

# THE OREGON MIST

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NO. 30

## S. BENSON SELLS OUT

One of the Largest Timber Holdings in Columbia County Changes Hands

S. Benson, the veteran Columbia river logger and timber owner, has sold the last of his extensive holdings for \$2,100,000 netting him a total of something like \$5,000,000 from his Columbia River work. The Benson Timber Company just organized by local and California persons, has taken over Mr. Benson's holdings in Columbia County, the small saw mill at Clatskanie, the rafting appliances, and about 15,000 acres of timberland, containing an estimated stand of 800,000,000 feet of timber. Frank Lynch who about two years ago took over with O. J. Evenson the San Diego saw mill plant belonging to Mr. Benson, has been the principal factor in the new deal.

Mr. Benson inaugurated commercial rafting of logs on the Pacific to California points following this work he built the San Diego mill. Later he sold the mill property, but continued supplying logs to the plant. The Californians who took over the mill have by their latest purchase secured their own supply of raw material in Oregon, thus perfecting a strong combination for supplying the San Diego Lumber market. By operating the Clatskanie mill the Company can also figure in the Columbia River lumber market. The big logging plant on the Columbia County holdings, has been able to supply far more timber than the two mills mentioned was able to consume, and has been one of the important sources of log supply for the Columbia River mills. It is understood that this phase of the business will be continued.

The Benson Timber Company which was organized to take over Mr. Benson's remaining timber and logging interests, is capitalized for \$3,000,000. It plans to continue the business conducted by the Benson Logging Company. The offices of the new Company will be on the 15th floor of the Yeon building.

Mr. Benson says he will make important Portland realty investments with his funds. Friends of the millionaire say he may spend a considerable part of his time, especially in winter, at some southern California city, probably Los Angeles.

Mr. Benson's success as a logger and timber owner in Oregon has been perhaps the most brilliant example of pluck and perseverance among the local men. There are Companies that own vastly greater acreage than he held, but he among the men who grew up in the business has brought out of the business the greater returns. S. B. Yeon, the Portland capitalist, who has just finished the Northwest's tallest skyscraper on Fifth and Alder streets, was close to Mr. Benson in his success as a logger and timber owner.

Earl Perry, representing the Weeks Granite Company, of Portland, was in this section last Sunday and Wednesday in the interests of his firm and transacted considerable business. On the first day of his stay he sold four stones.

## Dr. Hollingshead Preaches

Dr. W. B. Hollingshead formerly superintendent of the Portland district now Field Secretary for the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, will occupy the pulpit of the Methodist Church both morning and evening next Sunday. His many friends will be glad to avail themselves of the opportunity of again hearing him.

## To Give Recital

It is the purpose of the Sunday School and Epworth League to secure for the people of St. Helens a high class of educational entertainment as the town will support. The first venture of the Sunday School was a marked success. Dr. Young's illustrated lecture on Yellowstone Park was greatly enjoyed by everyone. The second number is to be given at the City Hall next Wednesday evening. Misses Hilda Brant and Jeanette Leedy of the Gillespie School of Expression, will give an evening program of reading and pantomime. These young ladies are very highly recommended as entertainers. You will miss a real pleasure if you fail to hear them. Admission 25 cents and 15 cents. The proceeds are to be used in the purchase of new hymnals for the Sunday School.

Hugh Lefferman was seriously hurt at the camp last Monday afternoon. Hugh works on the train and was unloading. He thought that the last log had been taken off and was pulling on the cable to get a little slack, when it was tightened up and his hand was caught in the block, crushing the last three fingers so that they will probably have to be taken off. He came immediately to this city, and Dr. Ross treated the injury. Hugh took the evening train to Portland, where he will go to the hospital to stay until his hand is well.

## COUNTY FIRE WARDEN APPOINTED

Under the authority given him by the Oregon Fire law enacted by the last Legislature, State Forester, F. A. Elliot is actively engaged in perfecting his campaign for the prevention of forest fires during the approaching dry season. Aside from the local fire wardens, of whom there will be about six hundred in the state, supervising wardens are being appointed in each of the heavily timbered counties. In that portion of the state having but a small amount of timber, two or more counties will be looked after by one supervising warden.

Mr. W. H. Smith, of Houlton, has been appointed to the position of supervising warden for Columbia County. This appointment was made by the State Forester after a very careful consideration of the recommendations received from the principal timberland owners of this territory. Persons residing in localities not covered by a local fire warden should consult him in regard to burning of slashings and information concerning the fire law.

The supervising wardens will have general supervision over the county or district placed in their charge. They will be expected to keep in touch with the local fire wardens, whether serving voluntarily or under pay from the timber owners, county courts or otherwise, and to lead them every assistance in their power for the enforcement of the laws. They will be empowered to issue burning permits where the territory is not covered by local fire wardens and to act as referee in cases where there is a difference of opinion between any local fire warden and a resident of company relative to the advisability of issuing a burning permit. Logging camps, sawmills, railroads, etc., where steam engines burning other than oil for fuel, are being operated, will be inspected from time to time to see that proper spark arresters are in use. In addition, supervising wardens will advise with farmers, loggers, and others who have slashings to burn, instruct campers about camp fires, distribute copies of the law, post fire notices in places where they will do the most good, and keep the State Forester fully informed in regard to the fire situation in their districts.

It is not the intention of the forest fire law that the State should be called upon to fight forest fires, and there is no appropriation made for that purpose except in extreme emergencies. The real intent, however, is to prevent fires and in case fire does get started to see that the proper persons, that is, those who are the most interested in the locality of the fire, whether timber owners, saw mill men, loggers, farmers or others, to get an adequate force of men on the ground immediately to properly handle and extinguish the fire.

## Probationers Organize

The younger members of the Methodist Church met last Sunday afternoon and organized a probationers class. Miss Mabel Craig was elected president and Roy Laws was named secretary. The class expects to meet every Sunday afternoon for the purpose of studying the history, doctrine and polity of their church. The meeting will be entirely in charge of the young people and lively discussions are promised. The main topic for Sunday afternoon is "What is sin."

S. A. Miles was a Portland visitor last Monday morning.

The Str. Shoshone left for California last Sunday afternoon with a full cargo of lumber for California ports. Captain Asplund is accompanied on this trip by his wife and daughters, who have many friends at this place and like to visit St. Helens.

St. Helens was a large contributor to the Rose Festival in Portland last week. Probably the larger part of the people living here attended the big annual show. On Saturday night a special train left Portland at 11:30, and many availed themselves of the opportunity to see the electric parade and get home the same evening.

The ladies of the Episcopal Guild will serve tea in the Guild Hall next Thursday June 22nd.

## Superintendent's Report.

St. Helens Ore., June 1st 1911  
Superintendents report to the Water Commission from the 24th day of April 1911 till the 1st day of June 1911.

Received and turned over to the secretary of the W. C. for water pipes sold, \$6.65.

We made 22 connections and put in one meter.

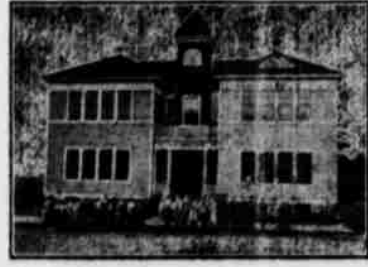
We laid 1444 feet 2 1/2 inch pipe.

We laid 224 feet 3/4 inch pipe.

We laid 292 feet 1/2 inch pipe.

We tapped the main 3 times by a 2 inch main.

M. FRISK



## A COMPARISON OF THE ST. HELENS AND SCAPPOOSE SCHOOL BUILDINGS

The Scappoose structure is a credit to that progressive neighborhood, and cost nearly \$20,000. Can we do as well as Scappoose?



## EIGHTH GRADE EXAMINATIONS

On account of the large number of failures this year, the pupils in the eighth grade were given another chance to take the examinations and at this place and all over the county there were a large number passed. Those here who were either conditioned or failed last month, but got through are as follows:

Berlin Yeomen, Mary Hamilton, Fred Morgus, Knute Bjorkman, Frank Thorp, Oswald Deming, Charley Laws, Frank Robertson, Mabel Craig, Iva Wilson, Clara Stevens, and Grace Harrison.

The following in different parts of the county also passed: Robert Harvey, Mist, Norman Maclay, Columbus City, Sigfried Anderson, Warren, Franklin Evenson, Nellie Page, Lois Blackford, Earl Baumgardner, Emma Blackford, Clatskanie, Bruce Aaron, George French, John Timoney, Rainier, Wm. Pyykonen, Leverage Reddick, Nathan Van Creden, Clatskanie, Charley Gabrielson, Clara Pasley, Joseph Gabrielson, Mayger, Martha Powers Quincy, Vera Barger, Yankton, Stedman Prescott, Edith Clark, Houlton, Huntington Saxon, Warren, Lena Baldwin, Donald Duffy, Scappoose, Eugene Keehan, Walter Freeman, Deer Island, Ira Peterson, Mist.

The highest average made in the county this year in the eighth grade examinations was that of Miss Leila Duggan, of Clatskanie, being 94 1/2, while Miss Hilda Johnson, of Rainier, was next with 92 1/2.

## The City Council

The regular weekly meeting of the council was held at the City Hall last Monday night and two new ordinances were read for the first and second times. One was to provide for raising the salary of the city marshal from \$60. to \$85. per month, and the other to limit the part of St. Helens in which saloons can be licensed to the two blocks that are now the principal business section of the town. The latter ordinance was introduced by Councilman Phillips and does credit to its originator.

The city leased the section of the Strand where the new restaurant is being built, to Messrs Blew and Mace for the sum of \$1.50 per month. If this property is the city's, and if as is the general opinion it is reserved "for wharves" how can it be used for any other purpose.

BUGGY to exchange for wood.  
Wm. M. Ross

Miss Nellie Laws and Miss Mabel Clark were passengers on the Yosemite bound for Los Angeles, California, when the boat left here last Saturday evening. The Yosemite goes as far as San Pedro from which point they will take the train to Los Angeles.

Misses Madge and Mildred Allen, of Spokane, are visiting with their sister, Mrs. L. R. Rutherford.

Mrs. Joseph Allen and baby daughter returned from Seattle this week to their home in St. Helens.

Dr. H. R. Cliff and family, of Portland, came down in the Doctor's auto last Sunday, and while Mrs. Cliff visited friends here, the Doctor and the rest of the family took in the ball game.

J. A. Holladay, of Deer Island, was a business visitor to the county seat last Monday.

## TEACHERS EXAMINATIONS

Notice is hereby given that the County School Superintendent of Columbia County will hold the regular examinations for applicants for State papers at St. Helens Oregon, commencing Wednesday, June 21, at 9:00 o'clock A. M., and continuing until Saturday, June 24, at 5:00 P. M., as follows:

For State Certificates (one year, five-year, life.)

Wednesday A M—Arithmetic, Civil Government, English Literature.

Wednesday P M—Geography, Grammar, Physics.

Thursday A M—Orthography, Theory and Practices, Bookkeeping.

Thursday P M—Writing, Physiology, Geology.

Friday A M—U. S. History, Physical Geography, Botany.

Friday P M—School Law, Psychology, Geometry.

Saturday A M—Reading, Algebra, General History.

Saturday P M—Composition, American Literature, History of Education.

For State Primary Certificates:

Wednesday A M—Methods in Reading, Methods in Arithmetic.

Wednesday A M—Methods in Language, Methods in Geography.

Thursday A M—Orthography, Theory and Practice.

Thursday P M—Writing and Physiology.

Friday A M—Thesis. Subjects for Thesis: Lessons by Stories, Language in Primary Grades, Number Work in Primary Grades, Possibility of Nature Study in Primary Grades, Phonics in Primary Grades, Child Study. Applicant chooses one Subject.

Friday P M—Psychology.

NOTE: Questions on Theory and Practice, Writing, Arithmetic, Physiology will be the same for Primary Certificates as for other Certificates.

Dated at St. Helens, Ore., May 9 1911:

J. H. COLLINS,

County School Superintendent.

FOR SALE—Bay mare, weight about 1150 pounds, sound, gentle, and true, with Coach colt one month old by her side.

E. S. FAXON, Houlton.

FOR RENT—The Leek store, living rooms up stairs, barn, all together or singly.

Wm M. Ross.

The pay day aftermath in the Recorder's Court did not amount to much this month, despite the fact that the tenth of the month came on Saturday, and the natural thing to expect was that Mr. Gage would have a busy day. There was nothing doing at all until Tuesday morning, when Marshall Wilkins brought one Ole Simpson in, charged with being drunk and disorderly and somewhat of a nuisance on the street. He was found guilty as charged, but an investigation showed that he was about all in and that the fine of \$7.50 could not be paid at that time, so \$3.50 was collected and the defendant was allowed to depart on condition that he pay the balance in five days.

FOR RENT—A new four room house.

Wm M. Ross.

## BARBER KILLS SELF

Houlton Man Commits Suicide at Hotel Last Monday

John F. Sharkey, well known in this city and Houlton, having worked in this neighborhood as a barber at different times for about two years, committed suicide last Monday in his room at the Mathieson Hotel in Houlton, by cutting his throat with a razor. At about 12:30 a number of people on the street and in the building heard him screaming and upon going to his room found him on the floor with his head nearly severed from his body.

The deed was very evidently premeditated and probably that the man had often thought of taking this course. He was of a morose and sullen disposition and made but few friends. Working for a week or two at a time he would get blue and blue every day and then go on a drunk lasting anywhere from three or four days to a week or two. On his occasion he had been under the influence of liquor for about two weeks and on the Saturday before the committing of the suicide he was suffering and in a condition bordering on delirium tremens. Sunday he was feeling better but on Monday must have taken a turn for the worse.

Sharkey must have went about the commission of his terrible act in a cool and collected way. He had folded a blanket from his bed and laid it on the floor. Then standing in front of the mirror he had taken the razor in his right hand and slashed his throat back and forth several times, as on one side there were four marks where the razor had started and on the other there were five. His cries immediately brought several people to the scene, and when they arrived he was laying on the blanket bleeding to death, and despite the fact that he had cut half way through his throat, it was more than fifteen minutes before he passed away.

His mother, and a brother who is a barber in Indiana were telegraphed and instructions were received from them to bury him at Houlton. Cooner Frank Sherwood was summoned but the case was so evidently one of suicide that an inquest was not deemed necessary. The barbers union, of Portland, of which he has been a member for a matter of fifteen years, was communicated with, and a representative visited Houlton. The union stands the expense of the funeral giving the sum of \$100.

The funeral was held at the M. E. Church in Houlton on Wednesday at 10:30 o'clock and the interment was at Oddfellows Cemetery at Warren, Reverend De Bord officiating. The deceased was 42 years of age.

## Cutting Scapose at Prescott

These was something doing at one of the Greek bunk house in Prescott last Friday night and as a result one of the Greeks will die and one of them is in a very precarious condition while a third has a severe cut in one hand. The Greek that rented the house in which they were living wanted one of them to leave, and threatened him with a gun. He ran out and there were a couple of them waiting for him at the door and he was stabbed without a chance to resist. The knife went into his back and under the shoulder blade piercing the lungs. He yelled for help, and the first man that rushed out was put in bad condition and may die, while the next one was the man that was cut in the hand, and if the rescuers had not come out so fast that the two doing the knifing could not handle them, the chances are that there would have been enough disabled Greeks in Prescott to have filled a couple of hospitals, as the ability and willingness of the men with knives seems to have been fully up to snuff.

The man who had the revolver was picked up in Portland the next day and brought to jail at this place to await his preliminary hearing. The two who did the stabbing are probably somewhere in the Grays Harbor country or on the sound as there are a number of their countrymen over that way, and they escaped into Washington in a skiff that they stole from above Prescott, and that has been found on the other side of the river a short distance below Kalama.

The most seriously injured of the two men is at a Greek doctor's in Portland, while one is at the hospital and the one with the cut hand is at Prescott. Friends of the man in jail here have been at this place and are working actively to secure his release, while a number of his local countrymen are interested in the matter.

For Fruit Jars go to Harrison's Grocery he keeps the Economy and the new Wide Mouth Mason Jars.

We buy in large quantities and are able to sell at smaller prices than the other fellow. James Muckle & Son.

FOR SALE.—2 lots. Cheap. Inquire of Harold P. Ross, St. Helens.

## BUILDING SENTIMENT GROWS

Taxpayer's See Folly of Adding to Old School House

The new high school idea is meeting with increased favor every day. With the approach of the school election taxpayers are beginning to study the question in all its phases. To determine in a measure the sentiment of the more progressive citizens of the district the Mist representative interviewed men as follows:

H. F. McCORMICK

"The building of a new school would be a great thing toward the advancement of the city and to encourage families to locate here."

W. G. MUCKLE

"There is no reason why we should be behind Scappoose, Clatskanie and Rainier on the school proposition. Let us have an up to date building."

S. C. MORTON

"I favor the building of a modern structure on the new site if the old building can be sold for a reasonable sum."

A. T. LAWS

"By all means have a high school so that we can give our children a good education without sending them to Portland or other large cities."

M. E. MILLER

"The present building is entirely inadequate for present school. It is the part of economy to put up a new building rather than enlarge the old."

MARTIN WHITE

"Grounds and old building are out of date and too small. We should avail ourselves of the opportunity of getting a fine site and an up to date building."

M. C. GRAY

"The proposed high school site possesses much natural beauty, is more conveniently located and is much more commodious than the present school grounds. The school should be built."

The above are the statements of a few who it was possible to see before going to press and we can get columns of expressions of the same kind. Next week more of the business men and citizens will be called upon, and the opinions of enough of them printed to show that the feeling is all in favor of the construction of a new and up to date school that will be a credit to the town.

Road Supervisor DSpain has finished another piece of fine road in this district. It extends from near the residence of H. O. Howard on the Yankton road west past the store of C. H. Briggs and is over 4000 feet long. Several places deep cuts were made and near the church and the store there is a fill of eight feet or so. The road was well graded all the way and a good covering of rock put on.

Mrs. Jas. Henderson, of Aberdeen, formerly Miss Dorothy Prescott, of this place, has been ill at the hospital in Aberdeen but is nearly recovered and will soon return to her home.

The St. Helens Timber Company has had a crew of men at work for some time on the construction of a large oil tank at the mouth of Scappoose Bay, as their locomotives will burn oil in the near future. The tank will have a capacity of 5000 barrels, or about one fourth of the cargo of one of the big tank boats. As soon as completed, the boats from California will go up the slough to the tank, and pump the oil into it, from which place it can be sold to the river steamers that burn oil. There is no place here where they can get fuel this side of Linnton, and the installation of this tank will mean considerable to the boats that work almost exclusively around here.

The Columbia County Lumber Company is running every day at present and making a cut of about 35,000, all of which is ties and timbers. The new mill employs about twenty five men and makes a good addition to the St. Helens pay roll.