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RESERVES NOT PERMANENT

The Wholesale Timber Withdrawals in Oregon are Temporary --Made to Beat Scrappers.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Oct. 23.—The disclosure of the operations of the land grafting in Oregon, California and Washington, brings out what appears to be the true reason why temporary withdrawals of vast areas "for forest reserve purposes" have been made in these three states on very slight showing of justification for withholding such enormous tracts of vacant public lands from entry. Chief Gifford Pinchot, of the Bureau of Forestry, as well as other officials, state that only a minor part of the lands now withdrawn will ever be converted into forest reserves. In some cases, practically the entire withdrawals will ultimately be restored to entry.

There appear to have been two prime reasons for withdrawing these lands, and in many cases the more important of the two was to place the valuable vacant public timberland beyond the reach of "scrappers," speculators and land grabbers. The only way this could be done, while existing laws continue in force, was by withdrawing the lands from entry and, of course, bonafide entrymen have to suffer along with land thieves. As long as these lands can be kept in withdrawal, under pretense of examination to determine their desirability for forest reserves, so long will the public timber be protected.

In the meantime, the Interior Department, with the full sanction and approval of the administration, is preparing to put in a hard winter's work before Congress, in an effort to secure remedial public land legislation, such as the repeal of the timber and stone act, the desert land law, and commutation clause of the homestead act, but more than all else, the repeal of the forest reserve lien land law, which is responsible for many of the frauds that have been perpetrated by the land grant ring.

Secretary Hitchcock said today that he is in favor of the outright repeal of the lien land law and believes that exchanges should be allowed only to bonafide settlers within forest reserves. These persons should be permitted to relinquish their lands in a reserve, and take an equal tract of approximately the same character and value from the vacant surveyed public domain. He believes such a system of exchange can be practically carried out, in fact it has been done in Arizona, where an exchange has been made with the railroad company holding land in the San Francisco mountain forest reserve. The Secretary, however, says he is not committed to this particular policy, but will favor any plan devised by Congress that will provide for equitable exchange and put a stop to speculation. He entertains the same views with regard to substitutes for the three land laws that are to be attacked, but will insist to the utmost on some legislation that will put a stop to the stupendous graft which he is now able to show to Congress.

Once Congress so amends the land laws that graft is cut off, there will be little delay in restoring to entry

the greater portion of the lands now covered by temporary withdrawals. For, in that case, the lands can be taken only by bonafide entrymen, and to this there is no objection.

There is strong reason to believe that the Interior Department entertains no ideas whatever of creating a forest reserve in the Rogue River country in Southeastern Oregon, where a large withdrawal is today effective. This withdrawal was made solely to put a stop to the operations of the land ring, for the lands embraced in that withdrawal contains some of the most valuable timber in Oregon. True the Forestry Bureau recommended the creation of a Rogue River reserve and still recommends it, acting without doubt in good faith, but its action only serves to furnish the better excuse for prolonging the effectiveness of the withdrawal, pending further examination.

Another withdrawal in Oregon that is not likely to result in the creation of a forest reserve is the Warner Mountain withdrawal in Southern Oregon, and east of the mountains. Land grabbers have been active in that region and across the line in California, but their operations were effectively blocked when the withdrawal was made.

There is little doubt, however, that a Blue Mountain reserve will ultimately be created, but even this will contain far less land than is now embodied in the withdrawal. Withdrawals adjoining the west side of the Cascade reserve were made for largely the same purpose as that on Rogue River.

S. J. Prose Loses Home.

Last Friday night about 7 p. m., the red glow of fire was observed reflected in the heavens, north of Lakeview, and there was much speculation as to where the fire was. Many thought it must be H. B. Heryford's house or barn two miles from town, but upon investigation it was found to be the residence of County Commissioner S. J. Prose, two miles further north. Before the fire was discovered by the inmates it was too late to save anything but a very few articles near at hand. The fire started near the roof away from any chimney, and its origin is a mystery.

Mr. Prose and family had just finished supper, when Mrs. Ben Branch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Prose, said she smelled fire, and upon investigation the whole house was aflame, and beyond the power of human to extinguish. Mr. Prose was in his stocking feet, and what clothes he had on was all that he saved.

The barn and stacks of hay were near by, and only by heroic effort were they saved from the devouring flame. Mr. Prose estimates his loss at \$1500 with no insurance. Mrs. Branch lost household goods to the value of \$500.

Mr. and Mrs. Prose, who are somewhat enfeebled by the march of time, can ill afford the loss of their home, furniture and supplies, which has cost years of hard labor to accumulate. Kind neighbors and friends did what they could to assist them, and they will now start again to build another home. Much sympathy is expressed for their loss.

Hay For Sale.

500 tons of alfalfa hay for sale at my ranch at New Pine Creek. 43
JOHN M. REID.

HAY BURNED IN WARNER

Three Stacks Belonging to Warner Valley Stock Co., and one to J. E. Calderwood Lost.

A hay stack was discovered afire in the Warner Valley Stock Co's field near Adel, at noon on Tuesday of last week, and at the same time a man, boy and a dog were observed going away from that vicinity in a southerly direction. The alarm was given, and the entire neighborhood came to fight the fire and keep it from spreading to other stacks. Before the fire could be extinguished three stacks belonging to the Warner Valley Stock Co., and one to J. E. Calderwood were burned. Other hay in close proximity was only saved by heroic efforts on the part of the Warner people, who worked with a vim, using their coats to whip out the fire with. A lack of wind was all that saved the whole valley from being burned over, and the destruction of hundreds of hay-stacks.

Win Vinyard, a young man of Warner, is said to have confessed to the crime of setting the fire. A warrant was sworn out in Justice Bayley's court for Vinyard's arrest last Friday, and Sheriff Dunlap went to Warner to serve it, but he could not find the accused and returned without him. It is claimed that Vinyard left the valley before Sheriff Dunlap arrived, concluding that he had gotten himself into trouble. Some think that Vinyard did not perpetrate the crime, while others are satisfied that he did. Whoever did it, it is sure they had no property interests there, as it was just as liable to burn all the hay in the valley as one stack. The three stacks of hay burned belonging to the Warner Valley Stock Co., was surrounded by hundreds of stacks belonging to the settlers.

That the hay was set on fire there is no doubt, but for what reason there is no evidence. It is well known that Vinyard was unfriendly to the Warner Valley Stock Co., as well as a number of other people in the valley, and he did the act to settle a grievance. The culprit should be caught and punished to the full extent of the law. Quick justice should be meted out to such a person.

Fall River Canyon.

Chico Cal. Oct. 16 1903.

Editor Examiner.

Lakeview Ore.

I will try and give you a description of Fall River Canyon, as I call it the most beautiful place I have ever seen:

On our trip to the "Golden State" we camped on the banks of Fall River at Fall City, on the seventh night on our journey, Oct. 5th. Next day we left this place, and for about a mile there is no view of the river. When at the end of that distance the water can be heard roaring and is soon seen far below the road which is at quite an elevation on a steep grade. The condition of the road is not very good, the soil being of a chalky formation, of a dull gray color. As we traveled further down the canyon, the scenery became more and more picturesque. The foliage is very dense and the road on the high grade, the matted growth of vegetation, the rocks over hanging the road and the

river far below, rushing, roaring and foaming over its rocky bed, presents a striking picture of amazing grandeur.

The only objection I have to this beautiful place is the dust, which I can truly say is the deepest I ever saw; but as I might exaggerate its depth I will make no attempt to estimate it.

On top of the mountain there is a beautiful watering place where the road is entirely covered with dense foliage, affording perpetual shade. Here the water gushes from the rocks and into a trough and affords refreshing drink for the weary traveler.

About one quarter of a mile north-west of this is the falls which rush over a precipice some fifteen feet and about one hundred and fifty feet across. The spray is almost like rain as you pass along the road and myriads of rainbows can be seen as the sun's rays strike the falling spray.

As we wound our way down the steep grade we caught a glimpse of old Mt. Shasta looming up in the distance, its topmost peaks lost to view by over hanging clouds.

It is almost like dreamland to travel through awe-inspiring it was the pleasantest part of our trip.

P. M. L.

A City Ticket.

The meeting that was called by the city council last Friday night failed to attract enough people to light up the city hall, and the consequence was that there was no meeting, and of course no nominations were made for the town board. As election comes on next Tuesday it was found necessary by the business men of Lakeview that something must be done to start the ball rolling. The following gentlemen have been suggested as suitable material for the town board. They reluctantly gave their consent to run, but are willing to take the unwelcome task of conducting the town's business if the people want them. If other men are wanted, all that is necessary is to just make the suggestion before the tickets are printed, and any or all of these candidates will gladly step out of the race. They are:

For Mayor: W. P. Heryford.

For Councilmen: Harry Bailey

V. L. Snelling

B. Reynolds

A. Y. Beach.

For Recorder: W. B. Snider, present incumbent.

For Treasurer: A. Bleber, present incumbent.

Milk Maids Entertainment.

The purpose of this entertainment is to raise funds to assist in fixing up the M. E. parsonage, which is in a very dilapidated condition and need of repairs. It is hoped that people will turn out en masse, and help swell the fund. Following is the program:

Musical.....Orchestra.

Quartette, Whispering Leaves.....

Mesdames Chrisman, Norin, Wil-

lits and Miss Nickerson.

Solo, The Tie That Binds, Mrs. Norin.

Recitation, Selected,.....Miss Snider.

Solo, Angel's Serenade, Mr. Nickerson.

Quartette, Sunset,.....

Mesdames Chrisman, Norin, Wil-

lits and Miss Nickerson.

Solo, A Dream,.....Mrs. E. H. Smith.

Select Reading, Selected, Mrs. Steele.

Solo, Selected,.....Dr. Steiner.

Solo, Life's Lullaby, Miss Nickerson.

Military Drill,.....Twelve Milk Maids.

Musical.....Orchestra.

IRRIGATION COMMISSION

One Should be Appointed Without Delay. So as to Report a Bill at the Next Legislature.

At the last session of the Oregon Legislature a concurrent resolution was adopted authorizing the appointment of an irrigation commission, to report a bill at the next session, but said commission has never been appointed owing to the fact that no appropriation was made to cover the expense. The appointment should be made anyway, as no doubt the next legislature will see to it that the commission gets pay for its service. There is an urgent necessity for early action toward irrigation, and it is hoped that the commission will be appointed at once. Senate concurrent resolution No. 30, reads as follows:

Whereas the laws of the State of Oregon, in regard to water rights, the appropriation of water and the measurements thereof, the law accepting the so called Carey act of the general government, and in relation to the irrigation of land acquired under said act and other lands, are not adequate or satisfactory; and whereas the joint irrigation committee of the senate and house of representatives has found it unwise and impracticable, in the short space of time which it can devote to the subject, to attempt to formulate a bill that would meet the requirements thereof; therefore,

Be it resolved by the senate, the house concurring:

That the State Land Board be and is hereby authorized and required to appoint an irrigation commission, to consist of five members, two members of which shall be attorneys of the State of Oregon, two practical irrigators, and one a civil engineer—familiar with the irrigation projects of this state, to report a bill dealing thoroughly with said subject, to the next legislature of this state, codifying, repealing, and otherwise amending the present laws of the State of Oregon, and enacting new provisions in relation to said subject.

Be it further resolved, that the said State Land Board be and is hereby authorized and required to meet the expenses of clerk hire for said commission out of any money in their hands to defray expenses incurred under the act enabling the state to proceed under the act taking advantage of the so-called Carey act.

Adopted by the senate February 18, 1903.

S. L. MOOREHEAD,

Chief Clerk.

Concurred in by the house February 19, 1903.

A. C. JENNINGS,

Chief Clerk.

Old Fort Clatsop.

The Lewis and Clark commission have decided to erect as near as possible a fac simile of Fort Clatsop at the St. Louis Fair. The plans contemplate a building and a stockade of logs and will cost \$10,000.

Fort Clatsop was the point at the mouth of the Columbia river at which Captain Meriwether Lewis and Lieutenant Charles Clark spent the winter of 1805 and was coincident with the completion of the first overland trip across the United States.