

THURSDAY EVENING,  
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# Editorial Page of "The Capital Journal"

CHARLES H. FISHER,  
Editor and Manager.

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## ANYWAY IT WILL SETTLE IT

At last there seems to be hope that something will be done toward settling the action to be taken as to the forfeited railroad grant lands. The house committee on public lands which has the matter under consideration has agreed on a bill which it will report with its findings and recommendations to the house soon.

The bill as finally agreed upon, gives the counties in which the grant lands are located 30 per cent of the net receipts for the land within them. The state will get 20 per cent of the net receipts, which will go into the school fund; the general reclamation fund will get 40 per cent and 10 per cent will go to the federal treasury.

This is far from a satisfactory solution, but as it is better than seemed probable or even possible a short time ago, Oregon should smile as though she liked it. She gets something out of the wreckage and that is better than the most optimistic dared hope.

It was largely due to the untiring and intelligent work of Congressman Sinnott that this much was conceded. Congressman McArthur, though not a member of the committee was given permission to speak and heartily endorsed Mr. Sinnott's efforts.

One thing was done thoroughly and that was to eliminate John Lind from the bill and cut him off from any possible participation in the benefits of the bill. The status of contract lands however has not been decided definitely and the courts may have this part of the job to finally dispose of.

Another feature of the bill is, that in the case of cut-over lands the homesteader will not be required to pay the \$2.50 per acre, but will only be asked to comply with the other requirements of the homestead law. This is a good feature; for those who have tackled the job of hewing out a farm from logged-off lands know that it costs all the land is worth—and then some. It may serve though to induce some hardy and industrious ones who are not afraid of hard work and lots of it, to locate on these lands and in the course of time make them productive.

While not mentioned in the bill as reported yesterday it is understood that when the United States takes over the lands it will at the same time pay the taxes now due. This is another good feature of the bill for the land grant counties have had to carry the expense of county government and improvement without any receipts from these lands for several years. The payment of these back taxes would lift a pretty big load from shoulders that have been overloaded in this line. No arrangement satisfactory to everybody could have been made, and so we can accept the settlement of the matter as of benefit, no matter just how it was settled.

Colonel Roosevelt's private secretary was sent to Blackwell's Island by a New York police judge yesterday morning, to remain for 30 days. As this sentence was imposed for having a fight in a saloon, it is evident the judge failed to take into consideration the secretary's association, and naturally absorbed pugnacious tendencies. Should Teddy get to be a successful third term, that police judge will "get his'n."

Those newspaper correspondents down along the border keep sending as news the statement that Villa is in flight and the Americans are pursuing him. If this statement was turned around so it would read that the Americans were fleeing and Villa pursuing it might be classed as news. When an army takes after a bandit it is a self evident proposition that he is fleeing, and is going to keep on doing it.

The official records of State Superintendent of Schools Churchill show there were 9,272 more children enrolled in the schools of the state in 1915 than the year previous. The total for the year was 151,799, and the cost of maintaining the schools was, according to these same records, \$7,065,018.53. This makes the average cost per pupil for the year, about \$46.50.

## LOST, A CITY WOODPILE

Portland has lost a thousand cords of wood. Whether it has just been mislaid, some slippery Dick has swiped it or the measuring stick used in receiving it was only ten inches to the foot has not yet been decided. All that is known is that that amount of wood that should now be in the city woodpile, is not there. One investigator at first thought it was due to the bark being knocked off, but while this might account for a small portion of the loss it could not cover the entire deficiency. A rank outsider suggested that perhaps when it lost its bark someone also cropped its ears and bobbed its tail. This however, is not worthy of serious consideration, anymore than the suggestion that maybe it was a case of "heart" failure as well as loss of bark. There might be other places where it dropped out, or causes of its disappearance, but why worry? Nothing that can be done will bring the wood back to the pile, or the shekels passed over to someone for its cutting and delivery, back to the city treasury. Public property once lost is like virtue or an umbrella under similar conditions—gone forever.

The best thing to do is to forget it. Otherwise several experts and embryo Sherlock Holmes will be put on the job of seeking the lost wood pile and the price of another thousand cords of wood will be expended in tracing the other thousand cords, and when its whereabouts is discovered, if it is discovered, nothing will have been gained but the satisfying of an abnormal public curiosity. What more need the public know than that the wood is not? Why inquire where it has gone, since it is known it has no return ticket?

Henry Ford is roiled because Governor Johnson of California has issued a proclamation that the Ford Motor Company must quit business in California for failure to pay \$24,000 state corporation tax. Not only is Henry angry but he has fallen off his peace pedestal, and declares "We will give Hiram Johnson a run for his money that he will never forget." Then he added: "We will keep on fighting until the highest courts in the land say we are wrong." This shows that Henry, were he a national ruler, would fight just like a human being. Henry needs the soothing influence of The Hague and his peace delegation.

Strange isn't it, what freak ideas that will find place in a fellow's think tank. There is Frank Ingram, for instance, who lost one of his legs, when Tracy made his famous prison break here. Ingram died not long ago but in his will asked that this leg lost 14 years ago, and which has been "getting along as well as could be expected under the circumstances," in the prison grave yard here ever since, be exhumed and buried with the balance of his body in California. Naturally during life a fellow rather enjoys having himself all together, but why want the pieces together after death?

The attorney defending Rev. Madison Slaughter is a forceful debater. In making his argument to the jury yesterday he pounded the desks, books and everything in sight except the district attorney, and during one flight of oratory struck the wall with such force that he broke his hand but not the lava stream of his argument. A padded cell should be provided for him on the occasion of his next case.

Rev. Madison Slaughter, what ever the verdict of the jury may be, will sure have a big attorney's fee to pay. The dispatches say one of his attorneys broke his hand and another shed tears as a new roof does rain, or a dog hair. Experience teaches that when a lawyer weeps the client joins him later.

March which came in like twin lions bids fair to go out like a Ford lamb. Still there are 24 hours more in which the weatherman can change his mind and here in Oregon it does not take him nearly that long, if he gets a move on.

Day after tomorrow is the day when the folks who have stood for so many things during the year will be called upon to put up with all kinds of witticisms and practical jokes.



## RED PAINT

Red paint is pretty as pickled beets; of rich red paint let the poets sing! Red paint is good for the rustic seats, and excellent for the garden swing. We put red paint on the barn and fence, and know full well it will hold them down; red paint is good—but there is no sense in using it on the sleeping town. Red paint is wholesome and safe and sane, I sing its worth on the stage and stump; it's a splendid thing for the weathervane, and fine as silk for the cistern pump. It can be used when you'd decorate the stable roof or the kitchen floor; oh, put three coats on the wicket gate, and spread it thick on the henhouse door. It's earned the praises of tongue and pen, it is far better than green or brown; it is a boon to the sons of men—but it's no good for the sleeping town.

## DALLAS WIDE AWAKE AFTER CANNERY NOW

### Newspaperman Takes Over Hotel—K. of P. Lodge Visits Independence

Dallas, Mar. 20.—About 40 members of Marmon Lodge No. 95, of this city, went to Independence, Monday evening and assisted the lodge of that city in putting on work in the third rank. The degree team of Marmon lodge is one of the finest in the state and they have been receiving numerous invitations of late to initiate candidates in the third rank of the order. The crowd made the trip in automobiles.

### Gail Hotel Changes Hands.

Dallas, Mar. 20.—The Gail hotel operated by J. B. Thompson has been leased for a term of ten years by Lew A. Cates publisher of the Polk County Observer, and K. S. Woods, who until the first of last week was one of the proprietors of the Dallas Steam Laundry. The new proprietors will take possession of the hotel the first of April. Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Thompson, who have been conducting the hotel since its purchase from Henry Serr some two or three months ago will move to Albany where Mr. Thompson has several business interests.

### Insurance Company Sued.

Dallas, Mar. 20.—Mrs. Amanda McFarland, the owner of the furniture and fixtures of the old Independence hotel which was destroyed by fire on the night of November 6, 1915, filed suit last Friday against the Royal Insurance company asking judgment for the amount of \$1,000, the amount of the insurance policy held by her in this company at the time of the fire. Mrs. McFarland alleges in her complaint that she had personal property valued at \$1250, all of which was destroyed in the fire and that she notified the company of the loss and that the proof of the same was accepted without objection. She also alleges that the fire was without any negligence or carelessness on her part. It is thought that the case will come up for trial at the April term of the circuit court, as service was had on the defendant in Portland last Saturday.

### Cannery Talk Pleases.

Dallas, Mar. 20.—G. H. Walker, superintendent of the Chubbals, Washington cannery, who spoke at a meeting of the Dallas business men and farmers in the court house Saturday afternoon expressed his opinion that a co-operative cannery could be made successful in this city if the right kind of co-operation was given by the growers and the business men in the undertaking. Mr. Walker has been connected with the cannery business for years and thinks that Dallas is an ideal location for such an institution. His talk was very instructive and will be a great help in establishing a cannery in the near future.

Dallas, Mar. 20.—Rev. and Mrs. T. H. Starbuck and daughter, Miss Edith, returned to their home in Portland, Sunday afternoon after a short visit at the home of Dr. and Mrs. A. B. Starbuck on Court street.

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Starr, of Portland, were over Sunday guests at the home of Mrs. Starr's parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Morrison.

Mrs. B. Casey returned the first of the week from a short visit in Portland. Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Crider left Tuesday afternoon for their home in San Jose, California, after a several months business visit in this city. During their stay in Dallas, Mr. Crider disposed of the Imperial hotel property on Mill street to a Mr. Schell, of Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Seymour, of Corvallis, were Sunday and Monday visitors at the home of Mrs. Seymour's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Meyer. Mr. Seymour was formerly school superintendent of Polk county and is now connected with the field work at the Oregon Agricultural college.

Justice Peter H. Kelly, of Albany, was a Dallas business visitor Monday. Walter L. Toomey, Jr., was a Salem business visitor Monday. He was accompanied to the Capital City by Mrs. Toomey.

Mrs. Frank Chapman, of Salem, was an over Sunday visitor at the home of her mother, Mrs. J. O. Gaynor.

A. J. Barham is looking after business interests in Cottage Grove this week.

Frank Kersey has been elected manager of the 1916 Dallas baseball team. Phil Price, of Amity, was a Sunday visitor of his brother, H. I. Price.

Bill Williams, of the Airline neighborhood was transacting business in the country seat Monday.

### DOCK HANDS STRIKE

Liverpool, Eng., Mar. 22.—Ten thousand Mersey river dock hands struck today, following a dispute regarding pay for overtime. The disturbance threatens to interfere seriously with trans-Atlantic shipping.

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## CHAMBERLAIN SAYS

### HIS BILL IS ALL RIGHT

Says Committee Has Tried to Select the Good Points of All Other Bills

Washington, Mar. 20.—"We are trying to organize an army that won't have to delay four or five days before tackling a little border trouble," declared Senator Chamberlain today in opening the debate on his army bill.

"We shouldn't criticize the officers and men for not getting Villa more quickly," he said. "The nation was not ready."

"Our army is historically inefficient. Even George Washington had to spend hours and days writing to the continental congress complaining about the conditions."

"Our troops have ever had more spirit than skill—and at times their patriotism has not blazed too brightly."

"The present bill has the approval of every expert who has examined it. It contains the best parts of a great number of plans. While the committee was drafting this it had the provisions of the Hay bill before it. The Hay bill was inadequate."

Chamberlain's measure is a complete substitute for other bills with the same object, and the opposition is expected to consist principally of amendments and attempts to reform the proposed law's details. There are no organized partisans in the senate.

Senator Kenyon may demand abolition of "political army posts."

### STREET CAR TRAFFIC DEAD

Toledo, Ohio, Mar. 20.—Not a street car moved here today. All union men had been ordered to take their cars to the barns, and as a result of this virtual lockout, thousands walked to work or rode in hired buses.

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