

GIVE THEM LIMIT

Secretary Hitchcock's Views on Land Fraud Cases.

THEY LED HONEST MEN ASTRAY

Secretary Says they Would Have Been Tried Repeatedly Till Verdict Was Reached.

Washington, Sept. 30.—"The jury which returned the verdict against Representative Williamson, Dr. Gesner and Marion Biggs, at Portland, commended the defendants to the mercy of the court. This is not a case where any mercy should be shown. I am firmly of the opinion that the extreme penalty should be imposed."

This was Secretary Hitchcock's comment on the news from Portland.

"I do not know what disposition the court will make of this case," added the secretary, "nor is it for me to suggest, but I hope the full measure of justice will be meted out to those who have been found guilty. I hope they will be given the limit of the law. Whenever some petty criminal, hungry and in need, is convicted, in court, no mercy is shown. There is all the more reason why no mercy should be shown in this case. The defendants knew the law and violated it knowingly and willfully. One of them, a public official, was sworn to protect and uphold the law, yet he used his influence to induce a lot of poor, ignorant fellows to commit a rank crime. Such men do not deserve mercy at the hands of the court. I think no leniency should be shown them."

"Reports have been circulated," continued the secretary, "to the effect that the government would have dropped its case against Williamson and the others, had this third trial resulted in a disagreement. That is not so. The government is in earnest in this matter, and we would have asked for a fourth, a fifth, a sixth trial, and so on to the end of the chapter. I am not surprised, however, that this jury should have agreed as it did. From the evidence in the case no other verdict could justly have been returned. This jury has done its full duty to the people of Oregon and the people of the entire country."

"This is not the end of the land-fraud prosecutions," said the secretary. "We are only beginning our war on this class of criminals. Our agents are working and investigation is going forward in many states. We have a lot of cases in Idaho soon to be taken up and others in New Mexico. I have reason to believe that the extent of this offending has been very great and we intend to follow the investigation."

LET DOWN THE BARS.

Free Admission of Products of Philippines Seems Likely.

San Francisco, Sept. 30.—William J. Johnston, of New York, publisher of the American Exporter, who, as a member of Secretary Taft's party, made the trip to the Orient to investigate the commercial conditions and the opportunities for extending the sale of American manufactures in the Philippines, Japan and China, today said:

"While one cannot always accurately forecast the action of congress, the indications are that Philippine sugar and tobacco will be admitted into the United States free of duty, as hamp now is. If so, congress will probably think that as a matter of reciprocity American machinery and appliances for developing the industries of the islands should go to the Philippines free. In case, however, that goods from this country shall not be admitted free at once, on the ground that the revenues will be asked for a time to meet the expenses of the insular government, there is little doubt that at the latest this will come at the time that the agreement with Spain as to equal tariff privileges in the Philippines shall expire in about three years."

Land Receipts Decline.

Washington, Sept. 30.—Because of the marked decrease in public land receipts during the past fiscal year, Oregon contributed less to the Reclamation fund than in any year since the passage of the Reclamation act, and fell from first to second place in extent of public land receipts. It is estimated that Oregon during the year ending June 30 last, contributed \$675,325 to the Reclamation fund. Washington contributed \$522,303, and Idaho \$370,272. This decline is attributed to the land fraud investigation and prosecutions.

Earthquake Splits Mountain.

New York, Sept. 30.—Says a Rome dispatch to the Herald: A mountain near Ajello, called Pietra Calonda, 300 meters high, split in two yesterday, owing to shocks of earthquake, and threatens to bury the town. All the inhabitants have fled. There was a terrible cyclone at the Sranis, province of Caserta. All the trees and telegraph poles were uprooted, houses were damaged and several persons were killed or injured.

Morgan Still Sore on Panama.

Birmingham, Ala., Sept. 30.—Senator John T. Morgan, of Alabama, has written a letter to Chairman T. P. Shonte, of the Panama Canal commission, declining the invitation to accompany the commission when it leaves New York for Panama. The senator thinks nothing will be accomplished by the trip.

GUILTY AS CHARGED.

Verdict in the Williamson, Gesner and Biggs Land Case.

Portland, Sept. 28.—"Guilty as charged in the indictment." After three trials, extending over three months, John Newton Williamson, Representative in congress from Oregon; Dr. Van Gesner, his partner, and Marion R. Biggs, their friend and the United States commissioner for the general land office at Prineville, have been declared to be guilty of the crime of conspiracy to suborn perjury, and have been thrown upon the leniency of the court, by reason of their previous good character.

The long and tiresome third trial of the case has passed into history, but unlike the first and second, it has been productive of a decisive result. Once more the cause of the government and the indefatigable energy of United States District Attorney Heney have been triumphant, and conviction has come from the hands of a jury selected and sworn to try the guilt or innocence of the defendants upon the law and the evidence.

But it was not a question easily decided or quick of settlement, for the jury wrestled with the decision from 5:20 in the afternoon until 11 at night, and it was eight minutes later before the sealed envelope containing the fate of the three men was handed to Judge Hunt for his perusal. For many ballots the jury stood 11 for conviction and 1 for acquittal.

As soon as the verdict had been read Judge Hunt arose and thanked the jury for their patient attention and uncompromising service throughout the trial. He then dismissed them.

Turning then to the defendants and their attorney, Judge Hunt asked if there were any motions to be made, and Mr. Bennett, shaking off the spell which seemed to wrap him round, asked to be allowed on behalf of all the defendants to file notice of a motion for a new trial. Judge Hunt stated that he would like to have the motion filed as soon as possible, as he desired to leave the city within two weeks, but he allowed ten days in which to complete the written transcript of the motion and place it before the court.

The court announced that pending the filing of the motion the defendants would be allowed to go on the same bonds under which they are now resting. Then the court adjourned, and without speaking the defendants filed silently from the room and into the night. They had no statements to make, they said. It was not their time to talk.

FIRE SCORCHES COLON.

Two Blocks Are Cleared and Government Records Destroyed.

Colon, Sept. 29.—By sheer good luck the city of Colon was saved from complete destruction by fire last night. The fire broke out in a building next to the residence of the Spanish consul, and soon destroyed the Phoenix hotel, an American-owned building, and two other hotels, several liquor saloons and several tenement buildings. Rowe's building, containing the postoffice, the offices of the municipality, of Governor Melendez, the port inspectors, the judiciary and other offices, together with the treasury building, were also burned.

A fire brigade from Panama bringing engines and equipment arrived at 1 o'clock, but by that time the fire was under control.

Nearly all the records and documents of the government were destroyed. The burned region comprises two blocks. The American residential quarter was not touched.

The sanitary authorities are erecting tents in the fire zone to shelter the homeless.

During the fire many harrowing scenes were witnessed. Among these was the removal of the body of a 15-year old child. The child had died a few minutes before the fire started.

No Submarines Aided in Victory.

San Francisco, Sept. 29.—F. T. Cable, representing the Holland Submarine Torpedo Boat company, arrived today on the liner *Cofea* from Japan. He went to Japan some months ago to superintend the work of placing seven submarines in working order and completed the task at the navy yard of Yokohama, near Yokohama, the latter part of June. Mr. Cable reports that none of these vessels were engaged in the battle of the sea of Japan. They would probably have been, he says, had the conflict been delayed a month.

Will Refund More Bonds.

Washington, Sept. 29.—The secretary of the treasury made the announcement today that on October 2 next he will resume refunding operations under the act of March 14, 1900, receiving 4 per cent bonds of the funded loan of 1907 and 3 per cent bonds of the loan of 1908-1918 at a valuation equal to their present worth and issuing in place thereof 2 per cent bonds, consols of 1930, at 101, subject to discontinuance at any time without notice.

Cannot Suppress Boycott.

Seattle, Wash., Sept. 29.—Chinese merchants in Seattle state that they have mail advices from Canton which declare the viceroy of that province has acknowledged his inability to put down the boycott. The viceroy insists that the merchants and people will buy as they see fit. He adds, though, that the settlement is being resisted, and that some gains have been made by the government's efforts to suppress the boycott.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

THERE IS JOY AT MERRILL.

Canal Will Be Pushed South From There at Once.

Klamath Falls—Word comes from Merrill, 22 miles south of here, that the citizens of the town and farmers of the country are considerably elated over the report that the call by the government for bids for the first ten miles of the main canal of the lower project will be followed by a call for bids for the extension of the canal south of Merrill. Instructions have been received by the government officials here to push the work of securing the rights of way for the first ten miles of the main canal, and then to proceed to Merrill and secure the rights of way for the extension at once. This order comes somewhat as a surprise, since it was thought that the work on the first ten miles of the main canal would be the extent of the government irrigation work here until this section was fully under way.

So far not a single landholder has refused to grant right of way through his property. Everyone approached has freely given the way without hesitancy. The canal passes through C. N. Meyer's place, requiring the removal of his residence, and the only damages he asks is the actual cost of moving the house.

NO MARKET FOR HIS WHEAT

Baker County Farmer Cannot Sell Grain in County Seat.

Baker City—According to estimates furnished by the Baker City Development league, there will be about 300,000 bushels of wheat in Baker county this fall for which there is no market. Baker county is just beginning to raise wheat, but unless there is a market opened soon, the farmers declare they will go back to alfalfa. There is neither a flouring mill nor grain buying firm in the city.

M. F. Bond, a farmer tilling 800 acres, raised a large amount of wheat this summer. He hauled two loads to Baker City last week, but had to haul them back again, as he could not even give the wheat away, much less sell it. The farmers have been raising oats principally, for which cereal there is a good market, but since the price of wheat went so high they began raising it, and now cannot find any market for it.

Want to Close Early.

Eugene—A movement is on foot among the members of the Merchants' Protective association of this city to induce all stores in this city to close at an early hour each evening. At present the dry goods stores close at 6 o'clock and the grocery stores at 7. Hardware stores, meat markets and stores in other lines have no regular hours for closing, often remaining open until a late hour. A committee has been appointed to arrange a uniform hour for closing, and it is thought that all will agree to it.

Both Ordered Elsewhere.

Pendleton—As a result of differences between Major J. J. McKoin, superintendent of the Umatilla Indian agency, and Clerk C. M. Robinson, both have been ordered to report for duty at other agencies. Major McKoin, it is understood, will retire from the public service, though having been ordered to take charge of the Shoshone agency. Mr. Robinson has left for Browning, Mont., where he will be clerk at the Blackfoot Indian agency. The names of their successors have not been made public.

Indians Must Get Hunters' Licenses.

Salem—That Indians residing on a reservation must secure hunters' licenses if they hunt off the reservation is asserted by Attorney General Crawford, in an opinion just rendered. Mr. Crawford says that the law is general in its terms, and since no exception has been made in the case of the Indian, the man whose forefathers inhabited this country for a time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary, must pay his dollar a year for the privilege of joining in the hunt.

Hop Estimates Vary.

Salem—Hop picking is well advanced in this and Polk counties, many of the smaller yards having finished. The rainy weather has not seriously interfered with the work of gathering the crop. It is too early to obtain a correct estimate of the yield for this year, but it is estimated that all the way from 85,000 to 105,000 bales. There is no fixed market price for the hops. A few have been sold recently for 13 cents, but as a rule the growers are waiting developments.

Will Develop Their Mine.

Sumpter—M. H. Allen and Harry Reilly, who a few days ago discovered a rich vein of ore in the Bald Mountain district, state that they will make arrangements immediately to develop their find. Both men are jubilant. The whole section in the neighborhood of the Gold Nugget and Sunnybrook claims, the latter belonging to Messrs. Allen and Reilly, has been located and the hills are said to be full of prospectors.

Sues for Burned Wheat.

Salem—S. S. Brownell brought suit against Salem Flouring Mills company to recover the value of 1,000 bushels of wheat destroyed by the mill fire in 1899. A similar suit involving a larger quantity was brought through the Supreme court and the farmers won. The question involved is whether the wheat belonged to the company or the farmers when it burned.

TESTING STATION SOON.

Timbermen Will Then Be Relieved of Big Responsibility.

University of Oregon, Eugene—Plans for the timber testing station have arrived and all the machinery is here except the large machine on exhibition at the Lewis and Clark fair. This station is something that the state has needed for a long time. Thousands of dollars have been lost to the state on account of its absence. Individual timber men refuse to specify timber upon their own responsibility on which account buyers have frequently imported timber into this very territory that they might know the exact strength of their timber.

Hereafter individuals will be spared the responsibility of specifying their timber. The bill providing for this timber-testing station, introduced by Senator R. A. Booth, of Lane, passed the legislature last session over the governor's veto. The big machine in Portland has a capacity of 200,000 pounds, and is as large as any in service. It will be sent to the university about October 15. The government will have a man here at that time to take charge of it.

Primary Election April 20.

Salem—Attorney General Crawford has advised Secretary of State Dunbar that the date for the primary election under the direct primary law will be April 20, 1906. The law provides that the primary election shall be held on the 45th day prior to the general election. The general election will be held June 4, and Mr. Crawford says that the 45th day previous to the day of general election will be April 20. The usual rules for the computation of time do not apply in this case, owing to the language in which the provision is made.

Irrigation Office is Moved.

Pendleton—In conformity to a recent order issued by Mr. Heney, of the United States Reclamation service, the office maintained in this city in charge of J. T. Whistler is to be discontinued and moved to Portland, where it will be nearer to the larger proportion of the government irrigating projects under consideration. Mr. Whistler, who has been in charge of the office for two years, and his assistant, Hebert Yates, left for Portland last week, but W. C. Sawyer will remain here for some time to complete the gauging of local streams.

Large Attendance at Ashland.

Ashland—The Southern Oregon State Normal school, which has opened for the 1905-06 term, has the largest attendance in its history at opening time, according to the reports of the officials of the institution. The senior class has a membership of 33, which also surpasses all past records. A marked feature in the attendance is the large percentage of graduates of high schools who are entering the normal to take the full normal course, President Mulkey says.

Opens Fine Body of Ore.

Sumpter—The force employed at the Nine Strike group, in the Cracker Creek district, has cut through the ledge in the lower cross cut. The distance run is about 125 feet. The upper tunnel is in 300 feet, and has opened up a fine body of ore. The width of ledge matter in the lower cross cut is 20 feet, all showing a fair grade of ore. The Nine Strike is located in one of the most promising sections in the Eastern Oregon mining district.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Oats—No. 1 white feed, \$23.50@24; gray, \$23.50@24 per ton.
Wheat—Club, 71@72c per bushel; bluestem, 74@75c; valley, 71c.
Barley—Feed, \$19@20 per ton; brewing, \$19@20; 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, \$1@1.50 per box; peaches, 65c@1 per crate; plums, 50@75c; cantaloupes, \$1@1.25 per crate; pears, \$1.25@1.50 per box; watermelons, 3/4@1c per pound; crabapples, \$1 per box; quinces, \$1 per box.

Vegetables—Beans, 1@4c per pound; cabbage, 1@1 1/4c per pound; cauliflower, 75c per dozen; celery, 75c per dozen; corn, 65c per sack; cucumbers, 10@15c per dozen; pumpkins, 13@14c per sack; tomatoes, 25@30c per crate; squash, 5c per pound; turnips, 90c@1.00 per sack; carrots, 65@75c per sack; beets, 85c@1 per sack.
Onions—Oregon, \$1 per sack; globe, 75c per sack.
Potatoes—Oregon, fancy, 65c per sack; common, nominal.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 25@30c.
Eggs—Oregon ranch, 27@27 1/2c.
Poultry—Average old hens, 13 1/2@14c per pound; mixed chickens, 13@13 1/2c; old roosters, 9@10c; young roosters, 11@12c; springs, 14@15c; dressed chickens, 14c; turkeys, live, 18@21c; geese, live, 8@9c; ducks, 13@14c.

Hops—Nominal at 13c for choice 1905.
Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 19@21c; lower grades down to 15c, according to shrinkage; valley, 25@27c per pound; mohair, choice, 30c.
Beef—Dressed bulls, 1@2c per pound; cows, 3@4c; country steers, 4@4 1/2c.
Veal—Dressed, 8@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.

DRIFTING INTO REBELLION.

Hatred of Hungarian People for Francis Joseph Grows.

London, Sept. 27.—The correspondent of the Morning Post at Buda Pest says:

The situation here grows worse daily. The Radical element threatens to swamp the moderate party and to hurry the country into irreparable action. Public references to the dynasty are made in a tone which it is impossible to reproduce. The principal newspapers urge the formation of one great party under Francis Kossuth. This is supported by Kossuth, Count Apponyi and Baron Banffy.

The Daily Telegraph's Buda Pest correspondent says that great excitement prevails, accompanied by a determination to keep up the struggle to the bitter end. The correspondent continues:

The Independent party is believed to have secured new adherents, while the old Liberal party has broken up. The partisans of Kossuth have also obtained the upper hand in quarters which formerly were dominated by the Socialists.

The coalition leaders have issued a proclamation stating that they are determined to eschew all revolutionary methods. Kossuth is quoted as saying he believed that the king-emperor would yet change his mind and grant concessions to Hungary.

Both in Buda Pest and Vienna it is realized that much depends on the outcome of the great meeting of all the coalition parties to be held at Buda Pest October 20, at which, it is understood, a plan for legislation will be formulated.

The wildest rumors are afloat in Buda Pest. One paper publishes a statement that the king-emperor intends to resign the crown of Hungary in favor of Prince Francis Ferdinand, and other similar unauthenticated statements are made.

According to the contents of the reports, the king-emperor has determined to appoint a cabinet with Count Johann Zichy at its head.

RUINS FILL MANILA.

Terrible Typhoon Sweeps Capital of Philippine Islands.

Manila, Sept. 27.—Ten thousand of Manila's inhabitants are homeless, more than 200 injured and six known dead from the terrible effects of a typhoon which swept over the Philippine capital late yesterday afternoon.

When the great storm struck the city the streets were plunged into darkness. Thousands of electric wires were blown down and short circuited. The known dead were killed by these live wires.

Hundreds of stone dwellings were blown down, and two churches and a hotel unroofed. The greatest damage occurred in the native quarters.

Traffic is suspended and the streets are deserted. The police stations are making an effort to feed and shelter the homeless.

It is believed that shipping in the bay had warning of the approaching storm and got out of its course, but there are grave fears for the safety of many vessels.

The typhoon came to an end at 7:30 P. M. Gangs of men are clearing the streets and the impression prevails that many dead will be found in the ruins of the dwellings.

REVOLVER AND MACHETE.

Means Gomez Advocates to Followers to Win Cuban Presidency.

Havana, Sept. 27.—Judging from the present outlook, Cuba is facing a serious political disturbance, compared to which the recent troubles will be insignificant.

Miguel Gomez, the Liberal party's presidential candidate, admitting the defeat of his party by the outcome of Saturday's election, advises all Liberals to abandon the political battle, saying the United States is backing President Palma and the Moderates, and that the fight is useless. The only hope for the Liberals, he says, lies through the use of the revolver and machete.

The private secretary of Gomez has been arrested on a charge of conspiracy to overthrow the government.

Calls Peace Conference.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 27.—It is announced that the Russian representatives abroad were instructed on September 21 to communicate to the governments to which they were accredited an invitation to a second peace conference at The Hague. They were further directed, in the event of acceptance, to announce that the Russian government's proposal would be strictly practical, and that the conference would especially and exclusively deal with the serious questions arising out of the late war.

Shaw Says He Will Quit.

Washington, Sept. 27.—In reiterating his declaration of last March that he would leave the cabinet about February, Secretary Shaw tonight said: "I shall leave the cabinet on or about February 1, as has been well known, in fact, ever since I entered it. I announced that I should remain in the cabinet for a comparatively short time. I had hoped to get out last March, but consented to remain longer because certain interests kept me there."

Starving Cattle in Montana.

Great Falls, Mont., Sept. 27.—Word comes from the Mariads river district, in Teton county, that there are fully 800 head of cattle in that section they have been out on the range since June and have eaten everything from grass to all kinds of brush and trees.

ONLY NEEDS WATER

Soil of Boise and Payette Valleys in Idaho is Very Rich.

PART NOW UNDER CULTIVATION

Proposed Government Irrigation Project Will Increase the Arable Acreage Four-Fold.

Boise, Idaho, Sept. 28.—October 18 a board of consulting engineers of the Reclamation service will meet here to determine whether construction should be ordered upon what is known as the Boise Payette project. It is confidently expected construction will be recommended, as all the preliminaries have been completed and it is known the service is anxious to go on with the work.

This is one of the most important as well as one of the most complicated reclamation projects under consideration. It is of great importance because of the large amount of land it is proposed to reclaim, because of the fact that the supply of water for lands which have not a sufficient amount available for their use is to be re-enforced, because of the value of the lands when supplied with water, and because of the marked effect it will have upon the future of this section of the state. It is complicated, not so much because of engineering problems, though these are interesting, but because of the private interests that are woven through the project in nearly all its parts.

In the Boise and Payette valleys there is now irrigated about 100,000 acres of land; under the proposed government system there will be nearly 400,000 acres producing crops. These valleys are now regarded as among the most valuable and attractive of the West. They support a large population and yield enormous crops of all farm products, together with large quantities of fruit. The apples grown here are regarded as being the equal of those of any other section, while the prunes stand ahead of those of California and Oregon.

All fruits flourish that can be grown in a temperate climate, and this section is looked upon as one of the most promising orchard regions of the West. Under these conditions the lands, when given water, command high prices and yield large returns in money. It is, therefore, of great importance that the unwatered lands shall be reclaimed, and for this reason the project has been regarded by the reclamation officials as one of the most attractive that has been called to their attention.

FIRE AT SPOKANE.

Half a Block of Brick Buildings in Wholesale District Burned.

Spokane, Wash., Sept. 28.—A disastrous fire broke out in the heart of the wholesale and shipping section of the city at 2:35 o'clock this morning, which completely gutted three brick buildings. The total fire loss will approximate \$250,000.

The cause of the fire is unknown. It broke out in the Cudaby building, which was filled with soap and lard, and spread with great rapidity to the Weeks building on the east. Later the Booth-McClintock building, on the west corner of the block, caught fire. The four-story brick building on the east corner, occupied by the Spokane Drug company, was saved by a fire wall.

All of the building owners who suffered losses in the fire, which destroyed half a block of buildings and their contents, have announced their intention of rebuilding at once, and will erect larger and more complete structures. Hundreds of people had personal property stored in the Pacific Transfer company's building at owners' risk, and their total losses are estimated variously from \$5,000 to \$20,000.

Work for Heney.

Washington, Sept. 28.—Secretary Hitchcock, in an interview, said: "After the land-fraud cases in Oregon have been wound up, United States Attorney Heney, who has been conducting them, will come to Washington and will look after the California cases in which Hyde, Dimond and others have been indicted. Later on there will probably be other indictments in other states. The loss to the government through these frauds has aggregated millions of acres of land and millions more of dollars."

Stevens Showing Results.

Panama, Sept. 28.—The work of John F. Stevens, chief engineer of the Panama canal is beginning to show results. The correspondent of the Associated Press today visited La Boca, where the work has been pushed forward since the arrival of Mr. Stevens on the increase of the dockage facilities. Mr. Stevens informed the correspondent that the new 1,900-foot dock at La Boca would be finished September 30.

Mail Service on the Yukon.

Washington, Sept. 28.—Arrangements similar to those in operation last year have again been made between the Postoffice department of the United States and Canada for the distribution of mail in the Yukon district. The contract provides for a tri-weekly distribution during the closed season.