson-Gesner-Biggs case yesterday was the admission by Judge Hunt of a line of testimony that had been excluded by Judge De Haven in the previous two trials, and who had also declined to permit United States District Attorney Heney to argue the distinctions existing between the various title papers. Replying to an inquiry from the court, Heney assured Judge Hunt that he had not been permitted to "get beyond the front door" with any of his authorities bearing upon the admissibility of the evidence. The question came up in the course of the direct examination of Benjamin F. Jones, a government witness. Attorney Bennett, for the defense, made a vigorous effort to exclude the testimony, and took an exception to the ruling of the court.

The indictment charges that the conspiracy was to induce a large number of persons to commit the offense of perjury by taking their oaths that they would depose truly that certain declarations and depositions by them to be subscribed were true, which in fact contained material matters which were not true, and which they did not at the time believe to be true, to the effect that certain lands which these persons would then be applying to enter and purchase in the manner provided by law, were not being purchased by them on speculation, but were being purchased in good faith to be appropriated to the use and benefit of those persons respectively, and that they had not, directly or indirectly, made any agreement or contract, in any way or manner, with any other person or persons whomsoever, by which the titles which they might acquire from the United States in and to such lands should inure, in whole or in part, to the benefit of any person except themselves, when in truth and in fact such persons would be applying to purchase such lands on speculation, and would have made arrangements and contracts with Williamson, Gesner and Biggs to convey the titles so obtained by them to Williamson and Gesner.

Wilson Is To Investigate.

Washington, Sept. 12.—During his extended trip through the West, Secretary of Agriculture Wilson will investigate the Bureau of Forestry, of which Gifford Pinchot is head. Gross irregularities are said to exist in the Black Hills forest reserve, and in many Western reserves. No charges of graft have been made against the bureau here, but ugly rumors have been circulated against agents of the bureau in the extreme West and Northwest. Wilson will look into these allegations during his tour of inspection.

Privileges Are Too Great.

Havana, Sept. 12.—Two of the principal commercial and economic associations, responding to a confidential request made by the foreign relations committee of the senate for advice as to whether the pending treaty between Cuba and Great Britain ought to be ratified, declare emphatically against ratification. The principal reason given is that Cuba's commercial interests are too inevitably bound to her great customer, the United States, to permit of granting for ten years such privileges to British ships and citizens.

EXPLOSION AT POWDER MILL

Nineteen Men Killed and Entire Plant a Total Wreck.

Connellsville, Pa., Sept. 11.—The Rand powder mills, at Fairchance, six miles south of Uniontown, were entirely wiped out by an explosion today. Of the 32 men who went to work in the mills, 19 are known to be dead. Of these 13 have been identified.

Besides nine of the factory force who were seriously injured, scores of people in the town of Fairchance, within half a mile of the powder mills, were more or less painfully injured.

The shock of the explosion was distinctly felt in Connelsville, 20 miles away, buildings being rocked to their foundations. At Uniontown hundreds of panes of glass were broken. In the town of Fairchance there is scarcely a house that did not suffer damage. Hay stacks were toppled over in the fields, and livestock were stunned. The rails of the B. & O. and the West Pennsylvania Traction company were thrown from the roadbed and traffic delayed six hours. Train No. 52, on the B. & O., had a narrow escape from annihilation. It had just passed the Rand mills when the explosion occurred. The windows in the coaches were shattered and passengers thrown in a panic. A street car on the West Pennsylvania railway had also passed a few seconds before the explosion, and was far enough away to escape damage, though it was derailed.

California Is in the Lead.

Washington, Sept. 12.—Director of the Mint Roberts today made public his estimate of the production of gold and silver in the United States for the calendar year 1904. These figures show an increased production over the calendar year 1903 of \$7,131,500 gold and 3,486,000 fine ounces of silver. The largest gain was by California, which increased about \$3,000,000 more than in the previous year, and a larger amount than in any year since the '60s.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 68@69c per bushel; bluestem, 72c; valley, 71c.

Oats—No. 1 white feed, \$23@24; gray, \$22 per ton.

Barley—Feed, \$20 per ton; brewing, \$21; rolled, \$22@23.

Rye—\$1.30 per cental.

Hay—Eastern Oregon, timothy, \$14 @15 per ton; valley timothy, \$11@12; clover, \$8@9; grain hay, \$8@9.

Fruits—Apples, 90c@1.75 per box; peaches, 50@90c per crate; plums, 50 @75c; cantaloupes, 75c@1; watermelons, 3/4@1c per pound; crabapples, \$1 per box; grapes, 50c@1.65; pears, \$1@1.25.

Vegetables—Beans, 1@4c per pound; cabbage, 1@1 1/4c; cauliflower, 75@90c per dozen; celery, 75@85c; corn, 8@9c; cucumbers, 10@15c; pumpkins, 7 1/2@7 1/2c per pound; tomatoes, 20@35c per crate; squash, 5c per pound; turnips, \$1.25@1.40 per sack; carrots, \$1.25@1.50; beets, \$1@1.25.

Onions—Oregon, 90c@1 per sack; Globe, 75c.

Potatoes—Oregon, extra fancy, 65@75c per sack.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 27 1/2@30c per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 24@25c per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 11@12c; mixed chickens, 10 1/2@11c; old roosters, 8@9c; young roosters, 10@11c; dressed chickens, 12@13c; turkeys, live, 20@21c; geese, live, 8@9c; ducks, 13@14c.

Hops—1905, choice, 15c; prime, 14c; 1904 choice, 15@17c per pound.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 19@21c; lower grades down to 15c, according to shrinkage; valley, 25@27c; mohair, choice, 30c per pound.

Beef—Dressed bulls, 1@2c per pound; cows, 3@4c; country steers, 4 @4 1/2c.

Veal—Dressed, 3@8c per pound.

Mutton—Dressed fancy, 6 1/2@7c per pound; ordinary, 4@5c; lambs, 7@7 1/2c.

Pork—Dressed, 6@7 1/2c per pound.

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