

# Crook County Journal.

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## THE KING OF TREES

### Taken From The Oregonian.

#### Is The Giant Redwood.

The Bureau of Forestry is Working on The Problem of How to Prevent Its Destruction.

What is to be done for the redwoods of the Pacific Coast is a question that has not only agitated the lumbermen of California and Oregon, but is of sentimental concern to the whole nation.

The redwood forests are, in point of merchantable yield, probably the densest on earth, many stands yielding 150,000 board feet board feet to the acre; and redwood logging represents the highest development of the lumbering business that has ever been attained on the Pacific Coast. The total supply of redwood is estimated to be 75,000,000,000 feet. The amount cut in 1900 was 360,000,000 feet, with a value of \$3,645,808. Although only one-tenth of the forests of the United States is owned by lumbermen, according to the last census, one-fifth of the redwood is in their hands, and the stands they own are the handsomest and most valuable in the redwood belt.

Ever since the Spaniards began to cut redwood along San Francisco Bay, the range of its growth has been diminishing; in now occupies an area of about 2000 square miles. During the last 50 years several hundred thousand acres of timber have been cut over, and the good lands put into cultivation or turned into pasture. As year by year the redwood forests have dwindled, it has come to be pretty generally believed that the tree is doomed to extinction.

This popular idea that the redwood has no chance of survival is not well founded. The studies of the Bureau of Forestry have proved that possibilities of a new growth of redwood after the old trees have been removed are excellent. Given half a chance, the redwood reproduces itself by sprouts with astonishing vigor. Measurements taken by the bureau on cut-over land show that in 30 years, in a fair soil and a dense stand, trees will be grown 16 inches in diameter, 80 feet high, yielding 2000 feet board measure to the acre.

With the knowledges that the redwood as a type need not become extinct, it is possible to consider the impending fate of the giant redwoods in the old forests with a more cheerful mind. Occasional parks and recreation grounds, such as the Big Basin Redwood Park of the Santa Cruz Mountains, may preserve small areas of virgin redwood lands; but the richest, the densest, the most beautiful of the forests are owned by lumbermen, and will inevitably be cut. The trees represent invested capital; they are merchantable and will yield a profit now, small as it is. Besides, in the virgin stands most of them are past maturity, and the growth put on is inconsiderable. Every consideration, then, induces the redwood lumberman, reasoning from his standpoint, to cut his trees.

The redwood of California belongs to a genus of which the big tree is the only other species now alive. Both are allied to the cypress, and their lumber is often called by the same name, but they are botanically distinct from each other. They do not even occupy the same situations. The big tree occurs in scattered bodies on the west slopes of the Sierra Nevada, while the redwood forms dense for-

ests on the west slopes of the Coast Range. The redwood is popularly thought to occupy a strip of country ten to 30 miles wide, from the Oregon line to the Bay of Monterey; but these boundaries do not cover its actual distribution. Two thousand acres of redwood, in two separate groups, are growing in Oregon along the Chetco River. South of the Chetco a continuous redwood belt begins. By way of the river valleys and lowlands it increases its width from ten miles at Del Norte County to 18 or 20 miles and keeps on unbroken to southern Humboldt County. Here, for about a township, it thins out, but becomes dense again six miles north of the Mendocino line, and after entering that county widens to 35 miles, its greatest width. The redwood belt ends in Mendocino County, but isolated forests of the species are growing in sheltered spots as far south as Salmon Creek Canyon in the Santa Lucia Mountains, Monterey County, 12 miles south of Punta Gorda and 500 miles from the northern limit of the trees along the Chetco River.

The redwood grows to a greater height than any other American tree, but in girth and in age it is exceeded by the big tree of the Sierras. On the slopes 225 feet is about its maximum height and 10 feet its greatest diameter, while on the flats, under better conditions, it grows to be 350 feet high with a diameter of 20 feet. Most of the redwood cut is from 400 to 800 years old. After the tree has passed the age of 500 years it usually begins to die down from the top and fall off in growth. The oldest redwood found during the Bureau's investigation had begun life 1373 years ago.

The bark of the tree offers such a remarkable resistance to fire that except under great heat it is not combustible. It is of reddish-gray color, fibrous in texture, and gives to full-grown redwoods a fluted appearance. Moisture available for the roots is the first need of the redwood, as any hilly tract of forest will show. Wherever a small gully, or bench, or basin is so placed as to receive an uncommon amount of seepage, or wherever a creek flows by, there the trees are sure to be largest. While moisture of the soil affects the development of the redwood, moisture of the atmosphere regulates its distribution. The limits of the sea fogs are just about the limits of the tree. The fogs, unless scattered by winds, flow inland among the mountains. Western exposures receive most of the mist they carry, except those higher ridges above their reach, which support, in consequence, only a scattered growth of redwood.

The wood of the redwood varies greatly. The softest and best trees usually grow in the bottoms, the "flinty" timber occurs on the slopes. But this rule does not always hold good. All sorts of unexpected and unaccountable differences in the quality of the timber occur. A soft, fine-grained tree will be found close beside one "flinty" and less valuable. Even the practical logger is never sure until he cuts it what kind of lumber a redwood will yield. The tree's vitality is so great, it endures so many vicissitudes and suffers from so many accidents in the centuries of its existence, that the grain of its wood becomes unevenly eventful. The wood fibres formed under different rates of growth sometimes get up a tension so great that when the log is sawed the wood splits with a loud report.

Redwood possesses qualities which fit it for many uses. In color it shades from light cherry to

## THE COUNTY NEWS.

### Our Correspondents Are Punctual.

#### News From All Quarters.

The Journal Has the Best Correspondents Of Any Paper In Interior Oregon.

##### Howard Items.

Last Sunday at 6 a. m. the mercury stood 14 above zero.

Clyde Hon and Joe Hawkins were in Prineville last Friday and Saturday on business.

A. C. Knighten and wife and James Dyer and wife were visitors at J. J. Pierson's home last Sunday.

Grandma Hawkins has been sick in bed the past week with la grippe.

Clyde Hon and wife and Mrs. Ida Hon were visitors at James Zevels home last Sunday.

Mrs. Bennet of Prineville is cooking for B. F. Ahalt, the Howard merchant.

William Hogg is working at Hawkins' saw mill.

Uncle Dave Elliott is at present down at his brother Jims near Prineville.

Lizzie Hawkins and Mabel O'Kelly were visitors at John Hogg's home last Sunday.

##### Prof. Bill Banks.

##### Ashwood Gleannings.

From the Prospector.

The Hamilton Hotel under the management of A. B. Estenbenet is proving very satisfactory to the traveling public.

Granville Poindexter moved the household goods of his sister, Mrs. Zidana Kennedy, to Prineville on the first. Mrs. Kennedy will reside at the county seat in the future.

Sam Carmichael returned the last of the week to his old haunts in this camp, after a three months absence. He has been visiting in Eastern Oregon and Eastern Washington.

Charles L. Freer returned from Antelope last Friday. We understand that the Morning Star Company will begin cross cutting from the bottom of their shaft, within a few days.

James T. Robinson and his son Roy left here on the first for Haystack, where Mr. Robinson is preparing to take up his residence. He has a valuable ranch there, and as soon as he grows a full set of whiskers, will be a full-fledged farmer.

The young people of the camp gathered at the home of Milo Wood on the evening of the first, and enjoyed a very pleasant "April Fool Dance." From all reports of the dance, those who failed to attend were the ones that were fooled.

A large amount of Prineville capital has gone into the "Dixie Meadow" property near Prairie City, which property is being promoted by Dr. Belknap. From all accounts of the property it is a fine one, and the investors will doubtless realize nicely on their investments, but Crook County people have promising property inside the boundaries of their own county which is only needing a little capital to make it as valuable as that of any other section of the state. It is only another il-

lustration of the oft-referred-to fact that when it comes to mining ventures, people prefer spending their money on some property away from home. So far very little Prineville money has found its way in to this camp, although it offers one of the most promising fields in the Northwest for profitable mining investments.

##### Wattersen on Bryan.

In reply to one of William J. Bryan's editorials, Henry Wattersen says:

"Mr. Bryan, we fear, will never quite get over 1896. More's the pity, because if he could there might ultimately be the making of a great man in him. It is a sad thing to see a talented young fellow of three and forty already soured and embittered, though in Mr. Bryan's case there is no reason why he should be. The presidential orbit into which, taking him by the nape of the neck and seat of his breeches, the fairy god-mother flung him heels over head in 1896, found him obscure and it has left him rich and famous.

"Free silver is as dead as Judas. So are some other articles of Mr. Bryan's catechism. There is no more rhyme or reason for repeating that catechism in 1904 than for substituting in room of it the democratic platform of 1864 and 1868 or 1880, on which the party marched to defeat, and not one-half as much as for reaffirming the platform of 1892, on which it marched to victory."

##### Another Sheepshooting Episode.

It is reported that another sheepshooting scrape has occurred in our county and this time the victim is Ed Wakefield, of Post who lost about 150 sheep in this manner. We believe one of the resolutions drafted at the last stockmen's meeting provided for a committee to confer with the sheepmen on the range question. Couldn't this be done and these shooting scrapes avoided. All should have equal rights, and points in their favor, or disfavor should be weighed and considered and an amicable agreement reached. Ruthless shooting of stock of any kind is neither humane nor just, and could it possibly be avoided, it should not be done.

##### "Manila Itch"

The "Manila Itch" which term is given so many light cases of smallpox is not a contagious disease, nor is it a disease found in the temperate zone. It was vulgarly called "Dobe Itch" by the American soldiers and was caused by a minute germ with which the Philippine waters were infested. As water was never heated in the islands for washing purposes, the germ was very naturally transferred to the clothes of the soldiers in the washing process. The germ would first make its appearance where the clothes came in closest contact with the body, and would assume the form of an ordinary ringworm. The only symptom accompanying the eruption would be an intense itching, and when satisfied by the sharp finger nails of the soldiers the feeling produced could be called a most "disease."

Scratching however spread the disease and it was no uncommon sight to see an afflicted one covered from head to foot with the scaly eruptions. Fever or other disorders never accompanied the "Dobe Itch" and the affliction was purely a local cutaneous one, and should never be confounded in any way with the skin eruptions of this climate.

Dr. Wood Hutchison favored a good audience at the court house on Tuesday evening with a talk on "contagious diseases and sanitary regulations." His talk was instructive and interesting and was thoroughly appreciated by all. During his speech he was heartily applauded and at its close was given a vote of thanks by the audience.

## NEWS BRIEFLY TOLD

### Items of Interest Gathered Here and There

#### Some Stolen, Others Not

Quillings From Our Exchanges—News Notes of the Week—Timely Topics.

It is significant of President Roosevelt's magnetism that no one was more cordial and enthusiastic in the President's Chicago reception than Carter H. Harrison, the democratic mayor.

At the Brownsville city election held on April 7th, the anti-saloon ticket was elected in full, with the exception of one councilman who tied. The majority given was 15 in a total of about 200 votes.

Miss Cross of Illinois crossed the Pacific to marry her fiancé who had preceded her to Manila. When she arrived he jilted her but she married another man and for his sake let us hope she will be cross no more.

Senator Warren of Wyoming says that the cattle men of his section are now getting from \$50 to \$90 per head for steers whereas they had to accept from \$20 to \$35 per head under the Wilson tariff bill. Needless to say they see no occasion for revising the Dingley bill.

Hon. Tom Johnson of Ohio desires that it be distinctly understood that he was not the man who tried to run his automobile up the steps and into the national Capitol. It is the Capitol at Columbus into which the Hon. Tom is trying to force his way.

According to many prominent democratic statesmen, William Jennings Bryan will continue to exercise his influence in democratic councils. We do not doubt it but in view of that fact the people will protest against "democratic councils" becoming the councils of the nation.

A single page in a single issue of the Century taken for advertising costs \$500, Harper's, \$490, other magazines, \$150 to \$350. A yearly advertisement in one column in the Chicago Tribune costs \$28,550 for the lowest and \$36,000 for the highest rate. The New York World costs \$46,200 for the lowest and \$59,000 for the highest priced column. Some local business men hesitate to risk \$2 a month to tell of their wares.—Astorian.

A little yellow flag in front of the residence of O. Kinersley last Friday afternoon caused no little sensation throughout the neighborhood, and it was soon noised about that the victim was Mr. Kinersley himself, who had been exposed to smallpox at the Shanika hotel at the time the stranger was brought there with it. After making several places in the interest of the firm he represents he returned to Condon and feeling ill determined to start for home and reached here on No. 1 Friday afternoon. Upon sending for a physician he was at once notified that he had smallpox and a quarantine was instituted. The two older boys having been away from home when their father reached there, are not included in the quarantine which has claimed Mrs. Kinersley and little Wilson as its victims. The case is said to be a light one, but it is to be recalled that Mr. Kinersley did not remain where he was, as no doubt in his bedside his family have thus been exposed.—Lewiston.

##### Smallpox in Reality.

In last week's Journal we made the statement that there was no smallpox in our city. This statement was made upon the diagnosis of our physicians who were unanimous in the belief that it was not the dread disease. However, every possible precaution was taken and matters were handled in the best manner possible until Monday, when Dr. Hutchison of Portland, a member of the state board of health and a recognized authority arrived in our city. He immediately went to work and visited all reported cases. He finds them, six in number, to be identical in general characteristics with that of Vashinder the timber seeker, who died at Shanika and who scattered the disease germs in our city. Three of these cases he finds to be in a very severe form while three have had the benefit of vaccine and are suffering from a much milder form. On the evening after his arrival, the city council and county judge met at Dr. Rosenberg's office in private session, after which a public meeting was held at the council room with a good attendance of the business men present.

Dr. Hutchison first favored the meeting with a brief, concise description of the cases in our city, their origin, the character of the disease, and the means to be pursued to stamp it out. He fully exonerates every one in the matter of handling the disease and stated that the form was entirely different from any thing ever before known in the United States. That all medical treatise in our schools were upon a disease entirely different from this form and that this same mistake had been made in nearly every locality, where this form of smallpox had made its appearance. He said that it had been brought to this country by Cuban refugees and not from the Philippines as is so often stated.

He paid a tribute to our local doctors and the authorities, and suggested means necessary in stamping out the disease. In the course of his remarks he stated that vigor made no difference with the severity of the form of smallpox, and that medical science knew of no cure. The only thing that could be done he said was towards partially alleviating the suffering of the patient until the disease had run its course. Upon his recommendation the authorities commenced Wednesday a general vaccination, and they propose to thoroughly vaccinate every individual who has not done so within the past six months. The council and citizens discussed all phases of the situation and every effort is being made to stamp out the disease. While the situation is serious there is no occasion for a panic, all danger of exposure being past. Ten days more will determine the extent of the spread of the disease, and it is the earnest hope of all that the precautions that have been taken will prove sufficient and that business conditions and ease of mind may be quickly restored in our fair little city.

In the meantime let us all lend every effort toward aiding the authorities. If you have children see that they are vaccinated. If your back yard needs cleaning get to work at it, use disinfectants liberally and don't be a laggard in any sense of the word. Without your co-operation the doctors and authorities are powerless and all the kicking you can do, is only a detriment. This is no time to encourage hard feelings by criticisms, but is a good time to cement good feeling by active co-operation.