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The Times-Herald

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CONGRESSMAN TONGUE DEAD

SUDDEN END OF OREGON REPRESENTATIVE.

Heart Disease the Cause—Paralysis Brought on by Acute Indigestion—Congressional Escort for Body.

Oregonian News Bureau, Washington, Jan. 11.—Representative T. H. Tongue, of the First Oregon Congressional District, in the presence of his daughter Bertha and his secretary, Miss Ruane, died suddenly in his room at the Irvington, in this city, at 12:50 this afternoon. A few minutes before he passed away he lapsed into unconsciousness, and died without a word, without any suffering. His son, Thomas H. Jr., did not reside with his father, but was notified of his approaching end and hastened to his father's bedside, but did not reach there until after he had passed away.

The physicians who were summoned, and the family physician, Dr. Boyce, as well as the coroner, agree that death was due to acute indigestion, which superinduced paralysis of the heart. Mr. Tongue had been in unusual health, and excepting for occasional attacks of dyspepsia, to which he has not complained of feeling badly this winter.

Throughout the afternoon, as the sad news spread over Washington, friends have been thronging to the Irvington; Senator Mitchell, who lives just across the street, was the first to arrive, and Representative Moody followed closely after. Senator Simon, Commissioner Hermann and countless friends called later to offer their consolation to the bereaved son and daughter.

Senator Mitchell and Representative Moody at once summoned the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House and he hastened to the Irvington and announced that he would take charge of the funeral arrangements. With the two Oregon men he called on Speaker Henderson, who delegated Representative Moody to call on Mr. Tongue's colleagues the river and harbor and irrigation committees, and to arrange among them for the congressional escort, which will leave here tomorrow evening for Representative Tongue's home, provided the family arrangements can be completed in season.

Mr. Tongue leaves a widow, two sons, one of whom is in Washington and another in Oregon; three daughters, two of whom are married and live in Oregon, and an adopted daughter. Mr. Tongue was in his fifty-ninth year of his age, and had served in the fifty-fifth, fifty-sixth and fifty-seventh congresses, and had been elected to the fifty-eighth congress.

HIS VOTE TO GO TO WOOD

"Eastern Oregon couldn't elect a United States senator even if they could get together—which they can't," declared Representative E. H. Test, of Malheur and Harney counties. Mr. Test is one of the dozen democrats in the house of representatives, and being with the hope-minority, he does not intend to startle the state with any reform measures, for the very good reason that they would receive small consideration, coming from the democratic side of the house.

There has been no little talk to the effect that Eastern Oregon wants the senator, although no names have been mentioned in particular. Mr. Test was asked concerning this sentiment.

"There is nothing serious in this rumor," declared the representative. "The trouble with Eastern Oregon is that the people there are as hard to bring to an agreement as are the people of the Willamette valley. Look at all the candidates for senator that live in Western Oregon, and just imagine how much more confusing the situation would be if Eastern Oregon came in with a demand for recognition. It is impossible for the politicians east

EXCHANGE OF ARID LANDS

MOODY PRESENTS CHECKERBOARD BILL IN THE HOUSE.

Railroad and Wagon Road Grants May be Made Into Solid Tracts—Hitchcock Gives Bill Approval.

Representative Moody has completed his report on the bill recently indorsed by the public lands committee, providing for the exchange of even sections for odd sections of land within the limits of railroad and wagon road land grants living in the arid and semi-arid sections of the West, and will submit the same to the House.

The bill, as originally introduced, applied only to railroad grants, but Mr. Moody was able to have it enlarged to apply also to lands within wagon road grants, as the latter provision will benefit settlers who have purchased land within the grants to the Willamette Valley and Cascade Mountains and the Dalles military road companies in Eastern Oregon, the former grant embracing 843,000 and the latter 473,865 acres. The other wagon road lands in Oregon will not be affected, as their grants do not lie in the arid region. In fact, wagon roads in no other state will be affected by the bill. Settlers on the Willamette Valley lands west of the mountains will not be affected.

Incorporated in the report is a strong letter of indorsement from Secretary Hitchcock, who says that the checkerboard land grant system was never suited to land in the arid region. There small holdings are practically useless under this checkerboard system. Large tracts of arid land which are fit only for grazing are now divided in ownership and naturally much friction resulted because of trespass. It is estimated that from 25 to 50 acres of such land is needed annually to pasture a single horse or cow and in single sections such pasturage is practically valueless.

The Secretary strongly urges the adoption of the pending bill as it tends to consolidate private holdings in tracts of sufficient size to give them value and at the same time increase the value of the Government lands.

The bill is drawn to prohibit any unfair exchanges, for lands selected must be of the same arid character and the same area as tracts relinquished. Under no circumstances is an exchange compulsory, nor will it be possible to acquire timbered or mineral lands or tracts valuable for reservoir sites under the bill. No settler or claimant to public lands will be disturbed. No roaming right of lieu selection is given. All exchanges are limited to public and private lands within the limits of the grants, and lands relinquished must in every instance be in the same country as lands acquired, thereby maintaining the taxable area in each county. Strong efforts will be made to pass the bill this session.—Oregonian.

Every man should speak for himself. I think, and the representative glanced at a list of the legislators. "There are over 70 republicans in the legislature, and if they can't decide upon a Senator and elect him without coming to the democrats for votes when they should come over to our side and give their strength to Wood. The only republican that I know of who can get democratic votes is Senator Mitchell. And he could get them again if he wanted them."

"Has Mitchell ever recognized the democrats in patronage for this support?"

"If he has I never heard of it." "Have you any measures which you wish to introduce?"

"None; Eastern Oregon doesn't need and."—Telegram.

TEARING DOWN FENCES.

The Portland Journal says that in November a complaint was made in the United States courts against William W. Brown, of Crook county, for having illegally fenced in several thousand acres of government land on Wagonite mountain. Inspector Deady was sent out to see the offender who agreed to remove the offending fences as soon as the weather would permit. Brown filed an affidavit with United States District Attorney Hall showing that the man who had informed against him had also inclosed 400 acres of public domain in Lake county. In addition he gave the district attorney the names of 17 others who have enclosed an aggregate of 30,000 acres of government lands in Crook, Lake and Grant counties.

United States District Attorney Hall immediately wrote each of the offenders, notifying them to remove their fences. This was on December 23. Today he received answers from two of these. These have agreed to obey the laws as soon as the weather permits. In the meantime this man has cut his fences every 200 feet. Mr. Hall says that about 20,000 or 40,000 acres of the public domain will thus be thrown open. The second writer also says that he will furnish the district attorney with the names of other offenders.

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The Secretary strongly urges the adoption of the pending bill as it tends to consolidate private holdings in tracts of sufficient size to give them value and at the same time increase the value of the Government lands.

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IRRIGATION LAW NEEDED.

An irrigation bill will be one of the measures to claim the attention of the Oregon Legislature, says the Telegram. At a meeting last evening of the trustees of the Oregon Irrigation Association, at which were present Henry Hahn, chairman; A. H. Devers, president; J. M. Moore, secretary; E. M. Bannick and Samuel Connell, it was decided to ask the legislature to interest itself in a better state law for the protection of bona fide settlers and to memorialize congress to pass a uniform law to meet the needs of the arid states.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved. Mr. Devers moved that the secretary be instructed to write the chairman of each county, urging the necessity of sending in reports on irrigation projects so that they can be forwarded to the government at an early date and furnish a working basis for the government engineers. So far the secretary has not received any such

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