

Ten years from now the present gobbling up of the public lands for little or nothing, by fair means or foul, will have a very ugly look, and the chief offenders and their families will have cause to regret their pernicious activity, if they have any regard whatever for public sentiment. The overshadowing fact about the public domain, whether we are talking of timber, coal, railroads, scrip, irrigation, is that the old regime of limitless land and scarce applicants is gone never to return. We are living in a day of pressure of population. Europe presses on our Atlantic seaboard, and our East presses on our West. The Mississippi valley presses on the Rocky mountain region. Farmers from Minnesota and the Dakotas are flocking to Oregon and Washington. We do not need to advertise our timber in the East. Lumbermen of Michigan and Wisconsin understand full well that their own timber supply is doomed. They are turning hither of their own accord, and acquiring land as rapidly as the necessary steps can be gone through and money paid over. Justice must be done to all these applicants under all these laws. Capital must be protected. Settlers must be protected. But through all these conflicting interests and complicated questions the one obligation that lies heavily on every patriotic heart is protection of the public domain and obedience to the law. It is not the business of Commissioner Herman or any other official to screen offenders in office or out, to boom settlement or facilitate. It is their business to enforce the law without fear or favor, and to leave their skirts clear of fraud of lenience when future generations hold their memories to strict account for the disappearance of our once vast and always increasing valuable public domain.—Oregonian.

Our big Cottrell Press is now in position and will soon be ready to start. Some of the fixtures for the engine are still lacking and we haven't muscle enough to run the press, so will have to wait a few days more in order to be in first class shape. The Times-Herald has added over 13,000 lbs of printing machinery and type and when it all gets into working shape and the "pi" cleared out of the way even the oldest inhabitant will not know the sheet. This great religious weekly will soon enter its sixteenth year of continuous publication in this thriving burg and it is considered an "stand-by." With the new machinery just added it can serve its patrons much better and will continue to improve with its surroundings and as business justifies. Its many readers are invited to call and see it in its "style and grandeur" when in our city. If you have enough to pay your subscription bring it along too.

While Burns is growing rapidly and pushing to the front as a trading point, it could and would progress much better if our business men would lend their energies together and it the right direction. We have selfishness to contend with. Men who don't want his neighbor to prosper,—even though it does not interfere with their particular business, but perhaps indirectly benefits. Burns is too broadminded now to allow any certain individuals to dominate, so they just as well "pull in their horns." It makes no difference whether a proposition or a business undertaking is just to the liking of certain people or not, if it is something that is needed and deserving the public will give it just recognition. Business men of energy and public spirit will make a success in Burns.

A foreign paper tells of an experiment it made to see how

quickly a tree could be turned into a newspaper. At 7:35 a. m. a tree was sawed down. Just two hours later it had been converted into pulp and paper. At 10 o'clock the first printed and folded paper came from the press. In 145 minutes the tree had been turned into a newspaper. It now becomes a Yankee to beat that record. Perhaps it has been beaten for something of the sort was done in New York several years ago.—Ex.

Gov. Geer has decided not to call an extra session of the legislature. Four reasons were given for a special session but the Governor considers them not of sufficient importance. He says: Lewis and Clark Fair appropriation can wait. Welfare of the City of Portland will not be seriously jeopardized by waiting until regular session to pass charter bill. Referendum amendment is now a part of the constitution, and legislation is not needed to make it operative. Regular session can provide for flat salaries or other proper compensation for state officials.

There is every prospect for great mining activity in Harney county next season. Some very rich prospects have been located and development work will be pushed.

J. J. DONEGAN TALKS TO TELEGRAM

Burns Harney county, in this state, has the distinction of being the farthest county west from a railroad in the United States, according to J. J. Donegan, a business man of that town who is now in Portland. He was obliged to take a stage ride of 150 miles to Ontario, on the Oregon Short Line, when he came to this city this week, and he considers the trip a very tiresome one, says the Telegram.

"It takes two nights and one day to ride from Burns to Ontario," he said last evening, "and the passenger is nearly tired to death by the time he reaches the railroad, as it is impossible to sleep on the stage, and the road in most places is rough enough to keep one holding on."

"There are stopping places every 20 miles or so, where one may obtain a meal and where the horses are changed, but the meal is usually a poor one, although the price is 50 cents. The passengers, however, do not care for the price if they could obtain something fit to eat, and would be glad to pay a dollar for a decent meal."

"The rolling stock of the stage company consists of buckboards, dead ax wagons or any old thing in the shape of a vehicle. The fare is \$40 which is considered cheap for a 150 mile stage ride, as stage companies usually charge 10 cents a mile."

"We are very happy over in Burns, however, and only feel our isolation when we want to take a trip to the outer world. Our people are mostly stockraisers and so are not anxious for a railroad that would settle up the country with farmers and crowd the stock to the wall. Everybody is doing well now, and such might not be the case after population becomes more dense."

"The county, however is in a very undeveloped state, and there is a large amount of land that might be rendered productive if farmers would take hold of it. A portion of Harney valley is self-irrigating, being moistened by the melting snows from the adjacent mountains. This land is very rich and will raise anything."

"There is some talk of the Salt Lake & Coos Bay railroad being built through Harney county, and it would come to Burns in all probability. Whether this road ever materializes or not, however, is a matter of conjecture with our people."

"Portland Daily papers are three days old when they reach Burns and the Boise papers are two days old. We deal altogether with Portland, however, and as all our interests are in Oregon, the Portland papers are the only ones we care to read regularly."

Mr. Donegan is on his way to Roseburg to visit relatives, and he expects to spend a week or two in Western Oregon before returning to Harney valley.

POSITION OF THE DEPARTMENT.

Oregonian News Bureau, Washington, Nov. 9.—Secretary Hitchcock expects during winter or spring to select sites for the first irrigation projects to be built by the government under the general law passed last session. The geologic survey is now actively engaged in compiling data collected by its field agents in the respective Western states, showing the merits of the several sites examined. From this compilation the Secretary will be able to choose those presenting the most desirable features, both as to cost, amount of land reclaimable in proportion to the expenditure, and the probability of settlers to be attracted as a result of reclamation.

The Upper Deschutes is one of the most favorable in Oregon. It is the opinion of the geographical survey that it is one of the most promising sites in the country. The conditions there are such as to insure an abundant supply of water which can be distributed over a large area of rich but now arid land, at reasonable cost. The department believes that money expended there would soon be repaid into the irrigation fund by settlers who would eagerly grasp the opportunity to secure valuable lands upon payment for the water rights.

Inspector Green, by direction of Secretary Hitchcock, is now investigating the state selection on the Upper Deschutes to determine whether or not they embrace land that is arid, and otherwise subject to selection under the Carey act. If his report shows the land to be arid, and the state in the meantime does not withdraw its request for such selections, the lists will be approved, unless found to be otherwise irregular. The state would then be expected to close its contracts with the Pilot Butte and other irrigation companies, and reclamation would be attempted by private enterprises. On the other hand, if Green's report shall show the state selections to include other than arid lands, the secretary will either cancel the selections or return the request to the state asking that the lists be modified to include only arid tracts.

OREGON LAND BOARD'S ACTION

Strong representations have been made to the interior department, which leads to the conclusion that the Oregon land board acted blindly and ignorantly in filing its selections under the Carey act. The selections in the Upper Deschutes are long, narrow strips of land running in directions to encircle areas of now deserts. It has been represented that the approval of such lists would practically render these included lands valueless, or place them under the control of proposed contractors. It is possible, of course, that the nature of the country is such as to make it necessary that the selections assume this unusual shape, as one official believes, but this is not the advice of the department. If Secretary Hitchcock becomes convinced that intending contractors, are attempting to corner large tracts, under pending state selections, he will unhesitatingly turn down the state lists.

NO PROFIT IN PRIVATE ENTERPRISES

Hydrographer Newell, of the geological survey, who knows more about practical irrigation than any other man, told The Oregonian correspondent yesterday that there had never been a successful irrigation project launched by private capital under the Carey act. Every one proved a financial failure. Out of 300,000 acres selected by the State of Wyoming, where most Carey act contracts have been made only 11,000 are now under irrigation, and the men constructing these systems lost heavily. Mr. Newell holds out no encouragement for the success of projects undertaken in Oregon under this act.

The interior department has been reliably informed that if the government constructs an irrigation system on the Deschutes river, a railroad will be built into the heart of the reclaimed area, giving ready connection with Portland. It has also been informed that if reclamation is attempted in that section under the Carey act the railroad will not be built.

While considerable pressure has been brought to bear to induce the department to recognize large projects like the Milk river in Montana, and the Truckee Canyon in Nevada and California, the majority of the works required there, the

vast cost of construction and the unknown cost per acre of reclamation, added to the doubtful success of the works, makes the department fearful of undertaking such schemes, especially until smaller and more promising projects have demonstrated the success of government reclamation. It may be stated as almost a certainty that neither of these large projects will be undertaken for some years to come. Government reclamation is an experiment and Secretary Hitchcock's business instincts lead him to conclude that small enterprises are the best.

A RICH GOLD STRIKE.

Quite a little excitement was caused the first of the week when it was announced that a very rich quartz ledge had been discovered about 15 miles up the river from Burns and that some of the rock assayed \$78.

Tex Martin and James Brandon were the lucky discoverers and have what appears to be very rich claims. We understand several claims have been staked and that gold is there in rich quantities.

If this should turn out to be the famous "Blue Bucket" mines Burns would be strictly in it as a mining center and it would be a great boom to the country.

With the diamond and sapphire prospects of Crane creek, the new gold find in Stein Mountain, with some of the richest copper mines in the United States in the Pueblo district, Harney county is fast coming to the front as a mining section.

Should this latest discovery prove as rich as reported next season will see lively times in this county. We have not as much information about this new field as we desire but hope to give our readers more particulars by our next issue.

"Dad" Springer is recovering from a severe attack of erysipelas.

Anton Egli is a sufferer from typhoid fever at his home in this place.

Hon C. W. Parrish left Tuesday on the stage for Canyon City where he goes to attend court which convenes there next Monday.

SUMMONS.

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for Harney County. W. L. Marsden and J. W. Geary, partners, plaintiffs, vs. William H. Gibson, defendant.

To William H. Gibson, the above named defendant:

In the Name of the State of Oregon: You are hereby summoned and requested to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled action on or before the 22nd day of December 1902, pursuant to an order of the above entitled court based upon the affidavit of the plaintiff and of date the 5th of Nov, 1902 for the publication of the summons in said action you will take notice of the date of the said order for publication as above stated you will also take notice that the time in which you are required to appear and answer is six full weeks from and after the date of the first publication of said summons in the Times-Herald, newspaper of general circulation printed and published weekly at Burns Oregon, and also that the date of the first publication is Saturday urday Nov. 8, 1902.

You will take further notice that if you fail so to appear and answer for want thereof the plaintiff will take judgment against you for the sum of Fifty eight dollars and the costs and disbursements of this action.

THORNTON WILLIAMS, Plffs Atty

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION.

Notice is hereby given that the co-partnership heretofore existing between A. K. Richardson and Geo. L. James, under the firm name of Richardson & James has been dissolved by mutual consent. A. K. Richardson will pay all indebtedness against the firm and all accounts due said firm are payable to him. All those owing said firm are requested to settle by cash or note before Jan. 1, 1903.

A. K. RICHARDSON, GEO. L. JAMES.

A liberal reward will be paid for the return of a light brown dog with white neck, face and feet. He is rather tall and looks something like a shepherd. M. L. Lewis.

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