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(SIDNEY SUGGS,
Proprietor.)

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PUBLIC ROADS

MUST BE OPENED UP ON ALL SECTION LINES.

All Allottees and Farmers Who Have Land on Section Lines Must Open Public Roads—Owner Will Lose Amount Included in Road.

The United States Indian agent has just received an order from the department of the interior to notify all allottees and farmers who have land on section lines that the public roads must be opened up on said lines. The same order has been issued before, but it has not been enforced except in specific cases, where citizens insisted upon it, because of the damage that would have resulted to crops. This excuse will not hold now and this winter all section lines will have to be opened up. The law provides that there shall be a public road on every section line in the Creek Nation and these roads are to be three rods wide, while in the Cherokee Nation they are but two. In each nation the

allottees owning the land have to lose all that is included in the road.

The Weather.
The weather moderated considerably yesterday, much to the delight of many. While the weather was cold it was nothing compared with the elements in the northern part of the territory, where the thermometer went to 3 degrees below zero and snow covered the ground to a depth of three inches.

In Vinita two brick buildings collapsed from the weight of ice on the roof. There was a great deal of suffering in that section of the country. It would seem that we have no complaint coming when we compare weather conditions.

So far as can be learned there was no loss to livestock.

Adjudged Insane.
Judge Dickerson, held a special term of court this morning for the purpose of inquiring into the sanity of Henry High. A jury of twelve men adjudged the subject "non compos mentis," and he will be taken to an asylum in St. Louis where the government has arranged to care for the insane of the territory. The demented man is something over 35 years of age. His present condition is attributed to a blow on the head received from a falling chimney several years ago. —Chickasha Express.

HOGS MAKE HIM MONEY.

Raiser of Pork in Indian Territory Contributes Experience.

W. F. Warren of Berwyn, I. T., tells a good story of his success of raising hogs with profit. He has 1,200 acres of land in hog-proof fence pastures, though he has rented this farm and moved to town to be able to give his children the advantages of an education. The hogs he had on the Fort Worth market were raised on alfalfa, and were thrown a little corn once a week. Cowpeas were planted in the cornfield, and when the corn was gathered the hogs were turned in. This kept them in good condition, and a few weeks before being loaded out for the market they were pouched and put on corn feed. "Not more than three bushels of corn a head has been fed to them," said Mr. Warren. These hogs were about 9 months old and averaged 184 pounds.

"Hogs fed on alfalfa are always healthy," Mr. Warren answered. There is a good profit in hogs, even at 4 cents, as long as you can keep disease from them. I can take \$500 and start raising hogs on a small farm, and another man can take \$5,000 and go to raising cattle on a 1,000-acre farm and at the end of three years I will show more clear money than the cattle raiser.

"There are hundreds of thousands of acres all over Texas, especially in the southern and southwestern parts of the state, where alfalfa can be raised equal to any place in the world, and with alfalfa and fair intelligence no farmer can fail to make money in the hog business."

Mr. Warren's knowledge of hogs was "picked up." He was clerking in a store, when one day a farmer came in with four sows, eighteen pigs and four shoats, which were offered for \$25. As this was less than \$1 a head he considered it good investment and bought them. They were fed on slop and other cheap feed, and when sold netted \$202. This led him to believe that hogs were money-makers, and he made a study of them, increasing that line until he became one of the largest hog raisers in Indian Territory. —Fort Worth Record.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

Measure to be Proposed in Oklahoma Legislature.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Jan. 15.—A bill for the establishment of a compulsory school law will be introduced at the coming legislature. Superintendent E. S. Vaughn, of Oklahoma City, has been working on the matter, and has about completed it. The ages of 7 and 15, residents in the territory for six months in the year where the term of school continues for that period, shall be obliged to attend school not less than twelve weeks during the year. Children over 14 years of age who are regularly employed, and upon whom others depend for maintenance, are exempt. Children attending parochial or private schools, also do not come under the provisions of the proposed law, although teachers of such institutions are required to keep a record of the attendance of each pupil, and submit same if requested to do so. Parents or guardians of children who fail to comply with the law are subject to a fine of not less than five or more than twenty-five dollars.

A feature of the bill that is something out of the ordinary, but is a commendable one, provides that a special school shall be maintained for all pupils whose department might be dangerous to scholars of a higher moral standard of other schools, county superintendents of each county will be required to act as a trustee officer for the rural districts, and it will be up to them to see that the law is enforced.

Women are so queer that when they are dying to marry a man they will reject his proposal so as to be able to be good and miserable until he asks again.

Dr. F. P. von Keller was called to Tishomingo yesterday to see John R. Dexter of this city, who has been sick for some little time. Mr. Dexter is suffering from fever.

The little child of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Harding, who is sick with diphtheria, was reported to be no better at press hour. Gainesville Hesperian.

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STEWART BILL

ITS PROVISIONS DISPLEASING TO THE PEOPLE.

Vested Interests View the Measure With Alarm and a Strong Effort Will Be Made to Defeat It. Hope Will Not Become Law.

Indian Territory is vitally interested in the Stewart bill, and the interest is not confined to any particular section. Reports from many places indicate that the provisions of the act are very displeasing to the people. The vested interests view the measure with alarm, and steps, it is said, will be taken at once to defeat the bill. It is improbable that the measure can become a law before congress adjourns on account of the short session. This is the hope of many who are bitter in their opposition, yet there is a fear that congress may take favorable action on it. The fear naturally arises from the fact that the national body must make some provision for the future guidance of Indian Territory. The official existence of the Dawes commission will soon be at an end. Through congressional action the commission expires July 1. But its wiping out does not end the work for which it was originally created. While it is apparent that the Dawes commission has settled the most important questions affecting the welfare of the territory, and brought it out of the chaos of uncertainty and developed civil conditions, the fact remains visible that there are many questions of importance to the tribes that must be settled; that the end will only be consummated when the individual Indian is given his allotment, and land complications have disappeared. There are also odds and ends that will need attention. There may arise complicated propositions, but nothing on the surface is indicative of breakers ahead, unless it is in the Stewart bill, which is now pending and which commercial interests are bitterly opposing. This law, in fact, shapes the future policy of the people of this country. It is intended primarily to shape the affairs of the five civilized tribes when the Dawes commission will have dissolved and full provision is made for the continuation or rather the winding up of tribal matters, but on a scale so entirely different that surprise is expressed among those familiar with the situation, that such a radical departure from the present system in vogue, would be endorsed by the interior department officials as the best and most practical remedy for the red man, the settler, the commercial and corporate interests of the territory.

While Indian Territory has been striving for the past three years to lift restrictions on alienated lands, and when the chances seemed bright it appearing that the Little bill would receive favorable consideration, the Stewart bill was introduced. The two bills are distinguished by their radical differences. One would give the settler the opportunity to purchase land outright, the other contains restrictions that settlers are trying to escape. One provision of the Stewart bill provides for the purchase of land by the actual settlers. It requires a permanent residence of five years on the land before title can be acquired. The settler is given that length of time to pay for it, but he cannot hope for title until the terms of the act have been complied with. It is pointed out that farmers will not purchase land in a country where they must wait this length of time to become the owner; conditions are too uncertain. With statehood the order of things would necessarily have to be changed. It is stated that, in the event of statehood, there could be no taxation on the land or at least five years. While the settler is in actual possession for the number of years stated, however, he cannot be taxed until he acquires absolute title. The burden of taxation, it is said, would fall on inhabitants of incorporated towns. Those in possession of intermarried surpluses could also be taxed. This would be the extent of the taxation and the drain would cause a hardship on many and affect business conditions. It is said that with the Stewart bill in operation the law could not

be changed, even with statehood, without causing the prospective owners of the soil, financial loss.

The bill creates the office of a superintendent of affairs in Indian Territory and makes his power autocratic with his jurisdiction. He will take the place of the Dawes commission in an effort to wind up matters in this country, and also readjust affairs between non-citizens and Indians where ever necessary. The extent of his power gives him the right to inquire into all past dealings of the Indians. All contracts for future leasing or sale of the Indian lands are declared void by the bill and their introduction into any court forbidden.

This is one of the features of the bill that the commercial interests have bitterly assailed. The bulk of the land in the Chickasaw Nation has been leased for a period of five years and the farmers are developing the country rapidly. Many have placed upon the land permanent and lasting improvement. The merchants depend almost entirely upon the country trade for their source of revenue.

Many of these leases will soon expire. Without a renewal of the land lease, which farmers cannot hope for under the term of the Stewart act, the effect can be readily seen. It will be the means of driving out a large number of tillers of the soil who had hoped that they could purchase the land outright at some future time, or when land restrictions were removed. To deny the farmers the right to renew leases prior to the advance of land purchase, it is said, will have a disastrous effect on the business interests of the territory, as well as causing the occupants of the land hardships.

Judge Hosea Townsend once gave it as his opinion that allotment was one of the main remedies for the ills of the country, and his theory has proven correct, for since allotment the country has advanced.

Equal in importance to the allotment of the lands is the removal of land restrictions which observing men claim is the most feasible plan for a condition of certainty which is sure to follow the purchase of the Indian's land by the settler. For this reason the Little bill is being generally favored, while the Stewart bill is being opposed, and it would seem as between the two measures, the commercial interests have a just cause of complaint.

It is said that the Little bill will pave the way for the speedy development of Indian Territory. The strong endorsement of it lies in the fact that it absolutely removes restrictions and makes land titles absolutely sure.

Under the Stewart bill, as has been stated, the farmer must live in a section for five years, whether he likes it or not, before the land is his.

In the meantime the Dawes Commission is going ahead with its work getting matters in shape for the proposed change. Congress has declared that the commission shall not exist after July next.

COMMERCIAL CLUB NOTES.

The Ardmore Commercial Club met in the club rooms at the Whittington Hotel Saturday night. Sidney Suggs was elected temporary president and R. W. Dick temporary secretary. The by-laws were adopted and ordered printed.

A board of directors will be elected at the next meeting, which will be held Thursday evening at 8 o'clock in the club rooms.

The new club rooms at the Whittington are the best the club has ever enjoyed. The floors are nicely carpeted and the furniture is excellent and in abundance. The tables will be supplied with the latest literature and with copies of several daily papers.

At the meeting Saturday night the Kansas City Journal people were present and stated in detail their object in making a tour of the two territories. The matter was considered of enough importance to call a mass meeting at the United States courthouse tonight to meet the visitors. It is desired that all who are interested in the growth of the town be present.

"Princess Chic" Company.

Manager Gallia of the Gainesville opera house has secured the "Princess Chic" Opera company for Friday night, January 20. The company is composed of seventy people and the opera is one of the most tuneful that is being produced. A number of Ardmore people will attend the performance.

The biggest bargain counter of the world for women is the altar.

LABOR UNIONS

CONGRESS OF LABOR UNIONS TO BE HELD IN MARCH.

Every Labor Union in Twin Territories to Be Represented in Muskogee—Most Significant Political Move Originated.

There will be called a labor convention or congress in Muskogee for the latter part of March to which every labor union in both the territories are expected to send representatives, and at that time there will be formed a plan for the purpose of protecting union labor in the future constitutional work of the two territories when they come in as a state. This is the greatest significant political move that has been organized in Indian Territory for some time. It shows that union labor proposes to take a hand in the future politics of the country and that it proposes to be thoroughly organized. This is the working out of the new political party composed exclusively of union labor men formed in this city some time ago, when it was announced that a local organization would take a part in the future politics of the city. It is expected that there will be 3,000 delegates at the convention. They will represent labor organizations of every kind in the two territories.

The promoters of the plan state that they want certain organic laws in the new state when it comes in which will give assurance that the labor interests will be protected. They further state that they propose to be perfectly organized in every town in the two territories when a constitutional convention is called and that they will see that delegates who are opposed to their work and their interests are not elected as members of this convention, so important in its bearing upon the new state.

At the March meeting they will formulate such clauses as they think will protect their interests and the candidates for election to the constitutional convention will be asked if they will support such constitutional provisions before they will secure the labor vote. The injunction law, the 8-hour law and others appeal to the workingman and they will devote especial attention to these and other similar matters that will effect the man who bears a union labor card. It is not likely that there has ever been a state admitted to the union wherein the labor unions had such a strong hold as they have in Oklahoma and Indian Territories.

Drank Lemon Extract.

Bill Raines, a farmer of the Dixie community, has been missing since last Friday and his friends are scouring the country and using the telephone wires in search of him. He was in Ardmore Friday and one of the searching party, C. P. Winfield of Keller, stated that he was drinking that he had drunk a half dozen bottles of lemon extract. Craved by excessive drink he began wandering around. He was last seen in the south part of the city where he presented a pitiful sight. Having fallen, his face was badly lacerated and he was bleeding from both ears. The searching party do not expect to find him alive.

The Morey Stock Company.

The Morey Stock company who gave complete productions at popular prices will open a week's engagement at the opera house on Monday, January 15, presenting the great comedy drama, "In Dixie Land." The Morey Stock company produces no old and worn out plays under new titles, but presents a varied one of productions never before seen at popular prices. The press and public are loud in their praises of this company, and it is said that the show is even stronger than last season. The Morey Stock company makes no promises but what it keeps, guarantees each and every performance, and promises enjoyment to its patrons. Miss Luella Morey heads the organization and is supported by a competent cast. Prices 25 and 35 cents. Season tickets \$1.75. Seats on sale Saturday at Bonner's. For Monday night ladies' free seats may be reserved before 6 p. m.

Grass widows make very poor hay even when the sun shines.

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