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ARID LAND LAW NOT CLEAR

OREGON LAND BOARD FINDS IT HARD TO GIVE ADVICE.

Until Application Has Been Made and Pre-
cedent Established, Task Is
Almost Impossible.

A recent dispatch from Salem
says: Clerk L. M. Chamberlain, of
the State Land Board, is in receipt
of many letters inquiring as to the
procedure to be followed to secure
land under the arid land act, and
also asking for the necessary blanks.
He has prepared a circular letter in
answer to such general inquiries,
which circular is in part as follows:

"It is not the intention of the
State Land Board to prepare or
furnish blanks or forms which may
be required to carry out the pro-
visions of this act. It is the opinion
of the board that the applications
and contracts will not be the same
in each case, owing to the condi-
tions and circumstances, varying
according to the location of the
land applied for and the party or
parties applying.

"Section 3 of the act, among other
things, says that it is intended to
authorize the applicant to do and
perform all things necessary to be
done to enable the State Land
Board to select the land without
cost to the state, and at his own
expense, and without any cost or
charge whatever to the state, to
make the necessary surveys, maps,
plans, etc., showing mode of con-
templated irrigation, source of wa-
ter, list of lands selected, statement
of water available, and the date
and information required by the
Secretary of the Interior; also the
application for right of way across
public lands not selected by the
state in accordance with the regu-
lations of the act of congress.

"It is further provided, by sec-
tion 4, that the person or corpora-
tion entering into a contract with
the board, shall make the proof re-
quired by the Secretary of the In-
terior for the issuance of patent,
and to pay the cost of advertising
and other expenses incident to such
proof and application for patent.

"The act does not appear to be
clear in some of the requirements,
and until a precedent has been es-
tablished and an application
carried through to final determina-
tion, it will be a difficult matter to
fully advise anyone as to the proper
procedure, other than as contained
in the act. The board, however,
will be pleased to furnish such ad-
vice and information as it is able to
and will cheerfully comply with the
provisions required of it."

No application for land under
the arid land act has yet been made.
It was reported some time before
the last session of the legislature
that persons in Eastern Oregon
were planning to secure large tracts
of arid lands in the territory ad-
jacent to the Upper Des Chutes River,
but since the project has not been
carried into official proceedings, it
may be presumed that the act of
the last legislature is as ambiguous
to them as it is to the State Land
Board. Perhaps if some citizen of
this state should find a tract of arid
land situated so that it may be ir-
rigated, he can learn the proper
procedure in order to secure it by
addressing some lawyer who, as a
member of the last legislature
voted for the act.

Good Beef Scarce.

Portland butchers call this the
season "between hay and grass,"
and consider it the hardest time of
year to obtain fat beef and mutton,
as the stall fed animals are becoming
scarce and those depending on
pasture are in poor condition. A
wholesale butcher, in speaking of
the matter yesterday, said there
would be no grass fed stock fit for
slaughter before July, and so those
stockraisers who still have fat cat-
tle or sheep to sell are in a position
to "hold up" the buyers.

"There is no money in the busi-
ness for the wholesaler, at present
prices," he said. "When we have
to pay \$50 or \$60 for a live steer

we must figure pretty close in or-
der to get our money out of the
carcass at 8 cents a pound. Hides,
tallow etc., must be carefully looked
after, in order to guard against loss,
as the market for beeves is limited
by the high price retailers charge
at the block. The retailers are
actually making more money than
we are, as people have learned to
pay high prices for fresh meat.
You will notice quite an increase
in the number of small shops in
Portland of late, and this proves
that there is money in selling chops
and steaks, even where wholesalers
charge 8 cents a pound in the
whole beef.

"It doesn't take much capital to
start a small butcher shop. Knife,
cleaver and block are all that is
necessary, prior to stocking up with
a small amount of meat, and these
men easily clear \$75 to \$100 a
month out of the business.

"But the man who makes the
real money in the transaction is
he who has the livestock to sell.
He does not need to hunt the buy-
er, nor to advertise his wares. The
drover must look for him in the
fastness of his bunchgrass ranch,
or in the remote pastures of moun-
tain foothills. The stockman is "in
it" these days, and is sharp enough
to know it."—Oregonian.

A gentleman returning to Vale
from Huntington this week reports
rather an exciting time at that place
between the town council and the
sheep owners and shearers, and
business men. The railroad com-
pany, it appears, tendered the
sheepmen the stock yards of the
company, which are situated within
the corporate limits of the town as
shearing corral.

There were about 15,000 sheep
on hand to be sheared and more
coming. It occurred to the town
council that to turn the town proper
into a shearing corral where 15,000
sheep were to browse while waiting
their turn to be sheared, might
prove dangerous to the grass and
shrubs in the vicinity, and in-
cidentally cause an odor not con-
genial to the health of the town,
and they passed an ordinance to
go into effect immediately, prohib-
iting the shearing of sheep within
the corporate limits.

The sheepmen and shearers roared
at being delayed, and the busi-
ness men did not like to see the
shearers, who are good money-
spenders, driven out of the corpo-
rate limits. But the councilmen
won and the shearers had to go.—
Vale Democrat.

Just the Man he Wanted.

A Missouri editor going away,
left a minister in charge of his pa-
per. A day or two later a letter
from a "way-back" subscriber
came which read: "You know I
well I paid my subscription the last
time I was in Lexington. If I get
any more such letters I will come
down and mail it out of you." The
minister answered: "I have
been trying to mail that thing out
of the editor for ten years, and if
you really come down and mail it
out of him, then, my dear sir, I
have twenty members of my church
you can operate on."

Charles M. Hill was arrested by
United States Marshall Houser
this afternoon upon an indictment
charging him with raising the can-
cellation receipts of the post office
at Belknap Springs, Lane county,
while he was post master for the
purpose of defrauding the govern-
ment. He was held under bonds
in the sum of \$500, which he
promptly furnished. Hill, who is
well connected in Astoria, appears
to have kept out of reach of the
officers until today, when they ac-
cidentally ran across him on the
streets. He was indicted by the
federal grand jury at its last session
—Telegram.

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standing. Salary \$750 a year and ex-
penses, all payable in cash. No ex-
perience required. Give references and en-
close self addressed stamped envelope.
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VICTIM OF HEART TROUBLE

EX-STATE SUPERINTENDENT MET HIS END SUDDENLY.

Had Filled Chairs in University of Oregon
and State Agricultural College—A
Prominent Educator.

Hon. E. B. McElroy, State Su-
perintendent of Public Instruction
for 12 years, and one of Oregon's
most prominent educators, died
suddenly at his home in Eugene
early Saturday morning. Professor
McElroy retired in his usual good
health. About 12:15 he was taken
with an intense pain about the
heart. He immediately realized
that the attack would be fatal, and
summoned his family. They had
only time to get to his side before
he expired.

Ebenezer Burton McElroy, A. M.,
Ph. D., was a native of Pennsylvania,
where he was born September
17, 1842, being the youngest of a
family of 12 children. His early
life was spent on a farm. After
completing his education, which he
acquired in his native state, he be-
gan teaching, at which he was en-
gaged in 1861, when the war broke
out. His patriotic spirit took pos-
session of him, and he enlisted as a
private in Company B, First West
Virginia Volunteers. He served in
that regiment until 1863, when he
was mustered out and re-enlisted
in the One Hundredth Pennsylvania
Volunteer Infantry, and served
until July, 1865, when he was again
mustered out.

After the war he spent two years
more pursuing his studies in col-
lege, and again took up the work of
teaching.

Professor McElroy was married,
in 1869, to Miss Agnes McFadden.
Together they came to Oregon in
1874, and settled in Corvallis, where
he taught one year in the public
schools, and the following year was
given the chair of literature in the
State Agricultural College, which
he filled until he was elected State
Superintendent of Public Instruc-
tion in 1880, in which office he
served three terms.

Upon retiring from office in 1892,
he was appointed to a chair in the
University of Oregon, which he
filled until a year ago, when he re-
signed. He has since been devot-
ing his attention to his farms and
stock interests.

A wife and five children survive
him—Willis E., Lucian G., Coler-
idge, Alice and Lillian.

How Lee Aided Funston.

General Fitzhugh Lee, who is
now in San Francisco, told a good
story on General Funston the other
day, and one that has never been
published.

"I remember Funston very well,"
said Lee. "One morning when I
was Consul-General in Havana a
hungry, hunted looking chap ap-
peared in my office. He said his
name was Funston, and that he
had been fighting with the in-
surgents for a year and a half, and
that he was sick and wounded with
a Mauser bullet through his lungs,
his hip broken from his horse being
shot under him and his constitution
shattered by fever. He had made
his way to the coast. I bought
him a ticket to New York and also
fitted him out with some clothing.
When Funston landed in New York
January 7, 1895, a blizzard was
howling through the streets, and he
must have shivered as he limped
down the gang plank. After his
return to Kansas war talk was in
the air. He was appointed a colo-
nel of a regiment, and you know
the rest.

Heretofore any person over the
age of 21 years, who had resided in
the district and paid taxes on prop-
erty valued at \$100, could vote at
school election. Under the new
school law, only those otherwise
qualified, whose names appear on
the last years assessment roll, not
assessed by the sheriff, are per-
mitted to vote.

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