

WHAT IS MEANT BY BURKETT BILL?

Measure Introduced Into United States Senate Detrimental To Dry Farmers.

TEXT HEREWITH PRODUCED.

The Curtis Measure Was Substituted For Original Bill, But It Contains Same Provisions as Original.

So much interest having been aroused by the introduction into the United States senate of what is known as the Burkett bill, designed to permit unlimited leasing of grazing lands in the arid states of the Union, the full text of the measure is herewith reproduced; that is, the text of the Curtis bill, which was substituted for the Burkett measure on account of the strong opposition which sprung up against the latter; but the Curtis bill contains practically the same provisions, and would have the same detrimental effect, upon dry farmers and sheep raisers. The measure, should it become law, as the Burkett bill would have had. The measure is known as senate bill 5431, and was introduced into the senate by Mr. Curtis on Feb. 18, and referred to the committee on agriculture and forestry. The text of the measure follows:

THE CURTIS BILL.

A bill providing for the control of grazing upon the public lands in the arid states and territories of the United States, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the unreserved, unappropriated public lands of the United States shall be subject to the provisions of this act, and the president of the United States is hereby authorized to establish from time to time, by proclamation, grazing districts upon the unreserved, unappropriated public lands of the United States, conforming to state and territory lines so far as practicable, whereupon the secretary of agriculture, under rules and regulations prescribed by him, shall execute or cause to be executed the provisions of this act, appoint all officers necessary for the administration and protection of such grazing districts, regulate their use for grazing purposes, protect them from depredation and injury, issue permits to graze livestock thereon for periods of not more than ten years, which shall include the right to fence the same, giving preference when practicable to homesteaders and to present occupants of the ranges who own improved ranches or who have provided water for livestock grazed on the public lands, and charge and collect fees for the use of such grazing permits, based upon the grazing value of the land in each locality; provided, that the maximum grazing fee shall be four cents per acre and the minimum one-half cent per acre.

Sec. 2. That the users of the public lands under the provisions of this act may select a committee of not more than four members from the users of any such grazing district, which committee shall be proportionate with ownership of different kinds of stock, giving at least one committeeman to each class of livestock owned, and the committee shall have the right to appoint a person, who, with the officer appointed by the secretary of agriculture, in charge of such grazing district, shall constitute an executive board, who shall determine whether the permits for such grazing districts shall be issued upon an acreage or upon a per capita basis, shall make such division of the range between the different kinds of stock as is necessary, and shall determine the distribution of the range shall be by individual or community allotments. The executive board shall also determine the total number of animals to be grazed in each grazing district, when permits are issued on a per capita basis, and shall decide upon the adoption of any special rules to meet local conditions, and shall promulgate special rules to govern the movement of live stock across the public lands in such districts, so as to protect the users of the land in their rights and the rights of persons having the necessary drive across the same. The executive board shall also determine the preferences in the allotment of grazing privileges provided for in section one of this act, and shall determine the value of the improvements and of the use of the same whenever that may become necessary under the provisions of this act in the administration of the same. Any differences between a majority of the executive board and the officer in charge of the district shall be referred to the secretary of agriculture and shall be adjusted in the manner prescribed by him. Any interested party shall have the right to appeal from any decision of the board to the secretary of agriculture. If the users of the land fail to select the committee as herein provided for, the president of the United States shall name such committee from such grazing districts, and shall appoint among the owners of the different kinds of live stock, as above provided.

Sec. 3. That lands within such grazing districts shall be continually subject to homestead entry and to other appropriation and disposal under all public-land laws now existing or which shall hereinafter be enacted. Provided, That after the establishment of any such grazing district no form of location, settlement, or entry thereon shall give a right to grazing privileges on public lands except when made under laws requiring cultivation or agricultural use of the land: Provided, That permits to graze live stock upon land which is subsequently appropriated under any public-land law shall not be affected by such subsequent appropriation, except as to the land actually appropriated, and the end of the current annual grazing period. Provided further, That no permit shall be given to any such settler or entryman which will entitle him to the use of any buildings, corals, reservoirs, or other improvements owned or controlled by a prior occupant until he has paid such prior occupant a reasonable pro rata value for the use of such improvements. If the parties interested do not agree, then the amount of such payment shall be determined under rules of the secretary of agriculture. And provided further, That land upon which buildings, corals, reservoirs, wells, or other improvements owned or lawfully controlled by the holder of a grazing permit have been established shall not, when any such improvements exceed one hundred dollars in value, as determined by rules of the secretary of agriculture, be subject to settlement or appropriation under the public-land laws during the per-

HONOR VERMONT'S DEAD

Senate and House Hold Brief Sessions And Arrange for Funeral of the Late Redfield Proctor.

Washington, March 5.—A marked tribute of respect was accorded the memory of the late Senator Redfield Proctor of Vermont by the United States senate today. Republicans and Democrats attended the brief session in such number as is seldom seen except on unusual occasions.

All stood reverently as the chaplain, Dr. Edward Everett Hale, delivered the prayer, which contained an appropriate reference to the life and work of Senator Proctor.

The reading of the journal was only begun when Senator Dillingham of Vermont arose, and asking that it be dispensed with, referred to the death of the late Senator Proctor, and the deep emotion to the great bereavement that had come upon the senate, the state of Vermont and the country by the passing of a man who for so many years had been in the public eye.

Mr. Dillingham moved the adoption of the customary resolution, and the vice president announced a committee consisting of Senators Proctor, Dillingham, Daniel, Gallinger, Perkins, Tallaferro, Overman and Hemenway to attend the funeral.

IN THE HOUSE.

In the house the proceedings were brief. While waiting for the official announcement from the senate of the death of Senator Proctor, a couple of bills of minor importance were passed.

Mr. Haskins of Vermont presented resolutions of regret, which were adopted. A speaker Cannon had announced the names of Messrs. Haskins and Foster of Vermont, Littlefield of Maine, Parker of New Jersey, Lamb of Virginia and Slayden of Texas as the committee to represent the house at the funeral, the house, as a further mark of respect, adjourned.

The body will be accompanied by members of the family of the late senator and by the congressional committees to Proctor. A special train for the funeral party left here at 9 o'clock tonight for the Pennsylvania railroad, and it will arrive at Proctor at 2:30 tomorrow. The funeral will be held at 3 o'clock.

COFFEE

The best name for coffee is one that tells where the money's to come from, if you don't like it.

Your grocer returns your money if you don't like the coffee. But we pay him.

See these prices:

Maximus and Red Seal brand Salmon, per can, 10c.

Large cans Sego Cream, 10c.

Pansy brand Canned Peas, 8c.

Large cans for 25c.

Straight Grade Flour, 11c.

Our prices on rice, sago, beans, bacon, hams and all other goods are accordingly low.

See these prices:

High Grade Patent, 13c.

2 cans California Peaches, 35c.

Prunes, 4 pounds for, 25c.

16 pounds Sugar for \$1.00 with every \$1.00 purchase.

2 pounds Macaroni, 15c.

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