

## MRS. MILLS RAISES SWEET POTATOES

Mrs. Riley Mills set out a lot of sweet potato plants on the 27th of last May. Over a month ago the first meal of sweet potatoes was taken from these vines and last week they dug the rest getting about a bushel.

This was an experiment and the plants were set out in the sandy soil on their place between Florence and the beach. No care was given the plants.

Mrs. Mills is investigating methods and expects to set out about a thousand plants next year.

Some of the potatoes measure eighteen inches long; and have furnished many a fine meal for Mrs. Mills table. This experiment has proven that sweet potatoes can grow and mature in this vicinity.

Mrs. Mills says "We have demonstrated with our garden beyond a doubt that celery, sweet potatoes and straw berries can be depended upon to grow and give good crops results in the sandy soil, on our ranch, which is located within three hundred yards of the Ocean beach, and we had strawberry short cake the 17th of April of this year, and since could have picked strawberries every day sufficient for table use, the vines are loaded with fruit now and I expect to have short cake for our Thanksgiving dinner, as we did last year."

## HAS PECULIAR EXPERIENCE

J. L. Houghton of the Portage had a very peculiar experience

last Friday while sawing through a log that had fallen across the wagon road from the Portage to Minerva. He had sawed the log almost off and leaned across to see how much was left on the further side, and in doing so his whiskers settled into the cut and he having his weight on the log, closed the cut on them and he could not get out. In a short time help came and raised the log enough to let him out.

## HOMESTEADS ON BIG CREEK

Much has been written and more has been said about homestead land on Big creek. It has been the hobby of certain individuals to insist on the whole country being thrown open to settlement, regardless of its adaptability for agricultural purposes. It has been the constant aim of certain settlers in that region to advertise the good qualities of the soil, the topography, the timber and many other things that would induce prospective settlers to come to that place where they would find a land flowing with milk and honey. This same person tells in his articles the amount of different kinds of produce he raises on his ranch and the price he gets for it; how far a deer can be seen on the hills, and in the same article tells that the timothy grass grows six feet high over the hills. He would have you believe there were thousands of acres of good rich bottom land yet to be homesteaded and that there are large areas that can be plowed without the trouble of grubbing or any further work. This same party

calls everybody who say anything different than he does about this land, knockers. He has written letters and had them signed by the people that have come in to see this land, stating that his statements were correct and the country was as he represented and even better.

It was our good fortune to be able to accompany the deputy supervisor, Chas. T. Beach in a survey of several homesteads applied for on Big creek, and examine each of them personally, having carried one end of the chain across each forty acres twice and governed by the compass so that there can be no chance for any dispute, always finding the corners of the sections and quarter corners in every instance, and it is a safe statement and one that can be verified by any competent person who care to take the trouble, that there is not one single acre of bottom land, now unappropriated, in the whole township; that there are not five acres of bench land, low or high, unappropriated, in any one piece that is suitable for agricultural purposes. There is not enough timothy grass growing on un-

appropriated land in that township to feed a donkey once. All other statements and representations by this party as published are of the same force as the above.

There are good reliable people living on Big creek, have lived there for years and they are anxious to have neighbors, in fact will do anything within reason to induce them to settle there; the forest service is doing all it can to help the prospective homesteader to secure land that will be of any value to him and are at great expense to find such land by putting competent men in there with chain and compass to examine thoroughly the land applied for and give the applicant a chance to substitute other land if the piece applied for is not what he thought it was which is a privilege that can only be enjoyed on lands governed by the forest service. A letter to the forest supervisor, Siuslaw National forest, Eugene, Oregon will give you reliable information regarding this Big creek country and all other parts of this forest, or write the settlers who have lived there for years. C. H. Y.

## SIUSLAW FISH STORIES

Since the record Chinook of fifty-one pounds was caught recently near Florence by Mrs. Emmens of Atlanta City New Jersey, several stories about big fish have been circulating. One of the most exciting being that of Dad Southmayd. According to his statement he hooked a monster, which pulled him back and forth across the river several times before he was enabled to get control of it. Then when he thought it was tired out and ready to gaff, it dove under the boat, nearly upsetting it, and tore away at a terrific speed breaking the line and disappeared.

Number two—W. F. McKinney and L. G. Savage, of Richmond, California, who have been stopping at Hotel Florence about a month enjoyed a sea-fish dinner recently. During the repast everything special seemed to be served first to Mr. McKinney, and the others somewhat sore protested. Finally the waiter placed before the favored guest a large dish of delicious looking jelly, covered with bananas, and Mr. McKinney with much gusto and a patronizing smile, acknowledging that he certainly had a stand in with the cook, took a spoon, and smacking his lips proceeded to enjoy the dainty food. Two attempts to get some into his mouth resulted in a knowledge that something was wrong and the hearty laughs of those at the table confirmed this opinion, causing him to investigate the offering more closely, to only find that he had been trying to eat one of the famous Siuslaw jelly fish. He now eyes with suspicion anything recommended by Mr. Savage, believing it is only another attempt for his friend to pay in return for numerous jokes in the past. And Mr. Savage declares he will get Mr. McKinney at least once more.

Number three—Trolling for salmon is quite popular and many take two or three hours at least one day a week to try their luck. A few days ago two of our young men went out, and had rowed to Rose Hill cannery before they discovered that they had been dragging a heavy

anchor all the way. Some tide to buck, wan't it Dave?

Number four—If you happen to be out fishing and a prominent young professional man of Florence, the only one in Florence, asks how many you have caught, don't stop, he just wants to borrow a fish.

Here's Another One—Tuesday while I. A. Smith was enjoying the afternoon trolling he had an unusual experience. He and Tom Wolf were out in Irwin's motor boat and had landed three salmon when Irwin felt a strike and before he could give any line the fish which must have been a monster took hook, line, pole, reel, and the entire fishing tackle. Irwin says he wouldn't care so much, but that the reel, which was a very fine one, belonged to Mrs. Smith. He is now making inquiry among the fishermen in hopes the lost fish may get caught in a net.

## HON. W. C. HAWLEY VISITS THE SIUSLAW

Representative W. C. Hawley while on his way to look over the interests of the south coast portion of the state arrived in Florence about noon.

He was met at Cushman by a committee of Florence business men and escorted down the river to Florence, after lunch Representative Hawley was taken to the mouth of the river where he looked over the jetties and proposed site for a life saving station.

In the evening Mr. Hawley address the citizens of the Siuslaw at the Commercial Club rooms. His talk was confined mostly to the Waterway improvement and other national questions.

He left Thursday morning on his way to Coos Bay and other south coast points.

## LAKE TRAFFIC ABOUT FINISHED

The traffic on Whoahink and Tsitcoos lakes is about finished and hereafter the material will be hauled by the train direct to the lakes and distributed from the car. There have been quite a number of boats and engineers employed in this lake traffic but most of the men have been laid off and soon there will be nothing for the boats to do.

## ROAD BONDS CARRY OVER THREE TO ONE

Today Florence has been voting on the question of issuing and selling \$5000 bonds to pay 45 per cent of the cost of building a highway from the north side of Front street, running north on Lincoln street to Main street, thence east on Main street to Howard street, thence north to the section line between section 26 and 35, of township 18 south, range 12 west, W. M. and the

whole cost of planking the road from the last name point in an easterly direction to the city limits, which street and road is known as the North Fork Highway.

The bonds carried by a vote of over three to one, and resulted 86 votes being cast. For bonds 67; against bonds 19.

The judges of the election were H. D. Chamberlain, Mrs. Isabel Severy and Mrs. Mary Young.

## NORTH BEND TO CELEBRATE

North Bend, Or., Oct. 2.—Completion of the Willamette-Pacific Railroad to Coos Bay, while not expected until next May, has features which the city of North Bend believes might be celebrated with due ceremony and dignity. The great \$1,000,000 bridge across Coos Bay is now practically finished, and only the smaller details remain to be completed, including the installation of machinery in the 416 foot draw, ballasting the bed on the spans and laying rails. All the piers, numbering 13, are finished and the trestle work on the mudflats, where there was half a mile of piling driven, all of which is concreted, is also done. A larger portion of the workmen have been ordered to the Umpqua and Siuslaw rivers, where other bridges are being constructed.

The completion of the Coos Bay bridge will be celebrated on Oct. 7, 8 and 9, with ceremonies, sports and other amusements.

The carnival committee of North Bend livewires has a fund of \$2000 to expend on the three days' entertainment and are sparing no pains to have the best events obtainable. Among other things will be several automobile races on splendid Sherman avenue, the longest and widest paved street in Coos County; wrestling matches, dancing, boat races, marine parade, pony racing, bucking contests, track and field events, battle royal on a barge on the bay, and various other attractions.

The building of the Coos Bay bridge occupied more than a year. More than 20,000 yards of gravel were required to construct the piers; many boat cargoes of cement have been used. It took about 15 cargoes to convey the superstructure steel for the bridge. The piers are generally 18 feet in diameter, but that from which the draw will swing is 36 feet across. This pier has extensions to the eastward and west, on which the draw will rest when open. A requirement of the Government in granting permission to the Southern Pacific to bridge the bay is that the draw shall remain open constantly, excepting to allow the passing of trains.

# We Invite Your Inspection

of the new

# FALL GOODS

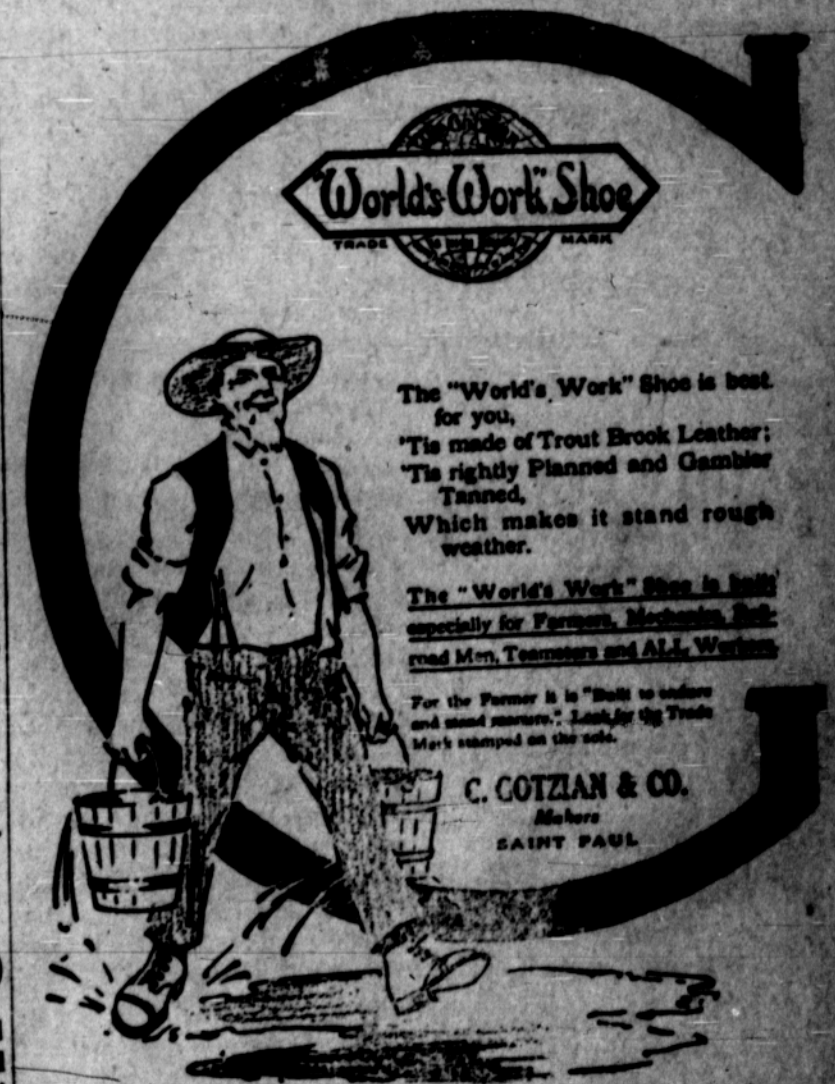
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