



# Proclamation declaring martial law

Transcription of 1913 Document

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## Proclamation

WHEREAS, a large number of law abiding residents of Copperfield, Oregon, and surrounding county have notified this office that there is an entire lack of law-enforcement in the said city; and

WHEREAS, it appears that there have been many breaches of the peace and that there is an imminent danger of others; and

WHEREAS, the sheriff and district attorney of Baker County appear to be either unable or unwilling to enforce the law and thus give due protection to the residents of said city; and

WHEREAS, I deem it necessary in order that the laws of the State be faithfully executed, to call to my assistance, and in such manner as provided by the constitution and the laws, the military forces of the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Oswald West, Governor of the State of Oregon, as Commander-in-chief of the military forces of the said state, do hereby proclaim martial law within the boundaries of the said city of Copperfield, Oregon, same to become effective on and after the second day of January 1914 until such time as it can be re-organized and in a manner which will insure a decent respect for the laws of this state and a due regard for the rights of its citizens. All saloons and other places where intoxicating liquors are sold, except drug-stores where liquors are sold for medical purposes upon prescriptions as provided by law, shall close forthwith and remain closed until further notice. The proprietors of said saloons and other places hereby ordered closed shall be given until four o'clock P.M. of January third, 1914, to remove their supply of liquors, together with all bar fixtures, from the said city of Copperfield, provided, however, that the placing of such liquor and equipment in the hands of the railroad company for shipment out the said city on the first trainout will be considered a compliance with this order.

Lieutenant Colonel B. K. Lawson, Coast Artillery, Oregon National Guard, is charged with the enforcement of this order and he is hereby fully authorized and directed to impose and enforce such regulations regarding local government as in his judgement may be necessary to maintain the peace and dignity of the community and as will cause all the law violators to have in the future a wholesome respect for the criminal laws of the State.

(sgd.) OSWALD WEST,  
Commander-in-chief of the  
Military forces of the state of Oregon

The foregoing is as said proclamation appears in a certified copy of the answer in the case of Wiegand vs. west, et al. filed in the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for Baker County.

## PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, a large number of law abiding residents of Copperfield, Oregon, and surrounding country have notified this office that there is an entire lack of law-enforcement in the said city; and

WHEREAS, it appears that there have been many breaches of the peace and that there is imminent danger of others; and

WHEREAS, the sheriff and district attorney of Baker County appear to be either unable or unwilling to enforce the law and thus give due protection to the residents of said city; and

WHEREAS, I deem it necessary in order that the laws of the State be faithfully executed, to call to my assistance, and in such manner as provided by the constitution and the laws, the military forces of this state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Oswald West, Governor of the State of Oregon, as Commander-in-chief of the military forces of the said state, do hereby proclaim martial law within the boundaries of the said city of Copperfield, Oregon, same to become effective on and after the second day of January, 1914 until such time as it can be re-organized and in a manner which will insure a decent respect for the laws of this state and a due regard for the rights of its citizens. All saloons and other places where intoxicating liquors are sold, except drug-stores where liquors are sold for medical purposes upon prescriptions as provided by law, shall close forthwith and remain closed until further notice. The proprietors of said saloons and other places hereby ordered closed shall be given until four o'clock P.M. of January third, 1914, to remove their supply of liquors, together with all bar fixtures, from the said city of Copperfield, provided, however, that the placing of such liquor and equipment in the hands of the railroad company for shipment out of the said city on the first trainout will be considered a compliance with this order.

Lieutenant Colonel B. K. Lawson, Coast Artillery, Oregon National Guard, is charged with the enforcement of this order and he is hereby fully authorized and directed to impose and enforce such regulations regarding local government as in his judgement may be necessary to maintain the peace and dignity of the community and as will cause all the law violators to have in the future a wholesome respect for the criminal laws of the State.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of December, 1913.

(sgl.) OSWALD WEST,  
Commander-in-chief of the  
Military forces of the State  
of Oregon.

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The foregoing is as said proclamation appears in a certified copy of the answer in the case of Wiegand vs. West, et al. filed in the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for Baker County.