

## LAND OFFICE WORK IS NOW ON CURRENT BASIS, SAYS REPORT

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—For the first time in years the work of the General Land Office is practically on a current basis, Commissioner Spry declared today in his annual report. Final homestead entries are now acted upon within thirty to ninety days after the final certificate has been issued, he said, and it is no longer necessary for an entryman to wait two years or more after having submitted satisfactory final proof for his patent.

Approximately 5,000 more patents were issued during the fiscal year than in the previous one, involving an increase of 2,787,000 acres. Of this increase 2,459,833 acres were covered by entries under the homestead laws, making a total of 9,632,635 acres patented under these laws. Entries were allowed for 10,367,152 acres, of which 7,070,176 acres were taken under the stock-raising homestead act, and patents were taken out on a total of 12,304,821 acres, a substantial increase over the area patented the year previous.

**Receipts Show Surplus**  
Total cash receipts for the year showed a surplus of \$3,848,598. The field service, entrusted with the investigation of all charges affecting the integrity of transactions involving title to public lands as well as the protection of public lands from trespass or unlawful occupancy, collected \$199,059 and turned over to the treasury \$179,000, recovered through civil and criminal actions in cases of deprivations. During the year 117,535 acres were thus restored to the public domain.

During the year 17,922 entries were allowed under the stock-raising homestead act, bringing the total number of entries under the act to 80,233, embracing an area of 31,407,991 acres; 8,399 patents were issued under the law, covering an area of 2,919,819 acres, bringing the total number issued to June up to 14,130,000, for an area of 4,550,416 acres.

### Suburban

HOLLANSBURG, Ohio.—Bert Miksell and family were guests Thursday of John Miksell and family. Quite a number of our citizens attended the all day revival services at Whitewater Sunday....Miss Olga Jones of Columbus, Ohio, spent last week with Mr. and Mrs. Amos Jones....Vern Chenoweth and family were visitors at Richmond Sunday evening....Sam Petry and family spent Sunday with Charles Oswalt and family....Mrs. Elmer Font and son were shoppers in Richmond Wednesdays....Ward Payne and family and Chester Williams and family were guests Thanksgiving day of Mr. and Mrs. Emma Williams....Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Wolf of Richmond, spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. John Wolf....The Farmers' institute will be held here Feb. 19 and 20. Programs are being arranged, and will be of interest to all who attend....Henry Bicknell is spending an indefinite time with his daughter, Mrs. C. L. Whiteman and family, of Baltimore, Md....Mrs. Kief Gilkey spent last week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Van White....Claude Locke and family and William Wenger and family spent Sunday afternoon with Mattie Locke....Chester Williams and family and Ward Payne spent Thursday with Mrs. Emma Williams....Ray Wright and family and Chalmers Caskey and family spent Thursday with Lloyd Osborne and family, near Economy....Miss Marie Houser, of near Whitewater spent Saturday and Sunday with her grandmother, Mrs. Emma Chenoweth....Will Ross and family spent Thursday with Mr. and Mrs. Will Baldwin, near Carlos City....Theodore Thurston, of Union City spent Friday afternoon with his father, S. C. Thurston....Ivan Richards and family, of Richmond, spent Sunday with Viola Richards....Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Brown and Mr. and Mrs. Will Brown, of near New Madison, Mr. and Mrs. Kief Gilkey of Dayton, were the guests Thanksgiving day of Mr. and Mrs. Van White....Mrs. Angelina Skinner returned home Sunday after spending the week end with Mrs. Emma Chenoweth, of Richmond....Mrs. Kate Smith is visiting her daughter at Indianapolis....Mr. and Mrs. George Thompson were week end guests of Leonard Thompson and family, of Indianapolis, Ind....Mr. and Mrs. Charles Thomas spent Thursday with Mr. and Mrs. Everett Wolfel, at Richmond....Mrs. Joshua Brown is spending a few days with her mother, Mrs. Mary Stowers....Mrs. Anna White, man and son were Greenville visitors Monday....Ben Richards and family were guests Sunday of Mont Simpson and family....Miss Norma Chenoweth spent the week end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. V. E. Chenoweth....Mae Platt dined Friday with Elmon Polley and family....Ottie Albright and family, of Bradford, were guests of Mrs. Sade Armacost and family, Saturday....Nelson Cloyd, of Richmond, is spending a few days with his parents, Sampson Cloyd and family....Earl Wiggs and family of near Whitewater, spent Sunday with Mrs. Rhea Platt and family....Mrs. Mary Petry and daughters, of near West Manchester, Ohio, spent Friday with her son, Harvey Petry and family....

CARLOS CITY, Ind.—Mr. and Mrs. Howard Harrel spent Tuesday with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Oler at Williamsburg....Miss Chelsea Coggshall of Indianapolis spent the week-end with

## Signor Pasquale Montani, Harpist, Appears With High School Orchestra Dec. 14



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of Robert Reynolds and son, Ernest....Mrs. Lillie Huddleston, teacher of the Women's Bible class of the Baptist church, delightfully entertained the members of her class Thursday afternoon at her home on East Main street. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Edgar Owens; vice-president, Mrs. Addie Stombaugh; secretary, Miss Rose Greisinger; treasurer, Mrs. Will Pike. The hostess served refreshments. The next meeting will be held with Mrs. Owens the first Thursday in January.

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### Liberty Pupils to Give Entertainment Thursday

LIBERTY, Ind., Dec. 9.—Pupils of the first and second grades of the Liberty school will give an entertainment at the coliseum Thursday evening, Dec. 14, under the direction of Miss Conneway and Miss Kern.

The Ladies' Aid society of the Christian church will hold a bazaar and penny supper at the coliseum on Dec. 16.

Forrest Rife, of Laurel, a brother-in-law of County Superintendent C. C. Abernathy, has purchased the 80 acre farm owned by the Hezekiah Clark estate near Cottage Grove, for \$132 an acre.

**ACTOR HELD TO CONTRACT**  
NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—Rodolph Valentino, motion picture actor, must abide by the terms of his contract with the Famous Players-Lasky company, which call for a salary of \$1,200 per week. It was decided today by the appellate division of the supreme court. Valentino, through the decision is enjoined from appearing with any other film corporation during the life of the contract.

### Palais Royal

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Major General Leonard Wood has resigned the office of provost of the University of Pennsylvania, so that he might "comply with the expressed wishes of the administration" and remain as governor general of the Philippines. It was officially announced by the war department.

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