

THE CAPITAL JOURNAL

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SAVE THE WATER RIGHTS.

THE timber statistics of the United States show that nine men own one-seventh of all the timber in the United States, and that 90 men own two-fifths of it, or twice as much as all the timber in Oregon, which is credited with having one-fifth of all available timber in this country. This is a state of affairs devoutly not to be wished for. However, it is a condition realized a thing accomplished and there is no use in crying about or discussing it, for the milk is spilled. It shows, though, how easily the people's property, that is the government's, can be acquired and when once acquired, the people, the original owners, can be made to pay any price the present owners see fit to charge, for that which was their own and for which practically no consideration was paid.

It is proper though to call attention to this condition, to point out the manner in which we have allowed our timber to slip out of our possession, and to see that the same fate does not overtake our remaining possessions. Here in Oregon we have not only the greatest body of timber, though it is now largely owned privately, in the United States, but we also have the most magnificent waterpower. This power is very conservatively estimated at 3,000,000,000 horsepower. It is probably nearer 5,000,000,000 and this magnificent property which we should keep free for the use of the generations to come after us is rapidly going the way of the timber, being claimed and appropriated by private individuals and companies. The process is simple. About all a company or an individual has to do is to file on it, claim it as theirs, and it is done. This waterpower, while not now in demand, will some time be worth at least one dollar per week per horsepower, or \$50 a year. The time will come when every bit of it will be in demand and used. It will then be "produce for the private owner." If we permit it to be appropriated from \$150,000,000 to \$250,000,000 a year. The time will come when it will have to produce the light and heat for those who come after us, as well as the power for their factories. Would it not be well to at least begin to throw some safeguards around it? True, the power should be used for present needs, but this can be done without the state parting with its rights. Let the rights for power purposes be leased, say on 50-year terms the state collecting rental for the use of and retaining the right to fix new terms at the expiration of the lease. This would permit the use at small expense now, and provide for increased charges and larger monies in the future, as the demand increased. It would also keep in the hands of the state the right to regulate prices, at which power must be furnished to consumers.

This would prove doubly beneficial, providing revenue and protecting the consumer, the manufacturer, and as it now appears, every person in the state. In the years to come, when fuel becomes scarce, and the waterpower now going to waste will be harnessed and made to light and warm our buildings. It would seem the part of wisdom for this legislature to take some steps towards protecting the people's rights in this vast property. The stable should be locked and the sooner the better. We have lost out vast wealth of timber, and we should be warned by that and take some steps to retain possession of the waterpower. Our big mountain ranges are vast reservoirs for the storage of water, and they are provided by nature without cost to us, or to the private exploiter who is so rapidly gathering them up. The time is coming, when if properly taken care of, the income from this source alone, will easily pay the running expenses of the state, maintaining our schools, building our roads, and relieving the citizen of the burden of taxation. Is not this worth looking after? It may sound visionary now but it true just the same, and the passing of a generation, at the most will demonstrate it.

THE CITY ATTORNEY'S SALARY.

THE city council Monday night, with but one dissenting voice, passed an ordinance increasing the salary of the City Attorney, Rollie K. Page, from \$1200 to \$1500 a year. The Capital Journal thinks the council made a grievous mistake, and it has a number of reasons for this position. It has no personal feeling against Mr. Page, its objection being to the increase of salary of the office.

Councilman Minton voiced one of these objections, and in doing so touched the vital spot of the whole proceeding. He pointed out that the present incumbent, when he was elected to the office, knew what the salary was, and accepted the place at the salary with laudable alacrity. He virtually, in accepting the office entered into a contract with the city for the period of a year, or whatever term his office is, that he would perform the duties of the office for that term for \$1200 a year. Morally, it is a violation of his contract, to accept more.

He was elected to the place only a few weeks ago and why his services became twenty-five per cent more valuable in a couple of weeks is something the individual councilmen should throw some light upon, for no one else can. The office is a sinecure, at the best, and dozens of Salem attorneys would have been willing to accept, as Mr. Page did, the office and its \$100 a month salary. Indeed, there is no evidence, at least none known to the public, that Mr. Page asked for the raise. At the same time it is a dead open and shut proposition that he would not have resigned, had the salary not been raised, for as has been said, the office requires no very arduous labors mental or other, and whoever holds it has practically all of his time to attend to other business. No business man would pay a salary to a lawyer if he had no more business for him to do than the city has for its attorney. Why, then, did the council voluntarily agree to pay this officer \$300 a year more than he had contracted for? Mr. Page, at the council meeting Monday night, was requested to speak. He did. He said: "I do not care to answer the argument. I am willing to leave it with the council." This was becomingly modest on his part, for Minton's argument was unanswerable.

Another statement of Mr. Minton's was equally unanswerable, and that was that no one even asks that the street sweepers, the common laborers employed by the city, have their wages raised. Yet they are a necessity, while the office of city attorney is somewhat of a municipal luxury that could be dispensed with and not greatly missed, other than that it is somewhat of a habit hard to break. The Capital Journal, just now during the legislature, has not much spare space, but it will gladly devote some of it to the city councilmen in which to explain this generous giving away of the city's money, believing an explanation would prove highly interesting reading for its subscribers, but don't all come at once. An opinion from City Attorney Page as to the legality of the proceeding, and also a discussion of its moral features would make additional good reading, and The Journal will gladly publish his report.

WILL SETTLE BOUNDARY BY ARBITRATION

Arbitration was the only method for the settlement of the boundary dispute between Marion and Linn counties that could be agreed upon at a meeting last night between the delegates of the two counties and the members of the county courts. The methods of choosing arbiters will be the choosing of one man from outside the two counties by the county judge of each county, the two men to select a third also from outside of the two counties. This will be done immediately, and as soon as the board of arbiters has arrived at a decision it will report to the delegations in the legislature from Marion and Linn counties.

Points out How Timber Is Gobbled

THREE MEN OWN 14 PER CENT OF ALL TIMBER IN UNITED STATES, 90 OWN TWO-FIFTHS AND 195 OWN MORE THAN HALF OF IT.

Department of Labor and Commerce, Bureau of Corporations.

Washington, January 20, 1913. Sir: I have the honor to submit herewith the full text of part 1 of the report of the bureau of corporations on the lumber industry.

The essential facts contained in this report set forth in a letter of transmittal and summary by the former commissioner, Hon. Herbert Knox Smith, on February 13, 1911. The report shows a marked degree of concentration in the ownership of standing timber in the United States. The area covered by the bureau's investigation contains about 50 per cent of the privately owned timber of the country. In this area three holders have 14 per cent of the privately owned timber, 90 have two-fifths and 195 have nearly half. Marked concentration in the area outside of the bureau's detailed investigation also is indicated. Since the amount of standing timber is steadily diminishing and its value rapidly increasing, this concentration involves problems of far-reaching public importance.

In view of the facts already published, no extended comment appears necessary at this time. It seems proper, however, to emphasize that the present conditions of timber ownership are largely due, as set forth in this report, to the land policy of the federal government, especially the great federal land grants to railroads and faulty operation of some of the general land laws. Instead of securing a wide distribution of the public domain in the hands of a vast number of independent owners, as apparently contemplated, the practical result of this legislation, at least so far as timberlands are concerned, has been a high degree of concentration of ownership. The report shows that the great land grants have directly resulted in enormous single holdings, while other great tracts of standing timber, transferred from the public domain in small parcels to private interests, and usually with no important return to the public treasury, have been gathered into large holdings by timber speculators. Concentration in the ownership of this timber, moreover, tends constantly to increase.

The national forest policy inaugurated in the nineties, and now in successful operation, marked a fundamental change in the ideas which had formerly prevailed as to the handling of public timber lands. The basic principle of this policy is the reduction of the fee title to the land and the sale from time to time of the timber only, with a view to the wisest use of the supply and to its proper conservation, by this policy the government is able to secure for the public the full market value of this timber at the time of cutting and at the same time to retain the land itself for reforestation, or for such other use or disposition as may later seem advisable.

Attempts, however, are still made to secure the transfer of public timberlands to private owners under the same plan of settlement which in the past often proved wholly specious and insincere. Much of the timberland still remaining in public ownership is adapted only for timber purposes. All that could be properly asked by a bona fide settler is the surface of arable land, after the timber has been removed, but too frequently back of the argument made in the name of the "settler" is the desire to acquire the timber or other natural resources rather than the soil itself. It seems desirable, therefore, to direct public attention to the fundamental difference between disposing of agricultural lands to actual settlers whose industry contributes directly to the material and social upbuilding of the community and the alienation of virgin timberlands, which do not require, and indeed hardly permit of improvement by private owners, and the value of which is rapidly rising because of reduction in the supply and the increase in population. This public service involved in the mere speculative holding of this timber for an advance in price, under present conditions of

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Eczema All Over Baby's Body. "When my baby was four months old his face broke out with eczema, and at sixteen months of age, his face, hands and arms were in a dreadful state. The eczema spread all over his body. We had to put a mask or cloth over his face and tie up his hands. Finally we gave him Hood's Sarsaparilla and in a few months he was entirely cured. Today he is a healthy boy." Mrs. Inez Lewis, Baring, Maine. Hood's Sarsaparilla cures blood diseases and builds up the system. Get it today in usual liquid form or chocolate tablets called Sarsatabs.

settlement of the country, is practically negligible. When, moreover, such lands become concentrated in a comparatively few hands, there is, instead of a public service, a serious public danger.

Without entering into a discussion of possible solutions of certain grave problems involved in the present concentration of timber ownership, it may be pointed out that the government today still owns, exclusive of the forests of Alaska, about one-fifth of the country's total supply of merchantable timber. It is the agency best adapted to practicing reforestation on a large scale. Recently important suits for forfeiture of extensive timberlands have been brought by the government on the ground of non-fulfillment of conditions imposed in the grants by which these lands were alienated from the public domain. For these reasons, it would appear, therefore, that the government may later be able to materially strengthen its relative position as a timber owner.

The facts set forth in this report clearly point to the desirability of maintaining the integrity of the national forests and of extending to other publicly owned timber, including forests in Alaska and timberlands that may be recovered in forfeiture suits now pending or subsequently instituted by the government, the cardinal principle of the national forest policy, namely, the retention of the fee to such lands at least until the timber is removed. Decision will then have to be made between retaining such lands for reforestation and disposing of the surface for agricultural purposes. It seems clear, moreover, that the fundamental principle to be followed in the sale of the timber itself is that the terms of sale should be such as to insure to the public treasury substantially the full stumpage value at the time that such timber shall be actually cut. Very respectfully,

LUTHER J. CONANT, JR., Commissioner of Corporations.

TO BOOST FOR HALF A MILLION FOR EXPOSITION

Members of the Royal Rosarians, of Portland, are here to impress upon the members of the legislature the necessity of voting a \$500,000 appropriation for the Oregon representation at the Panama-Pacific exposition. Bills for such appropriations are now pending in each branch. Among the Rosarians who will be here all week on this errand are R. L. Pike, J. Foster Lussan, George M. Hyland, R. W. Poeder and D. W. Campbell.

Senator-Elect Coming. Dr. Harry Lane will come up from Portland tomorrow to see and hear himself confirmed United States senator from Oregon, which will be done at noon, both houses sitting in joint session. The vote was taken today by each house, acting separately.

To Cure a Cold in One Day. Take LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine Tablets. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S Signature is on each box. 25c.



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Dr. Stone's
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Dress Goods and Silks, Cloaks, Suits, Hosiery, Gloves, and Underwear for Man, Woman and Child—Dress Gingham and Domestics of all kinds. Blankets, Comforts and hundreds of other articles

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	Now Offered at Clearing Prices	Now on sale—the best values in Salem	You Cannot Beat
	\$4.50	\$3.50	Percales, yd 5c
	\$7.50	\$5.90	Outing Flannels, yard 4c, 5c, 8, 1-3c
	\$8.50 and \$10.50	\$7.50 and \$10.50	MUSLINS AT MILL PRICES
All worth more than double	Values worth up to \$12.50, \$15, \$18.00 and \$22.50. Clearing prices	Big SHEETS 48c	
Handsomely trimmed and tailored		House Dresses, all new 98c	
Materials the newest		Hundreds of articles all over the store at the same cut prices.	

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It's not words but deeds that prove true merit. The deeds of Doan's Kidney Pills, For Salem kidney sufferers, Have made their local reputation. Proof lies in the testimony of Salem people.

C. W. Hill, wagon maker, 1939 N. Front street, Salem, Oregon, says: "I had more or less backache and kidney troubles were disordered. Doan's Kidney Pills have always relieved me in a short time. I know of several other people who have taken Doan's Kidney Pills with good results. You may continue publishing the testimonials I have given before."

"When Your Back is Lame—Remember the Name." Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—ask distinctly for Doan's Kidney Pills, the same that Mr. Hill had—the remedy backed by home testimony, 50c all stores. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

She Saw New York. [UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] New York, Jan. 21.—Although she declares she would like to see more of this country, Miss Violet Asquith, daughter of the British premier, who has been visiting here with the Countess of Aberdeen, departed today for her home.

Drives Off a Terror.

The chief executioner of death in the winter and spring months is pneumonia. Its advance agents are colds and grip. In any attack by one of these maladies no time should be lost in taking the best medicine obtainable to drive it off. Countless thousands have found this to be Dr. King's New Discovery. "My husband believes it has kept him from having pneumonia three or four times," writes Mrs. George W. Place, Rawsonville, Vt., "and for coughs, colds and croup we have never found its equal." Guaranteed for all bronchial affections. Price 50 cts and \$1.00.—J. C. Perry.

Missouri Nightingales.

[UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] Springfield, Cal., Jan. 21.—Chosen by Madame Calve for the company of 20 young singers she is to train free at her castle in Southern France, Edna Hazeltine, of this city, and Willametta Byers, of Kansas City, are today preparing to depart.

The member who is always "agin" most of the others can do little or no good in the legislature.

To Unite the Funds.

[UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] Paris, Jan. 21.—James De Rothschild, member of the Paris branch of the family of noted financiers, is engaged today to wed Dorothy Pinto, 18-year-old daughter of Eugene Pinto, London banker.

If your children are subject to attacks of croup, watch for the first symptoms, hoarseness. Give Chamberlain's Cough Remedy as soon as the child becomes hoarse, and the attack may be warded off. For sale by all dealers.

Every strong man has his weak spot.

Could Shout for Joy.

"I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart," wrote C. B. Rader, of Lewisburg, W. Va., "for the wonderful double benefit I got from Electric Bitters, in curing me of both a severe case of stomach trouble and of rheumatism, from which I had been an almost hopeless invalid for ten years. It suited my case as though made just for me." For dyspepsia, indigestion, jaundice and to rid the system of kidney poisons that cause rheumatism, Electric Bitters has no superior. Try them. Every bottle is guaranteed to satisfy. Only 50 cents at J. C. Perry's.

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ELECTRIC LIGHT is the most suitable for homes, offices, shops and other places needing light. Electricity can be used in any quantity, large or small, thereby furnishing any required amount of light. Furthermore, electric lamps can be located in any place, thus affording any desired distribution of light.

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As a result a great variety of incandescent electric lamps are now available, but the only kind that gives a sufficiency of light at minimum cost is the Edison Mazda Lamp.

Any one of the thousands who use Mazda Lamps will affirm the truth of this statement—Our Lamp Experts will prove it to your complete satisfaction.

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