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FOR UNIFORM ROAD BRAND

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE DRIVING OF STOCK WITHOUT IT.

Introduced by the Request of the Harney County Stockmen's Association—Similar to Montana.

We are in receipt of the following bill introduced by Representative Gear at the earnest request of the Harney County Stockmen's Association. THE TIMES-HERALD took up the matter some weeks ago and sent to Montana for a copy of the stocklaws of that state as the Association desired legislation on the same line. A copy of the laws was sent Mr. Gear from this office and he immediately introduced the bill in accordance with their wishes of the association:

Section 1. Every person who owns or has charge of any horses, cattle or sheep which are driven into or through any part of this State, and fails to plainly brand or mark the animals so driven, so that such animals may be readily distinguished from other animals, is punishable by a fine not exceeding three hundred dollars.

Section 2. All droves of mules, horses, cattle or sheep which may hereafter be driven from any other State or Territory of the United States, or any foreign country, into or through any county or counties of this State, shall be plainly branded or marked with one uniform brand or mark.

Section 3. All such horses, cattle and mules shall be so branded with one distinct ranch or road brand of the owner or owners so as to show distinctly in such place or places as the owner may adopt.

Section 4. All such sheep shall be marked distinctly with such mark or device as may be sufficient to distinguish the same readily should they become intermixed or mingled with other flocks of sheep in this state.

Section 5. Any such owner or owners, person or persons, in charge of such drove of stock which may be driven into or through this state, who shall fail to comply with the provisions of this act, shall be fined in a sum not less than fifty dollars, nor more than three hundred dollars together with costs of suit.

Section 6. It shall be the special duty of the county attorney, sheriff and any constables in each and every county in this state to enforce the provisions of this act, upon complaint of any resident of the county or state.

Section 7. All fines collected under the provisions of this act shall be paid into the general school funds of the county in which judgment therefor is recovered.

Section 8. All acts or parts of acts in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Bingham's Bill Dead.

Direct primary legislation on lines proposed by E. W. Bingham, has been given its quietus by the senate committee on elections, which is composed of Hunt of Multnomah, Kuykendall of Lane and Marsters of Douglas, says the Oregonian. Mr. Bingham, who has been at Salem in the interest of primary reform in general and his bill in particular, returned last night with the conviction uppermost in his mind that a "primary bill providing for the direct nomination of candidates will either not be enacted, or if enacted, will not be of any service." Mr. Bingham's faith in the Multnomah members of the legislature was shaken by his experience with them at Salem.

When they were candidates last spring they were profuse in their promises of the things they would do to give the state a wholesome primary law. "My opinion of the Multnomah members," said Mr. Bingham, "is that they are keeping the letter but are breaking the spirit of the promises they made last spring."

Mr. Bingham appeared before elections committee Tuesday night and held the floor until 11:40, explaining his bill. Previously Chas

TO RECLAIM ARID LANDS

A SUBSTITUTE BILL PASSED BY THE OREGON SENATE.

Avoids Defects of the Original—Will Not Conflict With the Carey Act—Abstract of Measure.

The senate of the Oregon legislature recently adopted the substitute Johnston bill, submitted by the committee on irrigation. The bill is entirely different from the original, and particularly avoids the defects of the first measure. One of the chief features of the bill is the section which provides that individuals or associations who have already reclaimed land shall be allowed to secure title to it under the present act. Another important provision is that which makes careful precaution against the state being bound in any way to pay any expense connected with the irrigation of land that may be secured from the United States under the Carey act. This feature was incorporated in the new bill in order to secure reasonable results from the work that may be done. Since the men who construct irrigating ditches must look to the land for their compensation, they will not undertake to reclaim any tracts except those which are so situated as to make the returns from the land pay for its reclamation. Under this plan, the work will be conducted in accordance with the rules which govern all private business enterprises.

SUBSTANCE OF BILL.

The bill in brief, is as follows:
 Section 2. Upon application made as hereinafter provided, by any person, company of persons associations or incorporated company desiring to reclaim any of the desert government lands of this state, it shall be the duty of the State Land Board to make proper application for the lands which said applicant undertakes to reclaim, and enter into contract with the Secretary of the Interior for the donation and patent to the state free of cost for surveying or price of such desert lands. Said State Land Agent is hereby authorized to enter into such contracts and agreements, and to create and assume such obligations in relation to and concerning such lands as may be necessary to induce and cause such reclamation thereof as is required by the contract with the Secretary of the Interior and the act of congress, and is authorized and empowered to create a lien or liens which when created shall be valid on and against the separate legal subdivisions of land reclaimed, for the actual cost and necessary expense of reclamation and reasonable interest thereon from the date of reclamation until said lien shall have been satisfied; provided, that in no event, in no contingency and under no circumstances shall the state of Oregon be in any manner directly or indirectly liable for any amount of any such lien or liability in whole or in part.

Sec. 3. Any person or incorporated company desiring to enter into contract or reclaim, as required by the acts granting such lands to the state, any tract of desert government land in this state, shall file with the State Land Board an application for a contract to reclaim said tract. Said applicant is hereby authorized and required, on behalf of the state, but at his own expense and without any cost or charge whatever to the state, to make the necessary surveys, prepare a map of the said land proposed to be irrigated, which shall exhibit a plan showing the mode of the contemplated irrigation and which plan shall be sufficient to thoroughly irrigate and reclaim said land and prepare it to raise ordinary agricultural crops, and shall also show the source of the water to be used for irrigation and reclamation, which map shall be duly verified and in all particulars comply with the requirements of the Secretary of the Interior, and shall be accompanied by a flat in triplicate of the land selected, de-

Vale Wins County Seat Fight.

Salem, Or., Feb 15.—In the house to night the Malheur county seat fight came up, and Vale, the present county seat, won. Friends of both Vale and Ontario were greatly in evidence during consideration of the bill. Gear, of Harney, who also represents Malheur, made an earnest plea for the passage of his bill. Colvig, of Josephine, took up the fight for Vale. He presented a petition from what he claimed was a majority of the legal voters of Malheur county, remonstrating against any enabling act being granted for the relocation of the county seat.

Parce, a member of the committee on counties, which had reported the bill favorably, urged the house to confirm such action. The bill was defeated, 25 to 25.

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signated as required by the regulations governing such selections, and a sum sufficient to pay the necessary land office fees for the selection of said lands. There shall also be submitted by said applicant a statement of the amount of water available for the plan of irrigation and other data and information required by the Secretary of the Interior, and when the canals or reservoirs required by the plan of irrigation cross public lands not selected by the state, he shall file separately an application for right of way over such lands, under section 18 to 21 of act of March 3, 1891 (25 Stat., 1085) in accordance with the regulations under said act, it being intended hereby to authorize and require the applicant for a contract to do and perform all things necessary to be done to enable the State Land Agent to select these lands without cost to the state. Said applications for a contract shall contain an estimate of the cost of the construction of the proposed system of irrigation and of the annual cost of the maintenance of the same.

Sec. 4. Upon the receipt of the application, map, plan of irrigation, payment, etc., as provided in section 3 of this act, the State Land Board shall enter into a contract with the said person or incorporated company applying therefor, for the construction of the works substantially according to the plans submitted. Under said contract, the person or incorporated company entering into the same shall undertake to furnish an amply supply of water, substantially in accordance with the plans submitted, to reclaim said lands in compliance with the act granting the same to the state, and to make the proofs required by the Secretary of the Interior for the insurance of patent, and to pay all cost of advertising and other expenses incident to such proof and application for patent. Said person or incorporated company shall further undertake that work will be commenced upon the ditches or other work necessary for the reclamation of said lands within six months after the signing of the contract by the Secretary of the Interior, that by the end of the first year 10 per cent of the necessary expenditures will be made, and that this work will be prosecuted with due diligence until complete, and the proof of the reclamation is made, as required by the act of congress. The State Land Board shall, by said contract, fix the amount due the person or incorporated company, for the reclamation of said land and the annual charge for the maintenance of the irrigation system, and create a lien which shall be valid on and against the separate legal subdivisions of the land reclaimed for the amount due as agreed upon, and interest thereon, at the rate of 6 per cent per annum, from the date of reclamation until said lien shall have been satisfied.

Sec. 5. So soon as any contract shall have been made by the person or incorporated company for the reclamation of any tract of land, the State Land Agent shall make proper application for said land, and for a contract from the Secretary of the Interior, binding the United States to donate, patent to the state, free of cost, for survey or price, such desert lands, and upon completion of the reclamation required by the act granting said lands to the state, he shall file in the local land office a list of such lands to which shall be affixed a certificate of the presiding officer of the State Land Board, or any other officer of the state, who may be charged with the duty of disposing of the lands which the state may obtain under the law, and followed by the affidavit of the person authorized to superintend the reclamation of the lands.

Section 6 provides that the contractors shall enter upon the land and have control and possession of the same until their lien is satisfied.

Section 7 provides that if any contractors fail to complete their work, the State Land Board shall sell their completed work, after

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