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PRESIDENT TAFT SENDS MESSAGE TO CONGRESS OF CONSERVATION

The Document Is an Epitome of the Recommendations of Secretary Ballinger In His Quarterly Report and Since Incorporated Into Bills to Come Before Congress Very Shortly.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 14.—President Taft sent to Congress today a message urging immediate consideration of conservation legislation without waiting for the result of the investigation of the charges against Secretary of the Interior Ballinger. The President states that his proposals are really an epitome of the recommendation made by Ballinger in his annual report, and says that bills prepared by Ballinger incorporate his ideas of what should be done.

The message says that the early idea in this country was to give away all the public lands, and states:

"There has developed in recent years a deep concern in the public mind respecting the preservation and the proper use of natural resources. The problem is how to save and how to utilize; how to conserve and still develop, for no sane person can contend that it is for the common good to hold that nature's blessings are only for unborn generations. Among the most noteworthy reforms initiated by my distinguished predecessor were the vigorous prosecution of land frauds and the bringing to public attention of

the necessity for preserving the remaining public domain from further spoliation."

The President declared that since Secretary Ballinger has been in office, withdrawals of water power sites have been made on 102 streams, covering 220 per cent more streams than were covered prior to that date.

The present statutes, except so far as they dispose of the precious metals and purely agricultural lands, are not adapted to carry out the modern view of the best disposition of public lands to private ownership under conditions offering, on one hand, sufficient inducement to private capital to take them over, and for proper development on the other, which shall secure to the public that character of control which will prevent monopoly or misuse," declared President Taft.

He said that the power of the Secretary of the Interior to make withdrawals of public lands is not now either definite or sufficient, adding:

"It seems to me that it is the duty of Congress now by statute to validate the withdrawals that have

been made by the Secretary of the Interior and to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to withdraw lands pending the submission to congress of recommendations as to legislation to meet conditions or emergencies as they arise."

He recommends that surface and sub-surface rights be separated so as to allow the entry under the agricultural laws of the surface and the retention by the government of coal or other mineral deposits on public lands. He suggests that the mining of coal be allowed on a royalty basis requiring a certain amount of development yearly, and says:

"It is extremely difficult to retain government control over property to be developed by private capital in such a manner as to secure governmental protection, and at the same time not frighten away the investment of the necessary capital."

The President says that he will not go into a discussion of the mooted question as to whether water rights in streams flowing through government lands belong to the Federal or the state governments for disposition, but expresses the belief that the federal government, through the ownership of the land necessary to develop these water rights, can impose restrictions.

"Under these conditions," he says, "if the government owns the adjacent land it may control the use of the water power by imposing restrictions, on the disposition of the land necessary in the creation and utilization of the water power."

He recommends that all water power sites be disposed of in such a way as to prevent their union for monopoly, and with a limitation for the right of use to fifty years with provisions fixing terms for removal, and "within proper means of determining a reasonable, graduated rent."

He does not touch the question of regulation of rates, saying:

"As long as the government retains control, and can prevent their improper union for monopoly with other plants, competition must be maintained and prices kept reasonable."

He recommends the conservation

of soils being carried on by the Department of Agriculture and criticizes the reclamation service, saying that some of the projects in the West, are likely to fail because of lack of water and that too many projects were set on foot for the amount of money on hand. He says that settlers have been invited to take up supposedly reclaimed lands, and now find that they have no water.

"The failure to complete these projects for their benefit is in fact a breach of faith," the President says, "and leaves them in a most distressed condition. This condition does not indicate any excessive waste or any corruption on the part of the reclamation service. It only indicates an over zealous desire to extend the benefits of reclamation to as many states as possible."

He then recommends the issuance of bonds from time to time, not exceeding \$30,000,000, to provide for the completion of these projects.

"What I have said is really an epitome of the recommendations of the Secretary of the Interior in respect to the future conservation of the public domain in his annual report," President Taft concludes. "He has given attention the problem of the disposition of these lands under such conditions as to invite the private capital necessary for their development on the one hand, and the maintenance of restrictions necessary to prevent monopoly and abuse from absolute ownership on the other. These recommendations are incorporated in bills which he has proposed, and are at the disposition of congress."

The President adds a paragraph on the subject of forests, saying that they are under the control of the Department of Agriculture, and recommending a small appropriation for re-forestation and the sale of timber on all isolated tracts of forest lands, and the disposition of these lands for agricultural entry.

On the subject of inland waterways he says that it would be wise to begin the projects of deepening the Ohio river from Pittsburg to Cairo by developing the lower river in accordance with the traffic on the upper river.

THE TOTAL VALUATION OF TAXABLE PROPERTY IN COUNTY IS \$33,368,400

Silverton According to the Records, Has \$50,934 More Taxable Property Than Woodburn---The Tax Levy Is Seven and Four-Tenths Mills on the Dollar---A Fine Showing.

County Clerk Allen and Deputy Clerk Dan Allen and their force of assistants have now extended on the records the levy made in the county for taxation purposes, and also the levies made, regular and special, in the various cities and towns in the county, and are now busily engaged in preparing the tax roll. By reason of the fact that this year so many special levies have been made there is about a third more work in connection with the making out of the tax roll, but the work is being rushed, and it is believed that it will be completed on schedule time—the first Monday in February.

What Records Show.
The records show the valuation of taxable property in the county to be \$33,368,400 and the levy to be seven and four-tenths mills on the dollar. The valuation of the taxable property in the City of Salem to be \$9,381,007 and the levy to be seventeen and nine-tenths mills on the dollar. The levies making up this total amount are: Special school tax levy, four mills; special city and road tax levy, six and one-half mills, and county, state and school levy, seven and four-tenths mills. In addition to the regular county levy the county court has made a special levy of one and one-half mills on the dollar for road tax purposes, and this levy

applies to all of the county, save the city of Salem, and does not apply to it because the council fixed the levy of one and one-half mills for the same purpose, which is embodied in the total levy for Salem as above given.

Seven Towns Make Special Levies.
Seven towns in the county and 69 school districts and 16 road districts have made special levies. The towns are: Silverton, which has made a levy of four mills; Stayton with a levy of five mills; Woodburn with a levy of seven mills; Aurora with a levy of two and one-half mills; Mt. Angel with a levy of three mills; Jefferson with a levy of eight mills; and Salem with a levy of six and one-half mills.

Rivalry Between Towns Close.
A keen rivalry has existed for some time between the towns of Woodburn and Silverton as to their relative size, and there has been considerable dispute with relation to it. The valuation of Silverton, which is shown by the records to be \$95,758, shows that it at least has a little the best of Woodburn in this respect, as its valuation is shown to be \$774,824, and it is maintained by those conversant with affairs of this kind that this is a good indication that it is the larger town. The levy of Woodburn is six and one-half mills and that of Silverton four mills.

He kept his word, after his initial lap was completed. He terminated the flight with the machine exactly on the designated spot.

Meanwhile Paulhan guiding his Farman biplane shot into the atmosphere from his favorite starting point, behind the hangar.

He started to overtake Hamilton but suddenly changed his mind and descended after traveling but a few hundred feet.

Shortly afterward Hamilton completed his second lap and alighted.

PACIFIC COAST BATTLE GROUND NEXT BIG WAR

Washington, Jan. 14.—Suggesting that the Pacific coast may be the battle ground of the next big war in which this country is involved, Representatives Needham, Englebright and Hayes of California today took up with the navy department the defense needs of the coast states.

On February 15 bids for the building of new submarine torpedo boats will be opened and the representatives asked the navy department that the needs of the Pacific coast be considered in regard to them.

Representative Kahn a few days ago presented the army end of coast defense to the house when he urged an appropriation for maneuvers in the West.

Edward Hirsch Leaves \$81,100
Application for papers of administration of the estate of the late Edward Hirsch were granted today to Nettie Hirsch, the deceased's widow.

The estate left by Edward Hirsch is a large one. It consists of real property in Multnomah valued at \$65,000, the annual income from which is \$720 per year; real property in Marion county consisting of 142 acres of farming land, valued at \$12,000, rentals from which amount to \$200 yearly; property on Commercial street between Ferry and Trade streets, valued at \$10,000, rental income amounting to \$350, and personal property valued at \$1,100.

The deceased left no will it has been discovered and the heirs next to kin are: Ella E. Hirsch; Lulu Loomis; Guy S.; Maud McMahill; Gertrude Meyer; Leona Brady and the widow, Nettie Hirsch.

Adjourned Until Monday.
Portland, Ore., Jan. 14.—His honor, Judge Wolverton, announced at noon today he would adjourn court tomorrow noon until Monday morning at 10 o'clock. It is not believed that there will be any startling developments in the trial, therefore, before the first of the coming week.

FOOT BALL SQUAD 1909 ENTERTAINED

Last evening in the dining room of Lausanne Hall, the football squad of 1909 was given a banquet by Dr. Sweetland and President Homan. However the coach presided alone for the president was not present, having left the city early yesterday morning. Seventeen men besides the coach and manager Pierce were served. It was a splendid repast and the boys made onslaughts upon it as though they were bucking the line of their opponents.

At the close the men presented Dr. Sweetland with a handsome stop watch in appreciation of his services during the past season. Dr. Sweetland has worked hard and won the admiration and respect of every foot ball man and the student body in general. He is deserving of great credit for the good showing of Willamette the last season. At the present time he is working just as hard to turn out a good basket ball team. Under his able direction athletics at the university will undoubtedly flourish.

Two ballots were taken for the election of captain for the 1910 team, but resulted in a tie vote, so was postponed. Those present were: Dr. Sweetland, coach, Pierce, mgr., P. Homan, McMeachine, Zimmerman, Reeves, Low, Hamilton, Masters, Blackwell, Bellinger, McKnight, Winslow, Gibson, Wesley, Belknap, Booth, Rader, Cummins.

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FATHER WATCHED SON WAVE LAST FAREWELL

Marshfield, Ore., Jan. 14.—Scores of watchers today are patrolling the beach in the hope, that some of the bodies of the 24 victims of the wrecked steamer Czarina may drift ashore. Up until 10 o'clock this morning not a body had come ashore, although yesterday the viscera of some poor fellow whose body had been torn asunder in the wreck floated in. Despite the assertions of the life-savers, who say that perhaps none of the bodies will ever be recovered, friends and relatives of the victims have not given up hope.

C. J. Mills, general manager of the Southern Pacific interests here, is prostrated today with grief over the death of his only son, Harold, who was among the last to desert the doomed vessel. Mills was one of the watchers on the beach, where he had done vigil for 24 hours, and was a witness to his son waving a farewell to the crowd on the shore and then diving into the turbulent sea.

Although the storm which sent the Czarina reeling on the north spit had greatly subsided today all that can

be seen of the big vessel is its mainmast. To all appearances the wrecked schooner is lying in almost the identical spot in which it was thrown Wednesday by the great combers which piled one after another upon it with death dealing force.

There is no doubt that the vessel will be a total wreck, if it is not already so, and searing men say today that there is nothing to do but leave the hulk of the vessel to the sea.

First Assistant Engineer Harry Kentzel, the lone survivor of the wreck, is almost entirely recovered today. With the exception of a black eye, where he was struck by driftwood, and a number of minor bruises he is little worse for his two hours in the surging sea. Kentzel today says that he owes his life to a spar to which he clung after diving from the steamer's deck. When the spar was tossed ashore, Kentzel's insensible form was gripping it tenaciously. It required one hour's work by the life savers to release Kentzel's legs and arms from the wreckage, which he had gripped like a vise.

MAN FROM MISSOURI AFTER ALTITUDE RECORD

Aviation Field, Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 14.—Charles K. Hamilton was the first to thrill the crowds at Aviation field this afternoon. Promptly at 1:30 his Curtiss biplane rushed into the air. He had hardly started before Glenn Curtiss was following him around the course in another Curtiss biplane.

The hundreds of school children present who for the first time in

their lives saw an aeroplane in flight gaped with open mouthed wonder when the planes left the ground. For a moment they remained quiet, then the air was rent with the shrill shrieks of appreciation from the youngsters, which drowned out the cheers of the adults.

Before starting Curtiss announced that he would alight in the 20-foot square in front of the grandstand.