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22 MILES OF TRACK LAID

Great Southern Railroad Will Soon Be Running Trains from The Dalles to Dufur.

Track-laying on the Great Southern Railway is being prosecuted with the greatest vigor, and the rails are now in a position for about twenty-two miles from this city, or about a mile beyond Wrentham and about eight miles from Dufur, says The Dalles Chronicle. The company has a track-laying machine at work, that, with the aid of pioneers, is capable of finishing about two miles of track every day, ready for the rolling stock.

There have been some very heavy rock cuts, and considerable bridge building; but these are nearly all completed, and in a few days the iron horse will celebrate its advent into the city of Dufur. The worst cut is said to be the first one about seven miles from the city, where, it is feared, during the rainy season there may be trouble from falling rocks. Some of the bridges are quite high; but none have been very difficult of construction. In time these wooden structures may be replaced by concrete and iron ones; but the bridges now erected will be perfectly safe for a long number of years and until travel is much more than it is present.

There are about one hundred men employed, and these are engaged in tracklaying. In places the grade has to be widened—especially in some of the cuts—and this consumes time. During the hot weather it was most difficult to keep the men, as the heat was so oppressive that the same crew would rarely be working two days at a time. Now that the weather is cool no difficulty is experienced in this regard.

A force of men is now engaged in grading a road on the hillside from the terminus of the Great Southern—beyond the old powder magazine—into the city, and, when this is completed it is expected that the railway will use the old road for part of its track to the river front, diverging at a proper point and crossing the O. R. & N. Co.'s track to the beach.

There is a locomotive and special cars on the Great Southern now, and these have been engaged in hauling lumber for the new warehouses at Wrentham and other points on the road. The farmers in the vicinity of the road occasionally come into town on the freight cars, and leave their wagons at home.

There will be a large crop of wheat this year at Dufur and on Tygh Ridge, and it is expected the Great Southern will be completed to Dufur in time to remove the present harvest. From persons employed on the road we are led to believe that Dufur will be reached about the 10th of next month, and that construction work will then stop until next spring or summer, when the road will be pushed much farther south.

a party of 20 more men arrive in a few days; accommodations for whom have been engaged at Eugene. There are seven surveyors in the first gang, accompanied by chainmen and other helpers.

The route to be mapped out is by way of Diamond Peak Pass, emerging at Crescent Lake, from which point free access is had to the Klamath and Lake county field. Later the line may be changed so as to strike for Summit or Diamond Lake, and thence by way of Pengra Pass. As Gould purchased the Nevada, California & Oregon recently, which road extends northwest from Reno to Madeline, California, and is projected on to Lakeview, it is surmised the surveying party is locating a route through the mountains and southward from there to Lakeview, so as to connect with that road, which will later join the main line of the Western Pacific from Salt Lake to San Francisco.

The surveying party is headed for the eastern part of Lane county, and the members admitted they would be in Eugene and vicinity for several months.

From Eugene surveys have been made for an independent line to Portland, and it is presumed later the line connecting Lakeview with Eugene will be carried north. Railroad men agree that the fact that seven surveyors are in the Lane county field means something important, as the party is too large to be maintained by an irresponsible or "paper" road.—Telegram.

IRRIGATION PROJECT BOOMS KLAMATH COUNTY

"Marked development is already in progress in the Klamath basin," says J. B. Lippincott, supervising engineer for California, in charge of the irrigation project on the Oregon-California boundary line. Continuing, he said:

"The value of town and farm lands in the basin has doubled since the surveys for the reclamation works were begun, and a good many people are coming in and taking lands. The reclamation service has bought our three existing small canal systems in the basin, and has succeeded in uniting all interests, both town and country, in favor of the Federal reclamation scheme. The population in this section is bound to grow rapidly from now on."

The Government surveys for the project began in July, 1904, and the final plans and specifications are ready for publication as soon as contracts between the landowners and the Government shall have been signed. It is said that already 98 per cent of the resident landowners have signed contracts to receive and pay for water for their lands. There has been some delay in getting the excess-land contracts signed, but this, it is said, will not materially affect the early completion of the works.

The question of railway facilities in connection with the Klamath basin project is an interesting one. The present main line railroad station for the basin is Thrall, distant 382 miles from Portland and 391 miles from San Francisco. Mr. Lippincott says the building of a road from Weed, on the Southern Pacific, to Klamath Falls is contemplated. The distance from Weed to Portland is about 410 miles, and to San Francisco something like 365 miles. Which of the two cities gets the major portion of the trade of the basin remains to be seen.

The solution of the "Shorty" Davis mystery is complicated somewhat by the illness of the sneepherder who is said to be the only live person who knows the murderer of Davis and is able to lead the officers to the spot where the remains of the murdered man lie. One night recently he returned home late and fell down stairs.—Telegram.

REGARDS TALE AS A HOAX

County Judge Bell Puts Little Stock in Story of Grand Jury Investigating Davis Murder.

County Judge W. A. Bell, who returned from Portland yesterday, says the rumors regarding the "Shorty Davis" murder mystery, which have found considerable space in two of the Portland papers, are, so far as he knows, without foundation. He has neither seen nor talked with Christian Feurbel, alleged to have told the circumstances attendant upon the murder of Davis about six years ago, and has not been in conference with District Attorney Menefee relative to the case as stated in the Portland papers. Judge Bell stated further this morning that if any evidence had been given to the Federal Grand Jury it had not as yet been placed in his hands, nor had Mr. Menefee received any information. These two, if any, would be the first to know of any developments.

Judge Bell regards the matter as a hoax pure and simple. He said Mr. Menefee went down to Portland every few days from The Dalles to receive medical treatment and the latter had probably been seen talking with the official from this county during these visits, from which the reporters on the metropolitan papers had deduced alleged facts as printed. Mr. Bell said the county authorities had exhausted their efforts years ago in the hopes of solving the mystery and would do nothing further unless there were tangible developments.

The Portland Telegram, which was the first to make note of the matter, spoke of it in the following manner:

As announced in The Telegram, the apprehension of the murderer of "Shorty" Davis, a Crook county sheepman, will probably be the outcome of the present session of the grand jury. Brought to Portland by information in The Telegram that the grand jury would investigate the killing of Davis, District Attorney Frank Menefee, of the Seventh District, arrived from The Dalles yesterday morning, and, together with Wells Bell, County Judge of Crook county, held a conference with District Attorney Francis J. Heney to ascertain what facts in relation to the case are in possession of the Government. The murder occurred about six years ago.

Mr. Menefee had to return to The Dalles on business, but will come back to Portland when he will go deeper into the case and will complete his investigation. It is understood that the matter will be turned over to the Crook county authorities, and that they will handle the case. However, developments have come out of the investigation of the range wars in the Crooked River country in connection with the supposed murder of Davis which can now be used to good advantage, and which would probably never have been discovered by the county authorities, so much greater are the opportunities of the Government for getting information than are at the command of the local officers. If any definite information can be gained as to the identity of the murderer of "Shorty" Davis, the Crook county officers say they will prosecute the case to the utmost and will bring the murderer to justice. There is still a reward of \$1000 offered by the county for the arrest and conviction of the murderer. The indictment or conviction of the man who killed Davis would not be a matter for the grand jury, but for the county officials are quite ready to handle the case, it has been, it is understood, given over to them to solve. The grand jury will,

however, probe the range wars in that section of the state, and will examine witnesses as to the facts surrounding the disappearance of Davis and other incidents of the troubles between sheepmen and cattlemen in the Crooked River country. It is said that much of this testimony will be used in the retrial of the Williamson case to show that the defendants were not hard pressed by the cattlemen at the time they are said to have secured the filing of fraudulent entries on lands adjoining the Williamson-Ganser sheep ranch, and were in fact related to and on friendly terms with the cattlemen.

GOLD FOUND IN LAKE COUNTY

Residents in the vicinity of Lakeview are much excited over gold discoveries which have been made in several localities in that region during the past two weeks. Assays of the findings have been made and show returns running as high as \$26 a ton. Most of the ore is free milling, the gold being found in porphyry. The discoveries have caused a rush of prospectors to that section and the Lakeview papers state that fully 200 men are now roaming over the hills in an effort to locate new claims. The Herald speaks of the Wade discovery as follows:

Birt Wade, A. M. Reid and Geo. Plummer, while prospecting in the hills about five or six miles from New Pine Creek panned some dirt out of a small stream near where their mine is located and detected a color in the pan. They followed up the stream, and then began panning the dirt at the head of it, finding colors in almost every pan washed out. Just above the head of this little stream is a dike of rotten porphyry. The prospectors panned some of the surface dirt of this dike and got colors of flour gold in every pan so that it could be seen with the naked eye. The boys have gone down about ten feet on this rock, and loose dirt and solid rock all pan out about the same. From a pan of dirt a string of gold from an inch to two inches in length is washed out. There seems to be an immense quantity of this ore, and experienced miners who have visited the prospect pronounce it exceptionally good. The owners of this claim have been made one or two quite tempting offers for their prospect but no deal has been consummated.

POKER PLAYERS TO APPEAR IN COURT

Unless warrants are refused the police by City Attorney McNary, five men who were found playing poker in the room of "Doc" L. W. Robertson at the Imperial hotel in Portland Friday afternoon will be arrested a second time and prosecuted, while Robertson will be prosecuted on the charge of conducting the game. Those implicated are Judge A. S. Bennett, W. F. Matlock, mayor of Pendleton; F. Matlock of Pendleton, the mayor's brother, Dr. J. M. Davis, a Portland dentist, and Charles Babb, an eastern Oregon cattleman.

The arrests are to be made because in gambling parlance an attempt was made to "pass the buck" to Mayor Lane for the release of the men. The mayor asserts that the blame must be placed where it belongs; he says the men were allowed to go before a report was made to him.

When taken to the police station the players met Police Cameron, who stated that as the case before whom the case would be tried if there was a prosecution he could do nothing. City Attorney McNary was summoned and had a talk with the player. He says he told them he did not favor a prosecution under the circumstances, but that they should better make their peace with the mayor. Then, according to his version, they saw the mayor, who after admonishing them to be careful in the future, said he would not insist on their prosecution.

Announcement

Boyd Adams having purchased an interest with C. C. Dunham in the New York Racket Store, and they having purchased the stock of Clothing and Furnishing Goods of B. Gormley desire to announce to the public that the new firm has moved into the building formerly occupied by Mr. Gormley and will do business in our new quarters under the firm name of the

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Yours respectfully,
DUNHAM & ADAMS



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Prineville, Oregon.

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