

An Arid Land Measure.

Washington, Jan. 21.—Representative Hermann of Oregon, chairman of the committee of arid lands, has introduced a bill embodying the recommendations made by the national irrigation congress recently held at Phoenix, Ariz.

The bill provides for a public land commission to be composed of the commissioner of the general land office, the director of the geological survey and three other persons to be appointed by the president, whose duty it shall be to cause to be made a survey and contour topography map of the areas embracing the public lands, on which shall be outlined the larger natural hydrographic basins and lands classified within each basin according as they are most valuable for growing trees, for pasture and for agriculture.

The water supply of each basin shall be ascertained at important points, the amount utilized for irrigation and water power and the amount flowing to waste. The underground supply shall be ascertained and that which can be cut without injuring the water supply.

The areas which can be devoted to public grazing without damage to the trees or waters shall be ascertained. The commission shall with the approval of the secretary of the interior make suitable regulations for the occupation and utilization of the public lands within the powers granted the secretary.

Persons shall be appointed whose duties it shall be to enforce the regulations of the commission made for the protection of forests, wood lands, grazing lands and waters.

Three-Dog System Against Coyotes.

A man up in Umatilla county hasn't lost a sheep from coyotes since adopting the three-dog system of watchfulness, says the Moro Observer. He keeps just three good hounds, which can make a good run after the coyote, and are not afraid to tackle them single-handed. For two of the hounds, he makes a comfortable and warm bed under a shed, and lets them go loose at night. The third hound he ties to a post on the side of the side of the corral farthest from the sheds. The hound has to keep awake on account of the cold, and is on the alert for any coyotes which may come prowling around during the night. When the hound knows a coyote has approached, he sounds the note of warning, and the two loose hounds rush out from the sheds and make for the coyote. The next night he puts out another of the hounds, and allows the one which was out the night before to go under the shed. Since adopting this plan not one sheep has been killed by coyotes.

Republican papers throughout the state are claiming that the "hold up" of the lower house of the lower house of the legislature will give Oregon two years more of useless commissions, high salaries

and other extravagances. We were told before the previous legislature that reform measures would be passed, but instead, more burdens were placed on the taxpayers to carry. If the house finally organizes it will probably add to the burdens of the people of the state, rather than relieve them. And right here it is in order to state that the "commissions, salaries and damnable laws" that should be repealed are the handiwork of the past three legislatures which were composed nearly unanimously of republicans. Is it likely that reform measures can be expected from that party or Senators who have on an average from two to three clerks each?—Eugene Guard.

Westen's School Tax.

Saturday evening, at Weston, a school meeting was held, and a tax voted of 10 mills for the support of the district during the current year. There were three classes in the meeting, one favoring a tax of 10 mills, one a tax of 8 mills, and some no tax at all, with few voting for a tax smaller than 8 mills. The 10 mill tax people won on a vote of 27 for the 10 mills, 24 for 8 mills, and others scattering. The contention of the "no tax" contingent was that the public schools should not be united with the normal school as a training department, and they argued that, if the training school idea prevails, the public school not be taxed by a regular district school tax in addition to the taxation impose to obtain money for the normal school.

There was some feeling worked up, as is usual whenever school matters get into shape for much difference of opinion.

Senator McBride's Nephew in Trouble.

F. M. McBride, assistant postmaster, and J. W. Cunnington, stamp clerk of Salt Lake postoffice, are in the custody of the United States marshal on the charge of embezzlement. The former is said to short in his accounts \$4000 and the latter to the amount of \$360. Complaint was made by Captain Nicholas, the inspector of the district. McBride has always been considered one of the most efficient postoffice officials in the west. He is the son of Judge McBride, of Spokane, Wash., and a nephew of Senator Geo. W. McBride, of Oregon, and has been in the postal service there for 17 years.

To Sell the Union Pacific.

Washington, Jan 23.—The attorney general has entered into an agreement with the reorganization committee of the Union Pacific and Kansas Pacific railways by which the government is to join the committee in foreclosure proceedings.

The committee is to guarantee the government that at the foreclosure sale it shall receive bids at least to the original amount of the bonds less the payments made by the company to the government, with interest at the rate of 3 1-3 per annum. The agreement has been signed and actual steps will be taken in a few days.

English Bimetralists.

London, Jan. 21—The Daily

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News says that Senator Wolcott, of Colorado, had an interview yesterday with Sir William Houldsworth conservative member of parliament for the northwest division of Manchester, and the British delegate to the Brussels monetary conference in 1892. The interview was private and informal.

The bimetalists in parliament, the Daily News says, are not disposed to take any active measures, but they believe that the time is on their side, and they are warmly interested in Sir Samuel Montague's proposal that to secure the adoption of the dual standard it would be necessary for the United States to begin, and to offer a ten per cent. tariff rebate to all nations following their example.

TWO PAIRS OF TWINS.—John Benson and family of the Dakotas, arrived last night and are now quartered at the Minnesota hotel. There is nothing unusual about this family except that it contains two pairs of twins. The eldest pair is 15 months old and the youngest pair is one month of age. All four are girls and are healthy, good looking and have splendid lungs. Besides the twins there are three small boys in the family, all older than the eldest pair of twins. If cold and bleak Dakota is so productive, what will be the result here in the warm congenial climate of Oregon.—Guard.

An offer has been made on behalf of the bondsmen of W. E. Howe, defaulting treasurer of Klamath county who is in the state penitentiary, to settle the suit now before the supreme court to collect from the bondsmen, by paying the county \$4,000. The matter of accepting or rejecting the proposition has not yet been decided.

Consumption AND ITS CURE

TO THE EDITOR—I have an remedy for Consumption. By its timely use the hands of hopeless cases have been already permanently cured. So proof-positive am I of its power that I consider it my duty to send two bottles free to those of your readers who have Consumption, Throat, Bronchial or Lung Trouble, if they will write me their express and postoffice address. Sincerely, T. A. SLOCUM, M. C., 183 Pearl St., New York.