

STOCKMEN TAKE THE STAND

Soldier's Privileges Exercised to Hold Ranges in North Platte District.

THOUSANDS OF ACRES COVERED BY DEAL

One Man Files Sixty-Four Declaratory Statements, Many Applicants Being Now Inmates of Soldiers' Homes.

NORTH PLATTE, Neb., March 18.—(Special.)—One of the features of the homestead law seems to have been taken advantage of by some of the men who are very reluctant to give up the land which they have for years past used as free range for their stock. An enactment of congress of some years standing provides that old soldiers of the rebellion may have certain privileges not accorded to other people desiring homesteads. One of these privileges is that by filing a declaratory statement the soldier shall have the right to enter for six months thereafter the land described in the declaratory statement. The declaratory statement may be filed by an agent, and there is nothing in the law to prohibit one agent from acting for a number of people.

The effect of filing the statement is practically to keep other people from filing on the land for a period of six months. It costs the applicant but \$2 per filing. During the recent opening of land in this region one man, John H. Winterstein, filed sixty-four such declaratory statements, and altogether there were filed seventy-six such statements which covered and practically prohibited from entry by bona fide applicants 4,500 acres of homestead land. There was method in the agent's work, for the man was in the employ of a prominent cattle man of the state and these declaratory statements covered the best land in the region.

The way it works. An example of the manner of covering the land may be seen from the fact that the records of the United States land office here show that there were 10,000 acres in township 17, range 26; 7,000 acres in township 18, range 27; 5,000 acres in township 19, range 28; in round numbers 20,000 acres were covered by these statements. On the face of them and the records, all is fair and no fraud exists, but back of it there is no concealment of the motives. It is not saying more than there is ample evidence to substantiate to say that it is but renting the government land by a cattle man or two for this year's grazing season at \$2 per section. The applications show that the postoffice address of the old soldiers who have signed these applications are mostly entirely those of soldiers' homes, which presents unmistakable evidence that the agent, Winterstein, went to these homes and procured the old soldiers' signatures to the power of attorney authorizing him to choose land for them.

The land has been pronounced by people who are acquainted with its character as being the best that was thrown open for entry in February. Consequently there will be some subject to one-section homestead entry at the North Platte, Neb., land office 4,500 acres of the best homestead land in the region. These declaratory statements expire six months from date of filing and they will all run out between August 13 and 30 of the present year, at which time no doubt there will again be a goodly number of applicants in this city hunting for land.

Rock Island Wins Contest.

BEATRICE, Neb., March 18.—(Special.)—By a clever move the Rock Island road has secured right-of-way over certain streets and alleys in the south part of the city for the purpose of building a switch to the grocery house of E. S. Stevens. The extension will be about four blocks in length and will run diagonally across three blocks. The ordinance granting the company this privilege was passed at the last meeting of the city council, and, although the Union Pacific had a similar proposition before the council several months ago, it met with defeat.

What Sulphur Does

For the Human Body in Health and Disease. The mention of sulphur will recall to many of us the early days when our mothers and grandmothers gave us our daily dose of sulphur and molasses every spring and fall.

It was the universal spring and fall "blood purifier," tonic and cure-all, and mind you, this old-fashioned remedy was not without merit. The idea was good, but the remedy was crude and unpalatable, and a large quantity had to be taken to get any effect.

Nowadays we get all the beneficial effects of sulphur in a palatable, concentrated form, so that a single grain is far more effective than a tablespoonful of the crude sulphur.

In recent years research and experiment have proven that the best sulphur for medicinal use is that obtained from Calcium Sulphide, and sold in drug stores under the name of Stuart's Calcium Waters. They are small chocolate coated pellets and contain the active medicinal principle of sulphur in a highly concentrated, effective form.

Few people are aware of the value of this form of sulphur in restoring and maintaining bodily vigor and health; sulphur acts directly on the liver, and excretory organs and purifies and enriches the blood by the prompt elimination of waste material.

SHOWALTER'S FIRST ENLISTMENT

How Member of the Virginia Militia Got into the Army.

FREMONT, Neb., March 18.—(Special.)—Major J. H. Showalter of this city is one of the few survivors of the members of the Virginia militia, who were called into service during the John Brown insurrection. Just before the war he was at that time first lieutenant of the Marion Guards of Fairmont, Va., now West Virginia. At the time Brown was hung, his company was again in service doing guard duty at Harper's Ferry. He was bitterly opposed to secession as was the majority of the people in that part of the state, but not in that county and while still retaining his commission in the guards he quietly formed a decision not to fight against the flag. The circumstances attending his enlisting in the Union army are most remarkable than anything in fiction. When the Virginia militia were called into service by Governor Letcher, the women of Fairmont presented the Marion guards with the Confederate colors. The same day the captain left for Richmond on a political errand and the command of the company fell to Lieutenant Showalter. He knew the sentiments of most of his men and during the afternoon it was understood among the Union men, who numbered twenty-three, not quite a third of the company that they would meet in the cellar of the Fairmont tannery that evening and decide what to do. In spite of all precautions the news leaked out that the first lieutenant was not loyal and some of the hotheaded among the town people determined to hang him. Just after supper the mob found him sitting in front of his brother's house reading. This brother was a strong secessionist and later an officer in the Confederate army. They informed him that he had been enlisting men for "Abe Lincoln's hirelings" and that they had the rope there to hang him. They would undoubtedly have succeeded for he was unarmed but his sister-in-law, a handsome, resolute young woman, stepped in front of him giving him an opportunity to escape through the house. That night one by one the twenty-three men gathered in the tannery building and by the light of a solitary candle signed an agreement drawn by the lieutenant to enlist in the Union army. They left by different roads and by the following noon nearly all succeeded in reaching General Kelley's forces which were on their way to Fairmont. The next morning the Union forces entered Fairmont. Showalter's former command and another company of Virginia militia which arrived the day before having taken to the woods. He was commissioned captain upon the organization of the Third West Virginia Infantry. In a few months was in the field and distinguished himself for three years. Governor Letcher of Virginia offered a reward of \$500 for the apprehension of one John H. Showalter dead or alive charging him with being a traitor. The major has one of the small posters which were circulated throughout the western part of the state offering the reward. He is now 75 years of age and is living with his son F. H. Showalter in this city.

ACTIVE FIGHT FOR PROHIBITION

Pledges to Vote the Ticket Being Secured in Lincoln.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) LINCOLN, March 18.—(Special.)—The prohibitionists have undertaken a novel campaign on behalf of their nominees for mayor and excitements. They have had 2,500 city printers each containing a pledge that the signer will cast his ballot at the election for the excise board, which includes the mayor, which will grant no licenses at all in Lincoln this year. This means the prohibition nominees. If 2,500 such pledges can be secured the managers believe this will insure no license. It is quite certain that if 2,500 men do vote for this ticket it will be elected. There are 7,500 votes in Lincoln at presidential elections, and about 4,500 at county and state contests. City rights are usually so one-sided that about 4,500 votes is the average. If 2,500 vote for no license it will carry, since the remainder of the vote would be divided between the republican and democratic tickets.

MUNICIPAL TICKETS ARE NAMED

Political Parties in Nebraska Towns Line Up for Spring Elections.

HASTINGS, Neb., March 18.—(Special.)—The republicans of Hastings held their city convention at 10 o'clock this morning and nominated the following ticket: For councilman in First ward, Sven Johnson; Second ward, A. V. Cole; Third ward, H. W. B. Norris; Fourth ward, D. M. Ball. B. S. Beece received the nomination for police judge and Chris Polick, J. J. Wright and Mell Tennant were nominated for members of the school board. William F. Button was elected chairman of the republican city central committee and James Crowley secretary.

FEEL MISERABLE?

Most every body does in the spring. You have that "tired feeling," are half-sick, have no appetite, sleep poorly, headaches and nervousness. The system is full of impurities that must be cleaned out or you're going to be sick. Start taking Hostetter's Stomach Bitters at once and be well and happy once more. They are the only medicine that cleanses every spring. It positively cures Spring Fever, Impure Blood, Poor Appetite, Sick Headache, Constipation, Indigestion, Dyspepsia and La Grippe. All women need the Bitters every month as a tonic and regular.

BEATRICE, March 18.—(Special.)—The city school board has decided to enter the petitions of the compulsory attendance law in West Point. City Marshal Drahos has been appointed to see to the execution of the law.

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Orchard & Wilhelm Carpet Co. NOW SELLING THE ENTIRE STOCK OF THE Dewey & Stone Furniture Co. There is not an article of furniture in the Dewey & Stone stock on which we have not greatly reduced the price. We must and will close out this great stock at once at prices that are astonishingly low. Saving opportunities extraordinary. LACE CURTAINS. Our spring stock is ready for your inspection. We show over 1,500 patterns, an assortment sure to yield satisfaction to the most exacting—all new patterns and very cheap. Nottingham curtains for bed rooms, very serviceable, full size curtains, from, per pair, \$7.50 to 10.00. New mission designs, Arabian curtains for dining rooms, a line of styles that will command your attention—at, per pair, 2.95. Cluny curtains, white or Arabian, extra heavy net, lace sewed on by hand so they will hang straight—per pair, 3.75. Arabian curtains the hand-made kind, hand sewed, French triple thread net—at, per pair, 6.75. Cluny, double insertion, extra wide edge, French net, washable and will not get out of shape on account of the extra quality of this net—per pair, 15.00. We are Selling the Dewey & Stone Stock of Upholstery Goods at Special Prices. Tapestry Squares, 15c, 25c, 50c and 95c Each. BOBINETT. 45 inches wide, white or Arabian color, per yard, 17c. 54 inches wide, double thread net, white or Arabian color, 35c. 54 inches wide, white or Arabian triple thread French net, per yard, 50c.

Epileptic Fits of Children. Epilepsy, or fits in children, is of even greater urgency of cure than in older people. In their active and restless life an attack is liable to come at a fatal moment, and the sunshine of the home will be crushed out of existence. At the very first sign of epilepsy or nervous twitchings or trembling Elxir Kosine should be used. This remedy is the discovery of a well known Washington scientist and is the only known cure for epileptic fits. It can be used without harm by the youngest and most delicate, and is a positive cure for this dread disease. The discoverer of Elxir Kosine has so much faith in the remarkable remedy that he gives a guarantee that it will cure or else the price, \$1.50, will be refunded. If you know of any unfortunate epileptic call their attention to this remedy and the fact that it costs nothing unless it cures. Price, \$1.50. Mail orders filled by Elxir Kosine Co., Washington, D. C., or Beaton Drug Co., 15th and Farnam sts. Medicine Hat, N. W. T. Business Openings. There are openings at Medicine Hat for a meat canning factory, an abattoir and cold storage plant, woolen mill, knitting factories, common brick and red pressed brick plants, sandstone quarry, developing cement and clay deposits. Medicine Hat has natural gas, unlimited supply at 1,500 feet. Medicine Hat owns water works and natural gas systems and is an up-to-date town. A good place to see and a good place to live in. Address F. G. FORSTER, Mayor, for further information. TWENTIETH CENTURY FARMER. Only One Dollar a Year. Bee Want Ads Produce Results.

GOOD AS WHEAT IN THE BIN. The Old Line Bankers Life Insurance Company. Lincoln, Neb. WILLIAM C. WILSON, PRESIDENT. STATEMENT JANUARY 1, 1905. ASSETS. Cash on hand and in Banks \$ 74,686 03. First Mortgage Loans on Real Estate 851,231 96. Cash Loans on Company's Policies 30,084 42. Collateral Loans 3,120 00. Net Deferred and Unreported Premiums 25,505 24. Interest Accrued, not due 23,436 44. Furniture and Fixtures 1,000 00. Gross Assets, Dec. 31, 1904 \$1,009,064 09. LIABILITIES. Reserve, Four Per Cent \$ 764,277 91. Death Losses—Proofs not in 2,000 00. Agent's Credit Balances 3,290 38. Surplus to Policyholders 239,495 80. Bills Receivable 9,480. Premium Notes 5,461,302. Real Estate 14,910,277. Stocks and Bonds None. Agent's Debit Balances None. "Other" Assets None. Not a Dollar of Principal or Interest Past Due or Unpaid. 11 3-4 Per Cent of Surplus Earned to Mean Reserve. We Lead the World in Our Home State in New Business Written in 1904. WRITE. J. H. Harley, Sec'y, for an Agency.