

A Number of Contractors

have called on us this week with reference to building a number of cottages in Bend. We hope to be able within a short time to arrange for the building of a number of houses, as we know the present lack of accommodations, and many houses will be needed in the early spring.

The people of Bend should do everything in their power to encourage the immediate building of a number of houses, otherwise the people coming there and finding no accommodations will move to other towns.

Bend is the best known town in Oregon today, and a vast number of people are figuring on moving there in the spring.

All our offices are reporting largely increased business, and the future never looked brighter.

Bend Park Company

R. G. SHRADER, Local Agent, Bend, Oregon.

or, Portland Office, Portland Hotel,

or General Offices, 860-861 Empire Building, Seattle, Wash.

LAND RULINGS OF IMPORTANCE

DECISIONS RECENTLY MADE

Secretary of Interior Decides Cases of Interest to Homesteaders and Other Government Land Claimants.

The Secretary of the Interior has recently decided a number of important land cases of interest to homesteaders and others, a digest of which is given herewith:

Homestead.

According to published Departmental instructions of August 7, 1911 (40 L. D., 236), the contestant who established his residence and also filed his contest prior to September 4, 1910, and maintained his residence, may receive credit for the time he resided upon the land before the cancellation of entry, which he contested.

The sickness of an entryman may be accepted as sufficient excuse for occasional absences, not unduly prolonged.

Purchase of land after final receipt and prior to patent gives an equity only. Such person is not a bona fide purchaser within the meaning of the pre-emption law and protected by the provisions of that act against further inquiry by the Land Department as to acts of entryman. Citing Hawley vs. Diller (178 U. S., 476.)

When purchase was made in good faith, and the face of the record appeared regular and valid in all respects, the department will consider the equitable rights of such purchaser.

When a leave of absence is granted a homesteader, a charge of abandonment will not lie against the entry until the expiration of six months after the time for which leave of absence was granted.

Desert Lands.

The rule for determining the desert character of lands is substantially as follows: Lands that one year with another for a series of years will not without irrigation produce reasonably remunerative crops are de-

ert within the meaning of the law.

A showing that crops, even remunerative ones, have grown on lands for a few seasons under unusual conditions as to rainfall, does not conclusively prove their non-desert character. Citing case of Peterson vs. Parkinson (27 L. D., 522.)

Although irrigation is not required subsequent to final proof, what has taken place and the acts of the parties with respect to irrigation, subsequent to such final proof, may be considered as some evidence of the sufficiency of the improvements and good faith in the matter.

Final Proof.

When commutation proof is rejected by the Commissioner upon only one ground—such as lack of cultivation—the case will not necessarily be closed, but the entry may be held intact, subject to future compliance of law, upon proper showing.

In offering commutation proof, it must be shown that the residence was substantially continuous. If in making such proof, an entryman admits his absence from the land for short periods, the showing thereupon becomes so indefinite that it cannot with certainty be determined that the entryman has lived continuously upon the land for the requisite period of time.

Commutation proof cannot be accepted when it fails to show that the required residence and cultivation continued to the date on which application for notice of intention to make proof was filed. Citing section 3, regulations of October 18, 1907 (36 L. D., 124.)

Miscellaneous.

The act of February 18, 1911, construed in view of the act of June 25, 1910, simply makes the latter act inoperative as to land which had been, prior thereto, properly entered, where such entry was subsequently relinquished.

Where entryman sells the land after obtaining final receipt, and before patent, the purchaser takes no better right than the entryman had at time of sale.

A homestead entryman may be allowed to amend his entry and embrace therein adjoining land which he was not allowed to take at the time of making his entry, because of its being then covered by an existing entry, providing notice was given at the time, of its purpose to contest said entry, and the same has actually been done.

Timber and Stone.

Land that is heavily timbered is not necessarily excluded from homestead entry. It may be homesteaded providing it is of such a character as would be suitable for agricultural use if the timber was removed. Otherwise, heavily timbered land is not subject to the homestead laws. Citing Finley vs. Ness (38 L. D., 254.)

FIRST CHILD BORN

Hampton Valley Farmer Arrives at Home of Mr. and Mrs. Peck.

HAMPTON, Jan. 22.—The first child born in the Hampton valley was brought by the stork to the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Peck on Thursday, January 18, and they are rejoicing over the arrival of this nine-pound boy.

Miss Evelyn Crow of Hampton celebrated her birthday by entertaining the young ladies of the neighborhood. Those present were Misses Ethel Fogg, Mae Hall, Julia Hall, Marie Hall and Laura Crow. The afternoon was spent pleasantly by all.

Low Miller has just returned from Bend with a big load of provisions and feed.

Edwin F. Bassett, one of the settlers in this valley, wrote to H. W. Campbell, the great dry farming expert, about this part of Oregon, and has received a reply from Mr. Campbell saying this is an ideal wheat country. Judging from the information sent him. He asked for more definite data regarding the lay of the land, soil formation and average annual precipitation.

CURB LAND AGENTS

Government Will See That Settlers Are Not Harassed.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Relief from unwarranted activities by special agents of the General Land Office is promised in a new circular of instructions soon to be issued. Many entrymen on lands withdrawn as coal lands have been complaining that after being induced to sign agreements for limited patents, with the understanding the patent would issue without delay, they have been informed their patent would not issue until the land had been examined.

Representative Mondell, author of the law under which settlers may secure patent to surface of coal lands, protested to the Commissioner-General of the Land Office. It was charged that special agents were in many cases using coercive methods to secure signatures of settlers to agreements to take limited patents.

The Commissioner agreed to issue new circulars warning the special agents that this practice must cease, and that when they have informed the settler of his rights in the matter their duty ends.

All women love a lover—but most married men feel sorry for him.

If a girl is popular with men it's a sure sign she isn't with other girls.

HOUSES IN ENGLAND.

Hot in Summer and Seldom Really Warm in Winter.

The Englishman is always surprised by his climate. And you may find that surprise on the face of the man who never prepares for anything but moderate temperature. It is cold. It is hot. The Englishman has built his house on the supposition that it is never going to be either—just temperate. In hot weather, he does not think of electric fans, and in cold weather he shrugs his shoulders and endures the cold. But his house is seldom really warm. The Englishman has never taken to his bosom the question of cold. The fireplace is an absurdity. It warms but a section of the room, and few can afford to warm a whole house with fireplaces in every corner!

Lady Mary Wortley Montagu found in Vienna that life would be intolerable in December without furs and stoves. And she is surprised at "our obstinacy in shivering with cold six months in the year rather than make use of stoves, which are certainly one of the greatest conveniences of life." So far from spoiling a room, they add to the magnificence of it as shaped in Vienna and Dresden, says Lady Mary. She threatened that on her return there would be a stove in her chamber; but, while the Berliner oven is still the warmer of the homes across the channel, we stick to the expensive and incompetent fireplace that warms only a corner of the room and one joint of the human body at a time.—London Chronicle.

FENCES THAT BLOOM.

They Grow Twenty Feet High and Are Armed With Great Thorns.

Throughout the older parts of Mexico, Texas and New Mexico many of the fences around the corrals and of ten the gauleins are made of "ocotilla." This is a cactus-like plant growing in a stalk form and often reaching a height of twenty or twenty-five feet. It is completely covered with long, stout thorns.

The stalk is tough, hard to cut, almost impossible to break, and growing to the height it does, it makes an effective protection. It is planted usually in three or four alternate rows and is held together by buckskin strings or with strong wire. It needs but little water.

I believe this ocotilla fence would be found very satisfactory to use on country estates, and even the owner of a modest plot of ground would find it a good thing. It prevents stock from breaking in, effectively keeps at a distance all marauders and when in bloom is a beautiful sight, for at the tip of the stalk there comes early in summer a cluster of deep crimson, ball shaped blossoms. I remember once the astonished, almost horrified, expression of an eastern woman to whom I mentioned the beauty of the corral fence when in bloom.—Country Life in America.

Push Out the Chest.

Look at your figure in the next full length mirror you see, says the Woman's World. Nine chances out of ten your chest curves in, your shoulders round like a bow, your stomach protrudes, and your chin is thrust forward like a prizefighter's. Now make an experiment. Take a long breath, push your chest out and hold it to that position. Behold a miracle! Your shoulders straighten till your back is like a line, your stomach retreats, and your chin assumes a position of modest dignity. Now you are standing correctly, and if you place any value at all upon a good appearance you must practice this position until it becomes second nature. Remember that the grand secret is, "Push out the chest." The rest of the figure will take care of itself.

Gave Him the Limit.

"I'm licked!" sobbed the hobo, beating an undignified retreat from the back door at which he had bummed a handout.

"How do you mean—licked?" chorused his comrades. "Did she hit you with a brick?"

"Worse'n dat."

"What? She didn't t'row—water on you?"

"Worse'n dat, fellers."

"What? Not bollin' water?"

"Even worse'n dat yet."

"Here ain't nothin' worse."

"Yes, dere is. She t'rowed soapuds on me."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

You Can't Lose It.

"Of course," said the optimist, "if a man gets into the habit of hunting trouble he's sure to find it."

"Yes," replied the pessimist, "and if he's so lazy that he always tries to avoid it it will find him. So what's the difference?"—Catholic Standard and Times.

His Only Worry.

Graphter—I've got my hooks out for a swell political office, big salary and all that. Jenkins—Do you think you can fill it? Graphter—Never thought of that. What's worrying me is whether I'll be able to get it.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Something New.

"Your snowstorm made a hit." "I knew it would," declared the proud playwright.

"Yes; they turned it loose in the drawing room scene."—Exchange.

Its Location.

Gladys Roxton—And the duke is so brave, papa! Why, he declares he intends to become an aviator. Papa—H'm! He does, eh? Wants to visit his castle, I suppose?—Puck.

Blueprint Maps for Sale.

The best and most up-to-date map of the county is the blueprint map which The Bulletin has for sale. It shows all the new roads and towns.

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