THE OREGON MIST.

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THE OREGON MIST.

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-BY-

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J. R. BEEGLE, Manager.

OFFICIAL COUNTY PAPER.

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COLUMBIA COUNTY DIRECTORY.

County Officers.

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Clerk.....E. E. Quick, St. Helens
Sheriff.....G. A. Wasson, St. Helens
Treasurer.....E. M. Wharton, Columbia City
Supt. of schools.....T. J. Cleeton, Vernonia
Assessor.....W. H. Kyser, Rainier
Surveyor.....A. B. Little, Rainier
Commissioners.....S. G. Schoonover, Vernonia; G. W. Barnes, Mayger.

Society Notices.

MASONIC.—St. Helens Lodge, No. 32—Regular communications first and third Saturday in each month at 7:30 P. M. at Masonic hall. Visiting members in good standing invited to attend.

MASONIC.—Rainier Lodge, No. 24—Stated meetings Saturday on or before each full moon at 7:30 P. M. at Masonic hall, over Blanchard's store. Visiting members in good standing invited to attend.

ODD FELLOWS—St. Helens Lodge No. 117—Meets every Saturday night at 7:30. Transient brethren in good standing cordially invited to attend.

The Mails.

Down river (boat) closes at 8:30 A. M.
Up river (boat) closes at 4 P. M.
The mail for Vernonia and Pittsburg leaves St. Helens Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8 A. M.
The mail for Marshland, Clatskanie and Mist leaves Quinn Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 12 M.
Mails (railway) north close at 10 A. M.; for Portland at 3 P. M.

Travelers' Guide—River Routes.

STEAMER G. W. SHAVER—Leaves St. Helens for Portland at 11 A. M. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Leaves St. Helens for Clatskanie Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:00 A. M.

STEAMER IRALDA—Leaves St. Helens for Portland 7:45 A. M., returning at 3:30 P. M.

STEAMER JOSEPH KELLOGG—Leaves St. Helens for Portland daily except Sunday, at 7 A. M., arriving at Portland at 10:30; returning, leave Portland at 1 P. M., arriving at St. Helens at 4.

PROFESSIONAL.

DR. H. R. CLIFF,

PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.

St. Helens, Oregon.

DR. J. E. HALL,

PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.

Clatskanie, Columbia county, Or.

A. B. LITTLE,

SURVEYOR AND CIVIL ENGINEER,

St. Helens, Oregon.

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Real Estate bought, sold and managed on commission, rents collected and abstracts made.

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And other Insurance Companies, with combined Assets of $6,100,000.

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Clatskanie, - - - Oregon.

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THE STEAMER

IRALDA

Is now making regular round trips from

OAK POINT TO PORTLAND

Daily Except Wednesdays,

LEAVING	OAK POINT	4:40 A. M.
"	STELLA	5:00 "
"	RAINIER	6:15 "
"	KALAMA	7:00 "
"	ST. HELENS	8:00 "
ARRIVING	PORTLAND	11:00 "

RETURNING

LEAVES	PORTLAND	1:00 P. M.
ARRIVE	STELLA	7:45 "

W. E. NEWSOM.

SUMMONS.

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Columbia county.

WARD SWOPE, Plaintiff,
vs.
JOHN HELME and THOMAS J. ADAMS, Def'ts.

To John Helme and Thomas J. Adams, the defendants above named:

IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON you are hereby required to appear and answer plaintiff's complaint herein by Tuesday, the 9th day of May, 1893, the same being the first day of the next regular term of this court following the expiration of the publication of this summons; and if you fail so to appear and answer, for want thereof the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in his complaint, to-wit: For a judgment against said defendant, John Helme, for the sum of $705.00 with interest thereon at the rate of ten per cent. per annum since March 9, 1891, and the sum of $100.00 and the costs and disbursements of this suit; and for a decree foreclosing a certain mortgage executed by said John Helme to Matilda B. Brown, on March 9, 1891, and which is recorded on page 307 of book "F" of record of mortgages of Columbia county, Oregon; That the real estate described in said mortgage be sold in the manner prescribed by law, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction of plaintiff's judgment; said real estate being particularly described as follows, to-wit: The southeast quarter of section 12, in township 5 north of range 5 west of Willamette Meridian, in Columbia county, Oregon, and containing 160 acres; that you be barred and foreclosed of all interest in and to said real estate, except the equity of redemption, and that plaintiff's mortgage be adjudged to be a first lien upon said real estate.

This summons is served upon you by publication by order of the Hon. Thomas A. McBride, judge of the Fifth Judicial District of Oregon, said order being made and dated the 14th day of March, 1893.

S. B. HUSTON,
Attorney for Plaintiff.

m17m5

SUMMONS.

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for Columbia County.

W. MUDGET, Plaintiff,
vs.
M. MUDGET, Defendant.

To M. Mudget, defendant:

IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF Oregon, you are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled suit by the first day of the next term of said court following the last publication of this summons, to-wit: on Tuesday, the 9th day of May, 1893; and if you then fail to answer or appear the plaintiff will apply to said court for the relief prayed for in said complaint, to-wit: for a decree dissolving the bonds of matrimony now existing between yourself and plaintiff, and for such other relief as may be just.

This summons is served by publication by order of the Hon. Thomas A. McBride, judge of said court, made the 22nd day of March, 1893.

T. J. GEISLER,
Attorney for Plaintiff

m31m12

SUMMONS.

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Columbia county.

F. M. TOMPKINS, Plaintiff,
vs.
JENNIE WRIGHT and NELLIE DOOLEY, Defts.

To Jennie Wright and Nellie Dooley, defendants:

IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF Oregon, you, and each of you, are hereby required to appear in the above entitled court and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled action, on or before Tuesday, the 9th day of May, A. D. 1893, and if you fail to so answer, the plaintiff, for want thereof, will take judgment against you for the sum of nine hundred dollars, with interest thereon from the 7th day of December, 1892, until paid, at the rate of eight per cent. per annum; for the costs of this action, and all proper relief as prayed for in the complaint.

This summons is published in pursuance of an order made by Hon. Thomas A. McBride, judge of the Fifth Judicial District of Oregon, made at chambers on the 14th day of March, A. D. 1893.

W. J. RICE,
Attorney for Plaintiff.

m17m5

Petition for Liquor License.

To the honorable, the County Court of the State of Oregon, for Columbia county:

We, the undersigned legal voters in Deer Island precinct, Columbia county, State of Oregon, respectfully petition that a license be granted to William Miller and Louis Bradley, to sell spiritous liquors in said precinct, in quantities less than one gallon, for a period of six months. (Signed:)

Ben H Neer, Charles F Young, A L Barnes, Dennis Nichols, Charles R P Schmidt, James Lord, William Wilson, William Hartley, Dan Batt, James Taylor, L L Kincaid, T P Noyer, E Erickson, H Blake, Joe Stock, M B Gaskins, A Neer, William Dowd, T H Mitchell, Beny Reed, A Hansen, F P Raupach, B Havard, R Livingston, P Brien, J Severnson, S A Fowler, C Frakpke, J B Haley, Joe Lawrence, D I Gultor, G C Fowler, Edward Black, M McDermott, George Barrett, D L Gray, G Pitenberger, Archie Riley, Thomas Tompson, E Meeker, G C Jaquish, Samuel Munn, Albert Widger, Fred Gildner, William Gaddis, Frank M Foster, G S Foster, F Cooley, R R Foster, L Stehman, Y Yuldun, Jahs Jones, T H Backeter, P H Fifer, H Woodham, Frank Thornton, W O Bumgardner, Hector Hollis, Peter Young, William Vanover, J E Conboy, W J Relli Charles A Link, M W Bradley, Emil Klossner, S Havard, Dan McDonald, H Stehman, P O Marks, William Beltenis, Richard Mason, Sam Bowen, M McKay, V Kramer, James M Naughton, C C Fowler, G Link, E H Barnett, Charles Howe, C D Brinkman, William Link, John Culbert, E Seffert, H M Fowler, R Z Wiley, John Lamont, L Erickson, H C Brown, A J Garrison, John Cadiff, James Kennedy, John W Bevis, S C Hoadley, W H Smith, James Hart, F F Foster, William Tomlinson, J M Fower, E H Fowler, G W Farr, Thomas Johnston, L T Vanover, Charles Challgren, G P Cross, F W Maklnster.

Petition for Liquor License.

To the Honorable County Court of Columbia county, State of Oregon:

We, the undersigned legal voters residing in Union precinct, Columbia county, Oregon, would respectfully petition your honorable body at its next regular term of court, to be held in the courthouse, in the town of St. Helens, Columbia county, Oregon, on the 3rd day of May, 1893, that a license be granted to Orrin A. Wood and N. Kettwig to sell spiritous, vinous and malt liquors in less quantities than one gallon, in Union precinct, Columbia county, Oregon, and that said license be issued for the period of one year from the date of said term of court; for which your petitioners will ever pray. (Signed:)

Rufus McGrew, C F Fowler, N D McCoy, G W Hall, S Kinder, Harry R Cliff, L Decker, J W Gould, E McVey, W P Maclay, S W Spooner, A J Usner, Chas Hunter, J D Birtsall, J H Swager A King, F M Miles, C W Blakesley, W W Blakesley, H F Rung, D J Switzer, S O Marra, James Watson, W A Meeker, R Dippin, Geo A Brinn, John S Cleninger, W I Sweetland, J Dunlap, S A Miles, W B Dillard, J H Decker, Thomas Cooper, J R Beegle, W J Eastabrook, E E Quick, C H Simpson, T Konkle, P Kelley, Henry Decker, W H Slavens, M F Hazen, L F Ladewig, H T Bennett, S Blaser, E D Potter, W A Frantz, R Kartle, John Karth, William Karth, C E Wickstrom, E Morton, C N Gable, W Hares, W C Eversoul, A A Smith, John B Wilverding, Joseph Dupont, Joseph Doleski, Max Berg, J A Beegle, M G Cummings, Harry Dan, T E Konkle, Frank Erickson, J Peacher, Eli Luman, S Sauber, H A Corliss, H O Howard, J H Harris, L E Bailey, S Rock, B F Pope, D H Pope, Christopher Sauervein, Andrew Kenowske, Stephen Lampa, John Jinmore, L H Hankus, Michel Hester, Sherman Weaver, C W Garrison, F H Meeker, W Strachan, Fred S. Gibb, Chas H Larson, L H Hankans, E Meeker, P J Burke, Albert Widger, W E Stevens, James Smart, G C Morrison, Eli Weed, I M King, Robert Smith, George W Roe, Joseph Clark, J P Usher, W H Faxon, Y Wagner, W G Young, L Windmeier, Joe Mohn, John Watson, Christ Voulauk, J T Walker, Alex A Henderson, David Henshaw, George Kelly, James Cox, Charles Brown, George Sundby, W Robinson, A Kelso, T C Watts, J T McNulty, E Dodson, Dave Simpson, George H Lemont, William Davis, Joseph Hayburn, Mitchell Ray, J N Brinn, William Brinn, J G Wickstrom, F E Simpson, James Daley, John Atkins, John Winters, M E Weaver, R Hutchison, H Burke, W E Henrtel, Charles Thomack, J Slavens, H Larsen, J B Godfrey, John Mitchell, James Strachan, John Craig, Gans Pul, A Wethern, J Wellington, Andrews, R Searcy, H T Grewell.

COLUMBIA COUNTY.

Its Undeveloped Resources of Wealth.

MANY PRODUCTIVE VALLEYS.

A Few Prominent Features Given—A Comparatively New Country—Crops—Etc.

In the short time allotted it will be impossible to do the subject anything like justice, but if the entire paper were devoted to the same question it would not begin to come up to the mark. Therefore, only a brief mention of a few leading features will be attempted, and readers in other places are invited to come and verify the truth of these remarks.

Columbia county is one of the oldest settled portions of Oregon, or at least was in parts settled by Americans at a very early day, the settlement being made on or near the shores of that grand stream whose name it bears and whose waters wash for sixty miles its northern border, and have borne for many years its products to the great seaports of the State, Astoria and Portland.

Columbia county contains nearly half a million acres of land of all descriptions, from the rich and fertile bottom soils of the Nehalem, Scappoose, Beaver, and the Clatskanie river basins to the heavily timbered uplands which lie between the principal water courses. Within the county there are 325,000 acres of improved lands, valued at about $2,500,000. In spite of the fact that Columbia county has been known and settled since the "40's," the actual settlement and growth began at a more recent date, some of the valleys, notably the Nehalem, one of the largest and richest sections of Columbia county, were uninhabited twenty years ago save by an occasional trapper or hunter.

The valleys are known to be among the most productive portions of the State, while the endless ranges of foothills and mountains are covered with a growth of yellow and red fir and cedar timber, the extent of which has never been estimated. In addition to the wealth of timber which clothe her hills Columbia's soil is rich with immense deposits of coal and iron ore. The Nehalem coal fields are as yet undeveloped, but enough has been discovered to know that the deposits are ample to supply the rest of the United States for fifty years.

One of the richest and most prosperous portions of the county is the Scappoose Valley, a noted dairying and stock-raising section. It lies close to the Columbia, has plenty of fine timber, an abundance of water and a soil of great fertility. Some of the richest men of the county live in this valley, and are justly proud of their herds of blooded cattle and their ever-verdant pastures.

The Beaver is another prosperous and rapidly growing valley, where timber is plentiful, soil deep and rich, and the inhabitants contented and thrifty. Like the most of Columbia county the soil of Beaver is first-class, but considerable time is needed to change it from forest lands to improved farms.

The Clatskanie river bottom is filled with well-to-do settlers who have grown rich from the proceeds of their small ranches. When it is known that 600 to 800 bushels of potatoes may be grown to the acre and from four to six tons of excellent timothy hay cut, it will no longer be wondered at that the small farmers along the picturesque Clatskanie river are a prosperous and progressive class. Their shipping facilities are good, and no portion of the county is growing faster nor has brighter prospects for a successful future.

THE NEHALEM VALLEY.

The largest and what will in time be the richest valley in the county is the Nehalem. The river which gives it its name rises in the coast mountains and pursues a winding course until it finds its way to the ocean, after traveling several hundred miles, comparatively a short distance from its starting place.

That portion of the Nehalem Valley lying in Columbia county, embracing the tributary valleys and creek bottoms, has been settled less than a score of years, yet it bears every appearance of being a much older settlement, so rapidly has the soil been reclaimed and so vigorous have been the attacks of the sturdy axmen. In speaking of this great valley the statement has frequently been made by experts that owing to its secluded and protected location it was very favorably situated for fruit culture, and each year brings additional proof of the truth of these statements. Already great improvements are noticed in orchards and stock ranches, and the small farmer has at last found out the class of crops he can raise to the best advantage.

While most of the best land has been taken up near the larger stream there yet remains an abundance of valuable claims on nearly all the smaller creeks, which await the pleasure of more sturdy American pioneers.

The principal cities of Columbia county are given below, with a brief description:

CLATSKANIE.

The town of Clatskanie is situated in the northwestern part of Columbia county, on the Clatskanie river, about six miles from the Columbia. It has numerous mills and manufacturing industries, which are enjoying a very satisfactory growth and an increasing business in lumber and agricultural products is carried on by means of several lines of steamboats which ply between Astoria and Portland, touching at Clatskanie.

RAINIER

Is on the Columbia river, supported by a good back country and saw mills, sash and door factories, etc. Her prospects for a successful future are very bright. The numerous steamers plying on the river find at Rainier a convenient place to wood up, and the attention of thousands of travelers is by this means drawn to the town.

VERNONIA

Is the principal city in the Nehalem Valley, and is the trading center for a large portion of the county. It is connected by stage and a daily mail from St. Helens, being located in the fertile Nehalem Valley twenty-six miles in the interior, and as the county's resources develop Vernonia will grow correspondingly in importance.

MIST AND FISHHAWK

Are located in the Nehalem Valley also, but farther to the north, surrounded by fertile valleys and the finest of Oregon timber. They are located sixteen miles from the Columbia river and eleven miles from Clatskanie, directly in the interior.

THE COUNTY'S RESOURCES

Are many and varied, chief among them being lumber, live stock, farm, garden and dairy products. Being but poorly supplied with means of transportation, the county is in a great measure held back from making the rapid progress she otherwise would if means were at hand to carry her great wealth to market. This state of affairs will not long endure, as capital has at last interested itself in the matter of bringing to light the valuable coal deposits and wonderful growths of fir and cedar timber which underlie and cover almost the entire county.

ST. HELENS.

The County Seat and Metropolis of Columbia County.

St. Helens, the county seat of Columbia county, was platted before 1850, which gives it the high distinction of being the oldest town in the county. We quote from a descriptive sketch in West Shore:

"Early in the forties H. M. Knighton and wife took up a donation claim of 640 acres, and the present site of St. Helens was platted before Portland was. Muckle Bros.' saw mill is the chief institution of the town. There is a good school and church, the court house, two hotels, telegraph office, an enterprising newspaper, the MIST, which is now in its tenth year, the only paper published at the county seat and consequently the official paper of the county, and has been largely instrumental in attracting attention of immigration to the county, laboring at all times for the prosperity of its section of the State. The residences are much finer than are usually seen in towns of the size of St. Helens. The distance to Portland is thirty miles, and the location is in every way favorable to the growth of a city of considerable commercial importance."

The above was written some time ago. What wonderful changes take place in a short time. Those who saw St. Helens then would scarcely recognize the town now. There is no comparison between the two pictures. New life has been infused, business institutions have sprung up, manufacturing establishments founded, and everything taken a new start to keep pace with other towns and the rapid development of Columbia county. The eyes of the outside world have been attracted to its wonderful resources, and the immigrant and homeseeker make it an objective point in their search for a home. The rich and unusually fertile valleys tributary to St. Helens make it a distributing point for the produce of a large area, and the facilities for shipping being first-class, the town is one of more than ordinary importance from a commercial standpoint. Its nearness to Portland makes a ready market for all commodities, and transportation rates are low.

The latest enterprise inaugurated in the city is a system of water works, which are now under course of construction and will be completed by July of the present year. This system will be adequate to supply the needs of the householders as well as furnish abundant pressure for fire protection. Added to this a new city hall is being erected for public purposes with a seating capacity sufficient to supply all demands for many years. Other new institutions, including a bank, are in course of development.

With every advantage in its favor, with energetic citizens and a fine back country to support it, St. Helens must prosper, if, indeed, it does not take the lead of all towns between Portland and Astoria.

TO DRILL FOR COAL.

The Union Pacific Will Employ a Diamond Drill in Developing the Pebble Creek Mines.

The Pebble creek coal fields are shortly to become the scene of active and thorough development operations by the Union Pacific railroad, which company has bounded a large tract of coal lands in that vicinity. Manager Henry Banfield, of the Great Northern Coal Company, from which the Union Pacific secured options on this coal, is now at the mines making preparations to begin active operations so soon as machinery arrives, which will be in a few days. It is the intention of the Union Pacific to thoroughly prospect all the lands included in their bond, and with this end in view have purchased a diamond drill at a cost of $20,000, with which they will be able to drill to a depth of 1,000 feet. All the reliable coal experts who have visited this district have been unanimous in the opinion that a very fine body of coal is to be found at a depth of from 200 to 1,000 feet, and it is for the purpose of verifying the truth of these opinions and developing what bodies of mineral may be found that the Union Pacific has decided to bond these lands and engage in these extensive prospecting operations. The opinion has also been freely expressed that crude petroleum also exists in large quantities in this section, and indeed a very good quality of this semi-liquid has been taken from wells and springs at and near this place. In fact, within the corporation of Vernonia are springs of this valuable liquid from which there constantly flows enough petroleum to give undisputed evidence that there is a very considerable quantity of it at no great depth. To find the body of this oil was really the object Mr. Dwyer had in view when he asked for and was given an option on all coal, oil, petroleum and natural gas which now exists or may hereafter be discovered in or under the land upon which he has permission to prospect.

There can be no reason to doubt that with the use of the machinery which the Union Pacific proposes to use in this work very extensive and valuable deposits of coal and equally valuable bodies of other minerals will be discovered. The theory that fine deposits of high-grade coal underlies this section is advanced and ably supported by the best authority on coal there is in the country. One of these gentlemen told the writer that the town of Vernonia stands upon as fine a body of coal as one would wish to see.

We do not hesitate to hazard the prediction that the Union Pacific will realize handsomely from any money they may invest in this enterprise, and that some very fine bodies of minerals will be discovered.—Journal.

THE COAL FIELDS

Embrace Many Sections of the County.

ITS QUALITY IS EXCELLENT.

Expert H. Banfield's Report on Its Quality and Extent Compared With Other Grades.

For many years the existence of coal in this county has been well known, and at various times attempts have been made to ascertain the character and value of the deposits, but until the past few years no great attention has been given the matter nor any systematic work done toward developing the mines.

Several experienced coal miners have been over the ground, and in every instance a favorable report was given, both in regard to the quality and extent of the deposits. Specimens of the coal sent away for examination gave good returns in the way of analysis, and this from pieces of coal picked up on or near the surface.

There are seven veins or measures so far discovered, but Capt. Tyler states that where there are six there are generally nine veins, the lower ones being the more valuable.

The three top veins are in transition from a ligneous to a lignite; all burn readily, although in themselves hardly valuable enough to develop.

The fourth is a six-foot vein of brown coal, or lignite; this has something of a woody texture apparent, but is a fairly marketable article—a very fair fuel.

The fifth measure is ten feet thick; of a semi-bituminous character and a still better grade.

The sixth is an eight-foot vein of full bituminous coal. It is this layer or deposit which promises to make this section one of the most prosperous and lively places in the State.

The coal is well adapted to domestic uses, for the manufacture of gas, and, in fact, all of the numerous uses to which good bituminous coal may be put.

EXPERT BANFIELD'S VIEWS.

Henry Banfield, one of the most experienced and reliable coal experts in the Northwest, has been interviewed on this subject, and in response to a letter of inquiry says:

These coal beds are as yet practically undeveloped, the work done consisting of only two or three openings on exposed croppings to a depth of less than twenty feet.

There are exposed six or seven veins of coal as follows: Two nine-foot, two six-foot, two four-and-a-half to six feet thick, and others from one to three feet. As no survey has been made of the whole field, a correct number of veins cannot be given.

On one side of a hill three veins crop out, one seven to nine feet; and then 400 feet of hill above which, on development work being done, would give good pressure on coal.

The appearance of coal is of a pitchy nature, and on picking is very hard and flies like glass. Quality from assay proves it to be equal to other coals mined on this coast.

There are some 800 acres taken under the coal laws of the United States in Township 4 North, Range 4 West, W. M. The situation is fifty miles from Portland and fifty miles from Astoria and deep water.

Capitalists will find this part of Oregon one of the most profitable fields for investment in the country.

The selling price of coal at Portland is $5.50 per ton. Mining men who know the cost of coal-mining, the small distance of carriage, can soon figure the amount of profit in an enterprise of this character.

COMPARATIVE ASSAYS.

Nehalem Coal—Taken from creek bed, covered with water:

NO. 1.

Fixed carbon	45.17
Common gases	39.93
Ash	9.00
Water	18.00

NO. 2.

Fixed carbon	42.59
Gases	39.20
Moisture	15.75
Ash	4.36

The following are assays of coals taken from mines which have been in operation for years, and being dry coal taken from great depths:

COOS BAY, OR.—ORDINARY.

Fixed carbon	41.98
Volatile matter	32.59
Water	20.09
Ash	5.34

COQUILLE RIVER, OR.—DURHAM COAL.

Fixed carbon	44.50
Volatile matter	41.00
Water	11.00
Sulphur	.45
Ash	3.00

NANAIMO (B. C.) COAL.

Fixed carbon	46.31
Volatile matter	32.16
Ash	18.55
Water	2.98

SEATTLE (WASH.) COAL.

Fixed carbon	45.98
Volatile matter	33.26
Ash	6.44
Water	11.66

MOUNT DIABLO (CAL.) COAL.

Fixed carbon	46.89
Volatile matter	33.89
Water	14.69
Ash	4.58

I think from comparison that Nehalem gives good results, considering the little development which has been made. Respectfully submitted.

HENRY BANFIELD.

Another Expert's Opinion.

An analysis by W. H. Hampton of Portland gives this coal the following assay:

Moisture	14.30
Volatile matter	35.35
Fixed carbon	35.20
Ash	4.95
Heating power	4797.00

Makes good coke, and ash does not clinker much.

Some months ago a prominent mineralogist from the East was in the valley in the interest of certain large manufacturers. He was shown a piece of coal taken from Pebble creek and his opinion asked.

The professor looked at the sample carefully, submitted it to several tests, and pronounced it a very superior grade of lignite, worth considerable as fuel in the form presented for inspection, and said that it would be found to improve greatly as the vein was followed up.

"It is a better grade of coal," said Mr. Penrose, "than the Montana lignite, which is used extensively by the railroads there. If this is found in any considerable quantities it is a very valuable find. Where does it come from? You have a fine thing in those coal beds. The most encouraging feature is the improvement noticed in the descending layers or measures of coal.

"California being without this fuel, she must naturally turn to Oregon for her supply, and when the railroad connects you with Astoria it will give you direct connection with San Francisco. Coal of this kind is very valuable, especially when found in such immense quantities. Great future for this place, sir, a great future!"

The gentleman in question is R. A. F. Penrose, Jr., the State Mineralogist of Arkansas, and his statements should carry great weight in questions of this nature. But there is no dissenting opinion in regard to Nehalem coal—it is a fine article of fuel, in quantities of unknown extent.

During the past two years a number of outside parties have secured claims in the territory covering the deposits referred to, and an organization has been formed for the purpose of prospecting and developing the mines.

COAL OPTIONS SECURED.

The Union Pacific Railroad Company Bonds a Large Body of Coal Lands Near This Place.

A report reached this place Friday to the effect that the Union Pacific railroad has bonded over 1,000 acres of coal lands lying on Pebble creek, two miles south of this place, and including all the lands owned by the Great Northern Coal Company and several quarter sections belonging to private parties. The assurance of several well-known and thoroughly reliable business men of Portland is our authority for the truth of the report, which came direct from parties in a position to know the facts in the case. Considerable development work has been done on these lands, and two tunnels have been driven on two of the veins, one 120 feet and another about fifty feet, and an eleven-foot and nine-foot vein of a very fine quality of coal has been developed. This work has been done by the Great Northern Coal Company at an expenditure of $7,000, and several private parties have made numerous "prospects," which in every case have resulted in developing good veins of very fine coal. The practical result of all this work, aggregated, has been to develop one of the finest and most extensive bodies of coal west of the Rocky Mountains, and lying almost in the shadow of the cloud-capped buildings of Oregon's metropolis.

The action of the Union Pacific in securing an option on this land is a wise move on the part of that company, and if they will extend their lines into this valley and develop these coal fields, it will prove a most valuable source of revenue to the railroad as also to the people of this valley. The finest coal experts in the United States have visited and passed judgment upon these coal deposits, and without exception pronounce their products a very fine quality of lignite and their extent almost limitless. An analysis of samples taken from these mines and made by J. H. Fisk and W. H. Hampton shows them to be the highest grade of coal yet found on the Coast between Bellingham Bay and Coos Bay. The result of the analysis by the above-named gentlemen is as follows:

Fixed carbon	50.50
Volatile matter	32.25
Moisture	9.75
Ash	7.50

The cost of mining this coal and placing it on the cars will not exceed $1.10 per ton, while the railroad transportation to Portland will not be more than 2 cents per ton per mile, or $2.10 per ton delivered in the city. The cheapest coal sold in the Portland market is brought from Coos Bay, and sells for $7 per ton, at the same time being inferior to Nehalem coal by at least 10 per cent. It will thus be seen that the Union Pacific will be able to furnish the Portland market with an excellent quality of coal at one-third the price paid for the cheapest fuel brought there from any other mines. By following the route surveyed by the old Astoria and South Coast Company the Union Pacific will be able to pass with their main line within one and one-half miles of the tunnel, and a siding can be run to the mine at a cost of $10,000, the grade being but 1 per cent. The benefits that will thus accrue to the city, the company and the country are seen at a glance. Portland will be given cheaper fuel, the railroad company will have a valuable source of revenue and the money now sent out of the country for fuel will be kept at home and used to develop and enrich our own State and its unsurpassed resources.—Vernonia Journal.

Equal to the Occasion.

"I've been hearing something bad about you from papa, George, and I'm afraid I must ask you to cease visiting me."

"What does he say about me?"

"He says you are not a saint by any means."

"Isn't a man known by the company he keeps?"

"I suppose so."

"And if the company he keeps is the best, the purest, the highest, the most elevating, the most refining, and, finally, the most charming in the world, isn't it an evidence that he is good?"

"Yes."

"Well, don't I keep your company?"

The maiden pondered, blushed, smiled and said:

"Papa's mind has been poisoned. I won't believe anything against you."—New York Press.

In Another Latitude.

He understood all about the sun, and the moon, and the stars, and something about the weather. Indeed, he was popularly supposed to regulate this last, and his indication of probabilities was received as gospel by his admiring fellow citizens in a certain southern colony of Australia. He went to England for a well earned holiday.

He was shown over a celebrated fruit garden there. He was observed to be sniffing about as if something were wrong. They asked him what was the matter. "Well," he replied, "these funny fellows have trained their peach trees against the south side of the wall to get the midday sun instead of against the north."—London Truth.

Indian Blood Is Prominent.

People of Indian blood predominate in Para, Brazil, and are found in all classes, from servants and peddlers to capitalists and high government officials. There are very few Portuguese or Africans, and the descendants of both these races show a large admixture of Indian blood.—Philadelphia Ledger.

OUR TIMBER SUPPLY.

Columbia County Beats the Whole World.

PLENTY FOR ALL PURPOSES.

A Short Description of the Principal and Most Valuable Woods of the County.

Owing to various other duties, enough time could not be spared to make this article as complete as its importance demands, but the facts and figures given below are reliable, and while they may sound large in some instances to strangers, care has been taken to keep within bounds of truth.

The statements here made apply to the valleys and mountains in the entire county, and outsiders should not imagine that all parts of the State are blessed with such an abundance of magnificent and valuable timber as can be found in the Nehalem valley.

As the fir is by far the most plentiful it is given first place, even though the cedar takes precedence as a more valuable and finer wood.

RED, YELLOW AND WHITE FIR.

These three woods are best known and more widely distributed of the fir family, growing in profusion upon the bottoms, on the foothills and being found in great quantities upon the high mountains.

The red fir furnishes most of the timber used in this State for bridge work and other heavy building. It generally splits easily, but when seasoned is remarkably tough and enduring, often being used in preference to oak or ash.

For almost every purpose in which firm and durable lumber is required red fir answers every requirement of the carpenter. It is considerably harder than the yellow fir, which is more prized on account of its clear grain and the beauty of finish of which it is susceptible.

The white fir has a decided preference for low lands, though it is often found upon higher levels. It also is a fine, soft-grained wood, making excellent inside finishing lumber. Great quantities of these valuable woods are being annually destroyed by fire, the settlers finding no other means of removing them.

Hundreds of acres of land in this county have, within the last decade, been cleared of the heavy growth of fir, cedar and hardwoods, which would have furnished employment to scores of mills for years to come had there been any possible means of transportation. And the same lamentable destruction of magnificent timber is constantly going on, the settlers burning millions of feet each fall in order to get a few more acres of meadow land or a larger garden patch.

GOOD LOGGING COUNTRY.

Land along the several creeks, the greater part of which is vacant and unsurveyed, is covered by heavy growths of different varieties of the fir, which is estimated to run from seven to twelve million feet of lumber to the quarter section. A better country for logging purposes would be hard to find. It is a gradual down grade in the valleys, with splendid opportunities for skidding from the hillsides. The water power and advantages are unequaled in any part of the State.

A few words in relation to the size of these firs will be sufficient. The trees run from two to fourteen feet in diameter, averaging about six feet eight feet from the ground. The average height is given as 275 feet, the growths varying in different localities, some sections running as high 350 feet, while others will not reach more than 225. The average tree will give from ten to fifteen cuts of twelve feet in length, from the clear trunk, surprisingly free from knots. The cedars hardly give as satisfactory a showing, but will furnish results that will satisfy any one but those who desire this mundane sphere in its entirety.

NEHALEM CEDAR.

This is a wood which has no superior on the Coast. It is one of the finest finishing woods known to builders and the favorite of the logger. It is found scattered over all characters of lands, from the marshy bottoms to the main divides, and land well stocked with clear cedar of large size commands a good figure. Fire is the greatest enemy the cedar has, and evidences of its terrible havoc among the giant cedars of a past time are visible in all parts of the country. The ax and saw of the settler are making inroads upon this valuable wood, and destruction, not wanton but necessary for their own advancement, is noticed on every hand. The only method by which this waste may be checked is to convert the standing timber into marketable lumber. There is comparatively little expense connected with milling and logging in this vicinity, compared to other localities, and now that transportation facilities are assured, it will be one of the grandest fields for investment offered the American capitalist.

Saw mills, both steam and water power, are numerous in all parts of the valley; yet not enough lumber is cut to supply the demand. Practical millmen and loggers will find the Nehalem Valley a place wherein they can go into business upon a small or a grand scale, the only limit to the amount of lumber produced being the capacity of the mills used. The timber, water and territory are here—the mills and enterprise alone are lacking.

SEVERAL OTHER VARIETIES

of trees, valuable as finishing and house lumber, are found in the valley in varying quantities. The larch, found in the upper valleys, a fine tree closely resembling the fir, is a good all-around wood, of close grain and great strength.

The hardwoods include the maple, ash and alder, all of which grow to a considerable size in the low lands, and in time will furnish material for numerous factories at home and abroad. The maple grows from forty-five to sixty feet in height with a trunk varying from eighteen to twenty-five feet in the clear, from twelve to thirty-six inches in diameter.

The ash is more scattered, but of extra fine quality. Its height corresponds to the maple, but it is generally much smaller in the bole. If possible to get it to the manufacturers it would bring $20 to $27.50 per 1,000.

Alder of large size and even grain is abundant along all the water courses, and when seasoned is capable of receiving a handsome finish. It is in great demand in other portions of the State, where transportation is possible.