

And Yet People Go West.

Colorado and Oregon Overflowed With Destitute Victims of Western Land Boosters--Gov-ernments called on for Relief

Denver, Col., April 18.—Oregon's troubles from too much "boosting" are being repeated in Colorado in serious fashion. Alluring stories of the profit to be made by the cultivation of rich land in the State by dry farming or under irrigation have brought thousands of homeseekers here within the last few years. Hundreds of these have lost their all from failure to realize their hopes and have been kept from actual starvation only through the expenditure of large relief funds by the State commercial organizations, railroads, and humane societies.

For years the people of Colorado have been urged to "boosters." Through the publication of articles at home and abroad and through a propaganda carried on by letter and by thousands of citizens in their travels, the idea has been spread that fortunes were to be made by getting "back to the land" at this particular spot in the country. Large areas have been declared by the State agricultural societies to be subject to dry farming at a profit and schemes calling for the irrigation of 1,000,000 acres of formerly dry land have been promoted. The most has been made of the results from irrigation in the Grand and other valleys.

There is no doubt that the examples furnished gave a good basis for "boosting." The trouble is, however, that too much of it was done. Dry farming calls for good seasons, and last year the drought over this section of the country made it impossible for such farmers to get enough crops to carry them through the winter and provide for the next summer's planting. So far as the irrigation projects were concerned, in many cases financial assistance from the East did not materialize and the local men of capital were not able to furnish the funds necessary to carry the big schemes. In other cases difficulties in constructing dams and ditches were encountered and there was such delay that water could not be furnished for putting in the crops.

"The State has leased 1,000,000 acres of land under the Carey act," said President Keating of the State land board

recently, "and not a single project proved successful." Settlers who had gone to the tracts in the irrigation districts therefore, were unable to get crops that would take them through the winter and provide for the seeding. Most of them had put all the money they had into payment for the lands and water rights, and so they had no resources.

Reports of destitution among these homeseekers have been coming in for months, although the "boosters" have sought to minimize them. Men who wish to keep up the State's progress have been struggling with the problem of overcoming the difficulty. The State officials have done all they can. The rail roads which wish to see the lands prosperous have been doing all they can to help by extending credit and hauling in supplies free. Commercial bodies in Denver and other cities have raised funds to buy immediate necessities and furnished seed for the season's crops on the understanding that the farmers need not repay the amount until they are prospering. Charitable societies also have received funds to help in the work.

In the appeal sent out by the State Human Society the situation was put in such form that the "boosters" could not ignore it. The president of the society announced that conditions of extreme destitution existed among the recent settlers in four counties, and that "these people and their children, with their horses and cows, are in many cases literally starving."

Promises are made by most of the irrigation companies concerned that water will be furnished to the entrymen in time this season, and the State land board has decreed that in future all irrigation promoters must agree to irrevocable provisions which will make them give water before they get any money from homeseekers. So far as the dry farmers are concerned, it is believed that the heavy fall of snow late in the winter will give them sufficient moisture underground to grow crops.

Cattle and sheep owners in the State also have suffered severely this winter. The drought last year caused a shortage of grass and the animals could find little good food in the winter. In many cases towns were invaded by range cattle in search of food. On top of that came a heavy fall of snow on the plains late in the winter and the cattle were in no condition to stand the privations they had to face. Reports to the bureau of animal and child protection indicate that at least 10,000 head of cattle perished on the ranges. In the eastern part of the State the losses are placed at 50 per cent. of the herds. Even with the snow going off the trouble has continued.

"Hundreds of cattle are still dying on the ranges," says Secretary Whitehead of the bureau. "The stock finds no nutriment in last year's grass, which has been leached out by the months of snow and rain. The new grass is killing rather than saving, as the cattle are too weak to stand fresh feed. Skinning of carcasses has become a business on the ranges. From one little town 2,000 hides have been shipped."

The same conditions are reported in the sheep industry. The disaster is likely to affect meat prices in the nation.

S. A. Collier, one of the best known and most popular hotel men in Southwest Virginia, proprietor of the St. James Hotel this city, which burned out two weeks ago left Tuesday for Abingdon where he takes charge of the new Lorena Hotel.—Appalachia Progress ive.

Fight Flies Now.

Health Department Urges Preventive Warfare Before Pests Multiply.

Richmond, Va., April 20.—The time to insure a house free from flies in August, is to begin the fight now, according to special bulletin of Health Department issued today.

With the cheerful prediction that countless millions of flies will breed during the next month and will furnish nucleus for an army numbering untold millions of pests, the Health Department urges a general clean-up of premises, the screening of windows and scrupulous care in handling stable material and vegetable waste.

"Put in fly-screens at once," says the bulletin, "and clean up the premises before the flies have multiplied in such numbers as to be invincible. Precautions at this time, continued with a small expenditure of energy until the coming of fall, will guarantee a reasonable degree of comfort in the average home."

New Medical Law in Virginia

For a number of years the law governing the practice of medicine in this State has been recognized as inadequate to control irregular methods of practice. Quacks of every conceivable description have appeared in various sections and offered their services for remuneration to a credulous public, claiming by virtue of their special methods to cure diseases with which they have demonstrated no knowledge of pathology or symptomatology, and which, consequently, they are not in position to intelligently diagnose. Such tricksters have filleted the people to an amazing extent, and no existing statute has seemed sufficient to circumvent them.

With this in view the last legislature passed a law that will protect the people against such practices. It is especially provided that those whose claims to State certificates rest upon having practiced in this State before the year 1888, or, if any other path, before the year 1908, shall present to the Board satisfactory evidence of having legally practiced medicine in this State previous to the above stated dates in order to obtain said verification certificates.

Legal practitioners who have lost their State Board certificates must obtain duplicate certificate by furnishing to the Board satisfactory proofs of the

issuance to the individual of the former certificate and upon the payment of a fee of one dollar, and the new certificates must be registered as heretofore provided for original certificates.

The new law puts the burden of proof on the defendant to show that he possesses or is entitled to possess a certificate from the Medical Examining Board so as to qualify himself as a legal practitioner of medicine.

Easter Dance.

Norton, Va., April 19.—It was more than half-way scandalous the way hours slipped by as those gentlemen of the Keystone fame made the men that invented music feel like killing themselves, and the merry debutante murmured in breathless admiration that it was great in spite of the fact that the floor was packed a la sardine with smartly gowned ladies and gentlemen en grande tenue.

It has been many a long day—or night for that matter—since the old weather-beaten structure has witnessed a more pleasing sight, than that of the Annual Easter Dance which took place on the evening of April 18th. Pretty flowers, pretty dresses—and of course pretty, daintily gowned ladies, together with beautiful music was a sight worth seeing.

The Chaparrons, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. DeBibangh, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Henderson, and Dr. and Mrs. W. P. Hall, were the life of the evening, for it is known for miles around that they have no rival when it comes to entertaining. Messrs. William Youle, Webb Willets and Flannery are to be congratulated on the way they planned the evening. At two o'clock "Home, Sweet Home" sounded like the death knell to many of the younger folks, but as each one went to sleep that night they went with the one thought, "Have also meantions, papdill!"

The following were present: Misses: Ruth Flannery, Jessie Graham, Jean Graham, Brown, Sides, Gaines, Carter, Huston, Anderson, Bailoff, Aumons, Kilbourne, Pepper, Dunnam, Martin, Fleming, McClung, Mays, Games, Cook, Dingess, Gray, Rough, Messrs: Graham, Latta, Burke, Wells, Fuller, Andrews, Williams, Zigler, Bunn, Willets, Roebuck, Hyatt, Williams, Rogers, Sullivan, Wyster, Murphy, Mosek, Moteaf, and Geo. T. Peers. The Chaparrons: Mr. and Mrs. C. O. DeBibangh, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Henderson, and Dr. and Mrs. Hall. Among the visitors were: Mrs. C. C. Hyatt, Mrs. J. M. Pepper, J. E. Dunnam, Mr. Eagan Brown, Mrs. Youell, Miss Sigelman, Miss Cox, Miss Shipman and Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Rhodeniser.

(NOTE—The above article was intended for publication in the Post last week, but was crowded out.—Ed.)

ADVERTISED LETTERS.

at Stonegap Office From April 20th to April 28th, 1912

- Mrs. Emma Clomons.
- Miss Alice Gainer.
- Miss Sarah Kelly.
- Miss Rachel Riddle.
- Miss Emily Shuler.
- Miss E. L. Walker.
- Miss Albert Owens.
- Mr. G. H. Gibson.
- Miss Jas Gilmore.
- Miss Hy Rossie.
- Miss Silman Yozell.

Persons calling for the above letters please state they are advertised.

Very Respectfully,
C. G. STUFF,
Postmaster.

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BANKRUPT NOTICE.

In the District Court of the United States for the Western District of Virginia. In Bankruptcy.

In the matter of G. H. Cook, Bankrupt.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

To the Creditors of G. H. Cook, of Appalachia, in the County of Wise and district aforesaid, a bankrupt:

Notice is hereby given that on the 23th day of March, A. D. 1912, the said G. H. Cook, was duly adjudicated bankrupt, and the first meeting of the creditors will be held at my office in the city of Bristol, Va., on the 27th day of April, A. D. 1912, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, at which time the said creditors may attend, prove their claims, appoint a trustee, examine the bankrupt, and transact such other business as may properly come before said meeting.

D. E. BERRY, Referee in Bankruptcy.

April 15th, 1912.

BANKRUPT NOTICE.

In the District Court of the United States for the Western District of Virginia. In Bankruptcy.

In the matter of H. K. Midkiff, Bankrupt.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

To the Creditors of H. K. Midkiff, of Appalachia, in the County of Wise and district aforesaid, a bankrupt:

Notice is hereby given that on the 19th day of March, A. D. 1912, the said H. K. Midkiff, was duly adjudicated bankrupt, and the first meeting of the creditors will be held at my office in the city of Bristol, Va., on the 27th day of April, A. D. 1912, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, at which time the said creditors may attend, prove their claims, appoint a trustee, examine the bankrupt, and transact such other business as may properly come before said meeting.

D. E. BERRY, Referee in Bankruptcy.

April 14th, 1912.

NOTICE.

At this season of the year contracts for wiring residences are usually deferred until later. To keep that department busy, we will furnish

Free Lights For One Month

to all residences wired by this company during the months of March and April, 1912.

Powell Valley Light & Power Co.

"MEMORIES"

You have heard the expression, "I would give all I possess for a picture of my child." That remark was made by some one who had neglected their opportunity and after it was too late saw their error. Don't put such things off. If you have a family or are very fond, have their pictures taken. Don't leave it for tomorrow, for tomorrow may never come. Do it now while there is health and strength, while the family circle is unbroken.

Jenkins' Studio,

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Schedule of Rates June 11, 1911.

LEAVE NORTON—9:20 a. m. for Lynchburg and intermediate stations. Pullman sleeper. Bluefield to New York via Hagerstown, and New York sleeper. Roanoke to Richmond and Norfolk. Also connections at Bluefield with trains Westbound. Pullman sleeper to Cincinnati and Columbus.

LEAVE NORTON—2:30 p. m. for points North, East and West.

LEAVE BRISTOL—Daily, 6:45 a. m. for East Radford, Roanoke, Lynchburg, Petersburg, Richmond and Norfolk. Pullman sleeper Roanoke to New York via Hagerstown and Harrisburg. Pullman Parlor Car to Richmond.

6:15 p. m. for Norfolk and intermediate points. Pullman Sleepers to Norfolk.

1:30 p. m. and 1:35 p. m. (limited). Solid trains with pullman sleepers to Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York via Lynchburg. Does not make local stops.

12:15 p. m. daily for all points between Bristol and Lynchburg. Connects at Walton at 9:30 p. m. with the St. Louis Express for all points west and northwest.

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Judge U. W. Kilgore, Wise, Va.

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Attorneys-at-Law,
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