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COMMITTEE FAVORS DRENNAN LAND BILL

Drennan's Public Land Bill Meets Approval of Special Committee and Will Be Reported to House Saturday.—Other Legislative News.

PHOENIX, April 18.—(Special to The Post)—Representative Drennan's Carey land bill will be reported favorably to the house Saturday by the special committee to which it was referred about a week ago. The committee has held several sessions and Mr. Drennan has been ardently at work furnishing data showing the importance of passing a Carey act during this session of the legislature in order not to delay the opening of the Parker lands. The bill will pass the house without much opposition, but it is expected there will be some opposition in the senate, where several senators have pet irrigation bills of their own. It is generally conceded, however, that it will pass the senate by a safe majority.

To Investigate Road Work.

By a resolution adopted in the senate Tuesday, the workings of the state engineer's office will be investigated. Senator Worsley of Tucson on the floor of the Senate, announced that he did not believe the money given over to the engineer's office for the purpose of building roads had been spent on roads in Arizona.

Senator Wood of Phoenix then presented some statistics, tending to prove, he declared, that some counties which had contributed large sums for road work, had received as low as one-third of their contributions in actual road work within their borders.

The resolution asking an investigation was adopted, and Senators Davis, Roberts and Harrison were appointed as a committee to make the investigation. The resolution stated \$545,661 had been expended for construction and repair of roads under the territorial government, and it was this work that the committee is to investigate.

Good Bill For Farmers.

The lower house did its part Wednesday by a unanimous vote, in enacting into law one of the best measures presented this session. The bill is officially known as House Bill 55 and was introduced by Mr. Johnson. It gives farmers and stock raisers the right to slaughter cattle in a number not to exceed five, and to retail the beef without being subjected to a license. The right is also conferred upon the farmers and produce growers to market their wares without paying a license. The bill is aimed at the law passed several years ago at the behest of the beef trust, which makes it a crime for a farmer to slaughter beef and retail a part of the animal to his neighbors. Evidently from the unanimous vote on the Johnson bill, the beef trust is not as strong with this legislature as it has been with legislatures in the past.

Executive Mansion Bill.

Nothing is too good for the state of Arizona, even if the commonwealth goes broke securing the best thing of life. This evidently is the way Mr. Kane, representative of Greenlee county in the lower house of the legislature feels, for he has presented a bill that if passed, carries with it an appropriation of fifteen thousand dollars, the money to be used in the erection of a building to be known as the "Executive Mansion" and will for all time be the home of the governor of Arizona.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

All delinquent subscribers were notified the past week by mail that their subscriptions to The Post had expired. Unless renewals are received promptly this paper will be forced to drop them from its list, as the postal regulations permitting the mailing of matter of the second class are so stringent that we dare not take a chance of violating them by sending through the mails copies of a paper which are not paid for by subscribers. Those receiving statements of accounts will confer a favor by paying promptly to this office. Those who do not desire to renew please notify us at their earliest convenience. If you fail to get your paper after next week don't blame the editor.

MILL FOR COPPER BASIN.

A. B. Hardwick left for Los Angeles Thursday night. Before returning he will visit Daggett and take down a Huntington mill located about four miles from that place for D. T. Jackson and associates, who recently purchased the mill. It will be shipped to Needles and taken down the river to Copper Basin, where Mr. Jackson and partners are operating a promising gold property. A mill in Copper Basin will be a great boon to that district, as there are many properties located there that will be able to produce if their owners have some means of treating the ore on the ground, which will be provided after Jackson's mill is erected and in operation.

RICHEST TUNGSTEN ORE.

Parties in from the Big Sandy report that work on the Williams tungsten mines is showing up wonderfully large bodies of ore, says the Kingman Miner. So far enough ore has been extracted in development to pay the initial price of the mine. The ore from the Williams mines is the richest in the United States, carrying values to 70 per cent tungstic acid. Delivered to Kingman this ore is worth over \$600 per ton. Howard W. Squires has promoted the deal on the property, Seeley W. Mudd, the well known mining engineer, representing the investors. It is understood that a milling plant will soon be put in to handle the low grades.

JURY DISPOSES OF THE BROWN CASE

Returns a Verdict of Not Guilty of Violation of Local Option Act.—Jury Interprets Statute That Giving Away Liquor Is No Violation.

The case of the State of Arizona vs. B. B. Brown, charging an alleged violation of the statute relating to local option, came up for trial before Justice of the Peace C. W. Graves last Monday morning. After being out but a short time the jury returned a verdict of not guilty.

The complaining witness in the case was Rev. A. H. Bezzo, who acted as the prosecutor at the trial. The jury consisted of the following gentlemen: J. B. Ross, G. C. Dunn, James Gillen, Jesse Martin, J. W. Martin, Lester White, J. T. Price, Julian Gibson, Dan Nelson, J. F. Raney and M. Baker.

Several witnesses for the state were examined who did not know anything about the matter, claiming they were either out of town on the date mentioned in the complaint as the one which the offense was alleged to have been committed, or that they had no recollection of being present at the time of said alleged offense.

The only witness that claimed to have any knowledge of the matter was W. E. Rose who stated that he was with Roy Gregory when he picked up a sack in Brown's pool room supposed to contain several bottles of whiskey. He claimed Gregory told him that the whiskey was a present from Brown to the boys on the surveying crew.

Mr. Brown took the stand and admitted that he gave the whiskey to Gregory as a Christmas present to the boys.

After all the evidence was in, the particular statute covering the case was read to the jury. This statute prohibits selling, exchanging or giving away intoxicating liquors, with the purpose of evading the provisions of the local option act.

By its decision the jury evidently did not interpret the statute literally as to the giving away of liquor within the prescribed limits of the local option district. Some hold that the statute is ambiguous in this respect, while others are of the opinion that the giving away of liquor is prohibited just as much as selling it or exchanging something for it.

However, to be on the safe side of the law, it might be advisable for everyone to be careful about even giving away liquor to their friends.

SAMPLES PAN GOOD.

C. W. Mitchell and J. H. Watson came in from the Arizona Empire mine Wednesday. Mr. Mitchell left for Los Angeles the same night. Developments at the property indicate an enormous body of milling ore. Out of 200 samples taken recently all but eight showed good values in the pan. A portion of each sample has been sent to Los Angeles for assay.

HORRIBLE DISASTER IN MID-ATLANTIC

Tragic Sinking of Titanic Worst Catastrophe of Modern Times.—Hundreds Perish in Icy Waters.—675 Saved Out of Over 2200.

NEW YORK, April 18.—The greatest marine disaster in the history of the world occurred last Monday morning when the Titanic, of the White Star line, the biggest and finest of steamships, shattered herself against an iceberg and sank with 1500 of her passengers and crew in less than four hours.

Out of nearly 2200 persons that she carried only 675 were saved and most of these were women and children. They were picked up from small boats by Cunarder Carpathia, which found, when she ended her desperate race against time, a sea strewn with the wreckage of the lost ship and the bodies of drowned men and women.

Confirming the most liberal estimates of loss of life and exceeding in horror the worst catastrophe conceived by imagination, the elements of the great tragedy at sea—the sinking of the \$10,000,000 liner Titanic—are slowly coming to light. The latest facts about the disaster are as follows:

Nearly 200 seamen are supposed to have been killed in the forecastle head, and several of the passengers were killed and maimed by the force of the collision.

Many of the women passengers were attending a levee in the grand salon and were forced to flee to the open boats in their evening gowns.

Several of the women went insane because of the exposure in the open boats and are now in the care of the Carpathia's doctors.

The Carpathia reports that the little group of noted men on board—Colonel John Jacob Astor, Major Archibald Butt, Benjamin Guggenheimer, Isidor Straus and William T. Stead—were not among the survivors.

When the collision occurred the dynamo room was flooded and the wireless speedily put out of commission.

Captain Smith sighted the iceberg before she struck and attempted to reverse his engines, but it was too late.

Captain Smith was last seen on the bridge of the ship as she went down. The only survivors of the wreck are those picked up by the Carpathia. Beyond that list there is no hope.

The Carpathia is expected to dock Friday morning. The latest from the captain by wireless follows:

"Mrs. Astor is very sick; dangerously ill. More than 100 are sick in the hospital. When the collision occurred, about two hundred sailors in the bow of the Titanic were drowned like rats. After the impact the lights on the Titanic went out in four minutes. The dynamos lasted about the same time, which caused the wireless operator to abandon his calls for help. As his storage batteries were only capable of carrying from 50 to 100 miles, the wireless operator was rendered helpless.

SHORT LINE ROAD MAY BE BUILT SOON

Walker D. Hines of New York, chairman of the executive board of the Santa Fe company, accompanied by General Manager Wells and other officials arrived in Parker Sunday noon by special train. The party was met here by Vice President and General Manager Drake, and after taking a drive to the edge of the mesa for the purpose of viewing the thousands of acres of fertile land in the valley, Mr. Hines and Mr. Drake departed for Prescott.

The visit of Mr. Hines at this time has revived the report that the proposed line from Ash Fork to connect with the A. & C. below Bouse is to be built soon. It is claimed to be generally understood among Prescott railroad men that the line will surely be constructed at an early date. The survey for the road was made about three years ago, and since that time surveyors have been in the field checking up the survey.

Whenever this road is built the Santa Fe proposes to run all east-bound traffic via Parker and the new line on account of the easy grade, while all west-bound traffic will come via Kingman and Needles.

HAYDEN BOOSTS HOMESTEAD LAW

Proposed Amendment Will Lessen Struggles of Entrymen by Allowing Patent in Three Years Instead of Five Years.

Carl Hayden, representative from Arizona, recently delivered a strong address on the proposed amendment to the homestead law. Following are the principal parts of his speech:

Mr. Chairman—I want briefly to give my testimony to the effect that nowhere in the United States is this legislation more needed than in Arizona.

As most of you are well aware the larger part of the area of my state is desert land, where there can be no cultivation without irrigation. It is true there are comparatively large sections where certain classes of crops can be grown by a system of dry farming, but any land in Arizona will produce in greater abundance if the flow of some stream or the water from some well can be applied to the land.

When the homestead law was first adopted it was applied to the land of the Middle West, where there was ample rainfall to produce crops. After the first year, when the prairie was once broken, the homesteader had an income from his land, and the amount of that income was generally sufficient to keep him and his family supplied with at least the necessities of life without any outside resource.

But when the homesteader reaches Arizona he finds the conditions entirely different. The rule there that the settler goes upon the land in anticipation of the building some irrigation enterprise either by the government or by private capital.

He takes up the land and at times with an assurance that he will receive water for irrigation in the near future. But the best laid plan of government engineers or of the managers of private enterprises are always subject to unforeseen delays. The universal rule has been that the water has not been put upon the land as soon as anticipated. The result is that the poor homesteader, chained to his land by the requirements of the law, must either receive outside assistance in the shape of his own previously acquired capital or by loans to the limit of his personal credit, or else he must abandon his hope for a home and go elsewhere to make a livelihood, for the land upon which he resides absolutely will not contribute anything to his support without water.

This bill which reduces the time in which he may obtain a patent from five to three years, will not only lessen the period of his struggle, but the further provision which permits him to be absent from his homestead for five months in each year will be of inestimable benefit. He will then have an opportunity to go into other and more settled parts of the country and there, by his labor, accumulate the means whereby he can devote the remaining months of the year to the improvement of his land.

There are many places in Arizona

PROPOSED ROAD ON RESERVATION

An application by Fen S. Hildreth of Phoenix to the department of the Interior for permission to go upon the Colorado River reservation for the purpose of making a survey for proposed railroad line has been referred by the department to Superintendent Omar L. Babcock.

Mr. Babcock stated Monday that he would recommend the permission to be granted by the department. Further than the above information, which was received last Saturday by wire from Washington, he did not know anything about the proposed railroad that is evidently being promoted by Hildreth.

It is believed that Hildreth is acting for other parties who propose asking for a right of way to build a road through the Parker valley. It is expected that the survey will be begun just as soon as permission is granted by the department.

WHY THE MISSISSIPPI.

The great Mississippi river, which is causing such damage this spring, is certainly true to a name applied to it by the Indians, "an almost endless river spread out."

where water can be developed, either by pumping or by artesian wells, in sufficient quantities to irrigate profitably considerable areas.

But pumping plants and deep wells usually cost more than the limited capital which the homesteader has in his possession. If he can obtain title to his land within a shorter period, he comes that much sooner to the time when he has an asset in the shape of real estate upon which to borrow money for these most necessary improvements.

We have been told that, by reason of the liberal homestead laws of the Dominion, last year 125,000 American citizens left the United States to settle in Canada, taking with them millions of dollars of wealth. Arizona would welcome such an addition to her population. We are developing our resources so that we will be able to accommodate many times that number of people. We are storing the floods of the rivers; we are boring deep into the earth, and there finding the precious fluid that brings life to a thirsty soil. There are no fairer fields to be found under any flag than can be found in Arizona.

MAY EXTEND TIME.

Senator Mark Smith has introduced a bill providing for the extension of the time within which the cost of the Salt River valley project may be repaid by the land owners within the same and also granting privileges to the Yuma irrigation project and others similarly situated, upon like terms.

OIL EXCITEMENT IN YUMA COUNTY

Fields Near Agua Caliente Covered With Locations For Thirty Miles Square.—Yuma Briefs Culled From County Seat Exchanges.

YUMA, Ariz., April 18.—Harry McPhaul and J. R. Floris have returned from a five days' stay in the vicinity of Maricopa and Yuma county of fields near Agua Caliente. They report that the oil excitement there is at white heat, and that the country for thirty miles square has been covered with oil placer locations.

They located 7 sections of land, all in Yuma county, so that if oil is found in paying quantities Yuma county will receive a big share of the profits. Their locations are within five miles of Buffalo Bill's outfit, the Montezuma Oil company, which has a splendid rig and string of tools, and the well they are boring has reached the depth of 180 feet.

Two other companies are organized and are daily expecting the arrival of their rigs.

Seven experts have visited and passed favorably upon this field. Harry McPhaul, who has visited the Verde fields, says the formation in the Agua Caliente field is similar to that of the Verde country. Oil shale crops out all over the country, the dip is monoclinal, and it is believed that a great oil industry will be developed.

Yuma Briefs.

J. H. Shanssey has been appointed live stock inspector for district No. 17 which includes Yuma. He will assume his new duties at once.

Clerk J. P. Miller of the board of supervisors reports that the farmers of the valley are bringing in the skin of hundreds of gophers from the valley. The county pays a bounty of five cents each.

The reclamation service has had the steamer Searchlight hauled out of the Colorado river onto the ways and is preparing to put a new bottom in the old boat. Captain Charles Smith is superintending the work and Engineer E. W. Church is handling the mechanical part of the job.

The celebration of the completion of the siphon is to take place next month, probably about the middle of the month. The Commercial Club is already making plans in that direction. In the meantime every one should get ready and do something towards the good work.

The Yuma county recorder's office under the skillful management of Jimmie Hodges, county recorder, and the careful supervision of the present board of supervisors is paying a handsome profit, for the first time in many months. During the month of March the fees received by the office were \$556.00 and the expenses were only \$331.34, leaving a net profit of \$224.66. That is doing very well thank you and both Mr. Hodges and the board of supervisors are to be congratulated.

ICE PLANT TO BE READY BY JULY 1

Ten Thousand Dollars of \$25,000 Capitalization Already Subscribed. Creamery Will be Operated in Connection With Plant.

BLYTHE, Cal., April 18.—Yes, Blythe is to have an ice factory. This time it is a sure go, and everyone is getting ready for the big celebration. The corporation papers are already signed and L. F. Norton, Herman Neipp, David Darling, C. B. Reynolds and R. E. Hopkins will be the directors for the first year. The capital stock will be \$25,000, of which about \$10,000 has already been subscribed and enough more pledged to make up what is needed. The factory will have a capacity of three tons per day.

The dairy department will also be installed at once but it is doubtful if it is put in operation before fall. It is planned to have the ice factory in operation by July 1st, and plans are already being made for a big celebration on the Fourth.

While the ice factory will add much to the convenience of the people here it will only be in connection with the creamery that we will get the big benefit, for the creamery will be the means of bringing into the valley a large number of dairy cows, which also means lots of work, and more acres put in cultivation, and what is still better, a monthly pay roll with which to keep things going while other crops are being raised.

The coming fall should see great activities in the valley, for with some 800 acres of cotton to harvest and which should, conservatively estimated, bring in \$50,000, with a dairy business starting up, besides the other regular work there should be great demand for labor, and also a great deal of money put in circulation.

Also, we have the railroad "bee" singing away right merrily with possibilities of something doing any time, so shake off the dust and get busy.

SALOON QUESTION UP AGAIN.

Word has been received from District Attorney Evans, stating that a petition has been filed asking for a vote in the fifth supervisory district on the saloon question. This will effect a strip of country from Temecula to Blythe including the incorporated towns of Hemet and San Jacinto which, however, will have no vote on the question.

This petition is the result of the activities in the Indian country to have a saloon, and from reports is being backed by parties who have been already prosecuted by the District Attorney for running "blind pigs."

This question will be voted upon May 14 at the primary election and should be voted down as Riverside county has already had, and is now having, enough trouble with the saloon without troubling them scattered at county cross roads where there is no ample police protection, and would result in all sorts of trouble.

LADIES ENTERTAIN.

Not content with the prospects of an ice plant in the near future, or rather as a forecast of what will follow, the Ladies' Improvement Club gave an ice cream supper last Saturday night, which was largely attended and as this is the first "lawn social" ever given in Blythe, some of our old timers had a hard time to believe our eyes, but we were soon shown, however, when the delicious cream was served. The evening was also enlivened by games and music and a general good time enjoyed by all present.

The real excitement of the evening was when the music started to play The Star Spangled Banner, and C. B. Reynolds, filled with patriotism, arose and asked the audience to join in the chorus. Someone near, however, mistook his actions and was wroan enough to remark, "Well if one dish of ice cream will cause him to act like that, what would a drink of whiskey do?" However, he soon recovered and everyone is now asking when will the ladies repeat.

BLYTHE BRIEFS.

Dr. A. W. Rannels was up from Rannels Saturday. Miss Mary Mahan of Oxnard is visiting with her cousins, the Gillespies. George Wharton James was

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