

## COUNTY NEWS

Ashland is to have a new sanitarium which will be owned and conducted by two experienced trained nurses whose ability in their profession is well known in Ashland and the surrounding country. Misses Josephine Benson and Susie Arnold have consummated a lease for the big mansion on South Main street, formerly known as the Roper property, but now owned by H. G. Enders, and will take possession immediately. The house will be remodeled and fitted up with modern appliances for the care and treatment of disease, which with the professional skill of the two young ladies in charge will draw many sufferers to the institution for treatment.

In the list of state school lands recently put up for sale to the highest bidders was a section of indemnity land near the California boundary line, south of Ashland, particularly described as section 34, township 40 south, of range 1 east. A number of people put in bids varying from the \$5 per acre minimum to \$8 per acre. Bids were closed September 9. The highest bidders were C. Coggins, the northern California lumberman, and J. E. Enyart, of Medford, who bid \$13.05 and \$13.10 per acre for the south half and the north half of the section respectively, a single individual being allowed to purchase as much as 320 acres only. The land is accessible to the Southern Pacific railroad and is largely pine, estimated to contain 2,000,000 feet of saw stuff per quarter section, which would make the price paid about \$1 per 1000 stumpage. Coggins already has extensive timber land holdings adjoining.

Word has been received from M. J. Anderson, superintendent of the forest service in this district, that the forestry department at Washington has approved the estimates for the improvement of the Ashland Canyon road, and that the money for same is available. The notification came yesterday in a letter to President Eggleston of the Commercial Club. The estimates approved include three and one-half miles of road outside the forest reserve, at \$100 a mile; three and one-half miles within the Ashland National Forest, including much new road to be built, at \$200 per mile; and four bridges of 40 feet each, costing about \$60 each. Thus the improvements are summarized: Outside for line, \$350; inside, \$700, and four bridges, \$240, making a total of \$1290. This appropriation, in addition to the 3,000 feet of bridge planking which the county has given, will accomplish much in the improvement of the Canyon road.—Tidings.

A petrified tree has been discovered in the forest of Pennebaker & Reeser, 11 miles east of Ashland. Small pieces of petrified wood have been picked up in various parts of Oregon, but so far as is known this is the first time that an entire tree has been found.

According to the scientific method of determining the age of a tree, this one is judged to be about 350 years old by comparing it in portions where it has been unearthed with other trees surrounding. It evidently went down with a landslide, for it lies at an angle of 45 degrees on a mountain side with the spreading branches at the top. The soil has gradually washed down around the trunk and roots until they have been completely buried.

The tree had evidently been dead many years before petrification set in, for the trunk is filled with little round holes made by a certain insect that attacks pine as soon as it dies and the

sap begins to sour. These holes are about 1-16 of an inch in diameter and are still perfectly smooth and round.

The regular meeting of the State Horticultural Society will meet in Medford today.

"In the good old summer time" is the greatest danger of fire. See Daily & Briggs for Fire Insurance.

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