SUMPTER'S SMELTER

Forty-Ton Plant Begins Crushing Rock May 15.

ST. LOUIS COMPANY BUILDING IT

Promoters Confident That 80 Per Cent of the Eastern Oregon Ores Will Stand Smelting.

SUMPTER, Or., April 29.—The Union Smelter Manufacturing Company, of St. Louis, Mo., is building a 40-ton custom smelter here. It is practically completed, but will not begin crushing ore before May 15. The plant will cost between $12,000 and $15,000. Charles Laughlin, erecting engineer for the company, is in charge of construction. H. Meinhard, secretary of the company, is managing its affairs in Oregon.

The small size of the smelter has given rise to a great deal of speculation as to whether or not the enterprise will be a success, but the managers of the company are not worrying about what other people think of their business. "We intend to smelt ores with our furnace, and not with our mouths," said Engineer Laughlin. "I am satisfied that 80 per cent of the ores of this country will stand smelting, and we are putting in this plant to satisfy the mining people that the ores can be smelted. We are not putting in a larger smelter for the reason that our experience has taught us that small plants are best for new camps. We will enlarge our plant as fast as the business for it increases, and we hope by next Fall to have a 100-ton plant. We do not expect to have any trouble in handling the ores of this country without resorting to roasting. Fluxes in abundance are close at hand. We will handle no barren flux outside of a little lime rock. Such iron as is not in the gold rock we shall get out of iron rock carrying gold. There is plenty of silica. We expect to get ore from mines 200 and 300 miles away from Sumpter. As the plant stands, we shall at the first need ores of high value, but in time $5 and $6 rock will be treated."

The smelter will do what mining men know as compromise pyritic work. It has a 35-horsepower Erie engine, a 40-horsepower Erie boiler, a No. 4½ Baker blower, and a Blake crusher having a capacity of 30c tons in 24 hours. It has a 36-inch bosh 11 feet from the feed door to the tuyere line, with two feed doors and gooseneck connecting with the condenser. The furnace will evaporate its water the same as a boiler, using the steam to create a suction forcing the flue dust into the dust chamber, and using about one-eighth of the water of the overflow furnace. The cost of handling the water will be about $2 80 per 10,000 gallons, making a saving, based on the cost of fuel, of $5 every 24 hours.

The blower has a capacity of 2000 cubic feet of free air per minute. It is connected with a heating jacket over the boiler, taking the heat from the radiator of the boiler in transit to the furnace, making the air at the furnace point from 300 to 400 degrees, Fahrenheit.

The condenser is 8x8x10 feet, with a division in the center, making two compartments, into one of which the fumes from the furnace enter through the gooseneck, passing through a series of diaphragm plates and spray pipes, and forming a zigzag motion. The fines from the furnace in passing through the diaphragm plates become so impregnated with moisture that, combined with their own specific gravity, they fall to the bottom, and are recovered in the lake, or V-shaped form of the condenser. Passing into the slime boxes, they are mixed with milk of lime to the proper consistency and returned to the furnace for smelting. The other side of the condenser also has a diaphragm plates and spray pipes, with a 60-foot stack, making it impossible for any of the fines to get away. Nothing escapes through the stack, but gases and the volatile matter in the coke. The average saving in the condenser is 98 per cent. The loss of 2 per cent arises in the handling between the slime boxes and the furnace.

The furnace has two top holes, one for metal and another for slag. The slag is tapped into a fore-hearth, and remains there long enough before being drawn into the small pots for the metals to settle by their own weight. The slag loss is about 10 per cent, and the approximate concentration about 10 tons of ore into one ton of matte.

Besides the smelter building, the company will put up two buildings, each 80x100 feet, one for bedding and the other for sampling. The Sumpter Valley Railroad will build a switch to the works.

This brief description of the smelter and its equipment, which has been furnished to The Oregonian by Engineer Laughlin, will give mining men an idea of the measure of success that will attend the venture. Whatever may be the opinions of outsiders, the St. Louis people are going steadily ahead with their work, and are confident of success.

Quotations of Mining Stocks.

SPOKANE, May 1.—The closing bids for mining stocks today were:

Blacktail	$0 12	Rambler Cariboo	$0 25
Crystal	6½	Republic	97
Deer Trail Con.	9½	Reservation	9
Evening Star	9	Rossland Giant	2¼
Gold Ledge	2	Sullivan	11¾
Golden Harvest	1½	Tom Thumb	16½
Iron Mask	38	Waterloo	5¾
Jim Blaine	13½	Big Iron	2¾
Lone Pine Surp.	14½	Ecda	1 54
Morning Glory	5¾	Bodie	¼
Princess Maud	3½		

SAN FRANCISCO, May 1.—The official closing quotations for mining stocks today were:

Alta	$0 04	Justice	$0 02
Alpha Con	2	Mexican	28
Andes	8	Occidental Con	7
Belcher	12	Ophir	57
Best & Belcher	20	Overman	19
Bullion	2	Potosi	24
Caledonia	1 50	Savage	6
Challenge Con	15	Seg. Belcher	2
Chollar	21	Sierra Nevada	38
Confidence	80	Silver Hill	15
Con. Cal. & Va	1 55	Standard	3 60
Crown Point	12	Union Con	22
Gould & Curry	22	Utah Con	10
Hale & Norcross	22	Yellow Jacket	22

NEW YORK, May 1.—Mining stocks today closed as follows:

Cholar	$0 18	Ontario	$8 25
Crown Point	10	Ophir	84
Con. Cal. & Va	1 45	Plymouth	12
Deadwood	60	Quicksilver	1 50
Gould & Curry	20	do pref	7 50
Hale & Norcross	23	Sierra Nevada	35
Homestake	50 00	Standard	3 50
Iron Silver	6	Union Con	18
Mexican	25	Yellow Jacket	19

BOSTON, May 1.—Closing quotations:

Adventure	$0 04½	Humboldt	$0 75
Allouez M. Co.	1¾	Osceola	67
Amal. Copper	87½	Parrott	44½
Atlantic	24½	Quincy	1 36
Bonton & Mont.	3 00	Santa Fe Copper	5½
Butte & Boston	70	Tamarack	1 85
Cal. & Hecla	7 55	Utah Mining	29¾
Centennial	18½	Winona	3½
Franklin	15	Wolverines	40

PENSION FOR ARTHUR NICKLIN.

An Indian War Veteran Now Wholly Incapacitated.

WASHINGTON, April 27.—Senator McBride's bill granting a pension of $25 a month to Arthur I. Nicklin, of Eugene, Or., was recently favorably reported by Senator Gallinger, chairman of the pension committee, but the amount of the pension was cut down from $25 to $12 a month. The report on the bill is in part as follows:

"This bill proposes to pension at $25 per month Arthur I. Nicklin, of Eugene, Or. Nicklin served during the Indian wars in Oregon and Washington in 1855 and 1856. He first enlisted in Captain Benjamin Hayden's company, Oregon Volunteers, at Polk County, Or., in October, 1855, and was detailed for recruiting service and was actively engaged until January, 1856. He then enlisted in Captain B. F. Burch's company, Oregon Volunteers, and was engaged in that service until April, 1856. He then enlisted in Captain Marion Goff's company, Oregon Volunteers, organized at Salem, Or., and continued to serve until his services were no longer required.

"In the Winter of 1872-73 he was employed as physician and surgeon at Klamath Indian Agency, and while so employed the Modoc Indian war broke out, and he was ordered and impressed into the military service of the United States by General Wheaton, and, in obedience to his orders and commands, acted as physician and surgeon through the greater part of the said war. In the performance of said duties he encountered all kinds of privations and hardships, whereby his eyesight was severely injured and impaired and he became afflicted with hernia on both sides. Prior to this last service he was a strong and vigorous man, but since then his impaired vision has constantly increased until, from that cause and hernia, he is wholly incapacitated for earning a living.

"Claimant is now financially unable to support himself and family, and is also unable to earn a livelihood by his personal efforts, and is to some extent dependent on the charity of his personal friends.

"He has never made claim for pension at the Pension Bureau, as there is no existing law which will cover his case. The Indian wars of 1855 and 1856 are not covered by the act of July 27, 1892, but the Senate has recently passed a bill which gives the survivors of such wars a pensionable status.

"In view of the claimant's disability, incurred while serving in connection with the United States troops, and his deplorable financial condition, your committee is of the opinion that it is eminently proper that he should be pensioned."

WAS A PIONEER OF 1846.

George W. Buckingham of Monroe, Benton County.

MONROE, Or., May 1.—George W. Buckingham was born in Ohio July 24, 1830, and died near Monroe, Or., April 22, 1900. Mr. Buckingham came with his parents to Oregon in 1846, settled with them in the wilds of the West, and endured the hardships and privations common to the pioneers. He enlisted in November, 1864, in Company A, First Oregon Infantry. In 1874 he married Miss Alice McCain, who died 10 years ago. Three children survive—Manley, Ruby and Florence—all of whom reside on the home place. Mr. Buckingham was a member of the Methodist church, a kind father and a model citizen.

George W. Buckingham.

Descendant of Tabitha Brown.

FOREST GROVE, Or., May 1.—The funeral of Mrs. Emma Daugherty, of Mount Tabor, Or., who died of consumption, at the home of her family at this place, Sunday, aged 32 years, occurred today. She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Brown, pioneers of 1846-47, and was born in Washington County. For several years she attended Tualatin Academy and Pacific University.

Mrs. Daugherty was the great-granddaughter of Mrs. Tabitha Brown, who was a coworker with Rev. Harvey Clark in the founding of Tualatin Academy and Pacific University. Her brother, Dr. E. M. Brown, was appointed surgeon from Washington to Manila in the late war.

MINES SOLD FOR $30,000.

Salt Lake Capitalists Take the Iowa Group After Test.

PENDLETON, Or., May 1.—Joseph Basler, of this place, went today to Baker City to close a deal with Salt Lake capitalists for the purchase of the Iowa group of mines in that district. The Salt Lake people have made an offer of $30,000 for the five claims comprising the Iowa group, and the offer has been accepted by Mr. Basler, Jacob Sheuerman and August Stangler, of this place, who own the properties. They lie next to the Bowers, also to the Eccentric, which is owned in Portland. Three tunnels have been driven, one a distance of 600 feet. Besides this, a shaft has been sunk. The showing which has been made by the development work is very good, and drew forth the $30,000 offer, which was accepted.

Is Also Wanted in Albany.

ALBANY, Or., May 1.—H. C. Wright, the young man arrested in Portland for stealing a violin, is also wanted in Albany for the theft of a bicycle from Merrill Bros. Last week he rented a bicycle to go to Brownsville, but, instead went to Portland without reporting. A warrant has been issued for his arrest after the Portland case and another one in Salem shall be disposed of.

An Egg to Be Proud Of.

CENTRALIA, Wash., May 1.—W. A. Kelley, living north of this city, has a curiosity in the shape of a hen's egg. It is as large as the egg of a goose, and has an ordinary-sized hen's egg inside. The outside shell is very thin, and double, and is beautifully flowered. Mr. Kelley accidentally broke the outside shell, thus discovering the egg inside.

Oregon Notes.

Registration in Marion County is 952 short of the vote in 1898.

Chinese pheasants are reported in numbers on Wild Horse between Athena and Adams. They multiply very rapidly, and if let alone, Eastern Oregon would soon be as well stocked as the Willamette valley.

A petition of over 100 citizens of Sherman County and patrons of the postoffice formerly at De Moss, has been sent to the department at Washington, asking for the re-establishment of the postoffice there, and the appointment of M. F. S. Hinton as postmaster.

Alex. S. Peters, a well-known citizen of Douglas County, died at his home at Kellogg Sunday, after a brief illness. He was a brother of Captain G. W. Peters, of Oakland, and leaves a wife and three children, one daughter being Mrs. C. H. Maupin, of Kellogg.

J. S. Courtright, a brakeman on the O. R. & N., while his train was going through the snowshed near Union was struck on the head when on top of a furniture car, and knocked from the roof of the car and received serious injuries in the back. Had the train been running at a higher rate of speed he would have been killed. He was taken to La Grande, where he is receiving the best of care, and will recover.

The managers of the Sumpter Valley railroad Thursday gave orders to the employes of the logging train to unload the logs in the pond upon arriving in South Baker, which they promptly declined to do as it was out of their line of business. The whole crew, Conductor George Foster, Engineer Al Horton, Fireman Will Hammond and Brakeman A. L. Morris, ex-conductor on the Sumpter Valley railroad, resigned their positions. Another crew was immediately made up from old employes, which caused much hard feeling among railroad men.

MORE LICENSES IN SALEM

ORDINANCE FOR NEW SCHEDULE FAVORED BY COUNCIL.

A Chamber to Accommodate Public Gatherings to Be Provided in the City Hall.

SALEM, Or., May 1.—The Salem City Council has appointed a committee to investigate the matter of fitting up the third floor of the City hall for public meetings. E. P. McCornack, owner of the old opera house, which is being remodeled, offered to give the city the proscenium of the Opera House to be used in fitting up the armory. As there is no public hall in the city suitable for public gatherings, the offer will probably be accepted, and a stage erected in the armory. An ordinance was passed providing that all sidewalks hereafter constructed in the business portion of the city must be of concrete.

A general license ordinance was introduced and passed to second reading. It is in the nature of an occupation tax, and if passed is expected to produce a revenue of $1000 per year. The principal license fees proposed are as follows: Steamboat companies, $50; theaters, $120; billiard and pool tables, $10 each; hotel runners, $12; cigar stores with pastime resorts attached, $50; restaurants and ice cream parlors, first class, $50; second class, $30, the owner to decide which class of place he runs; wood saw, $10; junk shop, $20; lawyers, doctors, dentists, veterinaries, $5; nickle-in-the-slot machines, $24.

An ordinance was also introduced and passed two readings, providing that telephone companies shall pay a license of 10 cents per month for each main line telephone used, and 5 cents per month for each party line telephone.

City Marshal Arrested.

City Marshal Gibson was today arrested by Night Policeman Smith on a warrant issued from the Recorder's court, charging disorderly conduct. The conduct complained of is language alleged to have been used regarding Pearl Miller, a witness in the Smith-Gibson damage suit tried last week in Justice Johnson's court. The case will be tried at 2 o'clock tomorrow.

Where Joe Meek Stood.

In accordance with his appointment for that purpose by the Oregon Historical Society, Governor Geer will tomorrow go to Butteville and locate the exact spot where Joe Meek stood when, in a mass meeting of settlers, he called for a division of the settlers upon the question of a provisional government. F. X. Matthieu is the only person living who was present at that meeting, and he will locate the exact spot where the event occurred. George H. Hines, secretary of the Oregon Historical Society and F. H. Saylor, grand secretary of the Native Sons of Oregon, will also be present tomorrow. The spot designated by Mr. Matthieu will be marked temporarily with a stone and will later be marked with an appropriate monument.

The meeting referred to took place on May 2, 1843, exactly 57 years ago tomorrow. By the division called for by Meek, a vote of 52 to 50 was secured in favor of the formation of a civil government in accordance with the plan favored by the American settlers, the French Canadians voting against it.

Money for School Fund.

Clerk M. L. Chamberlin, of the State Land Board, today paid into the State Treasury $15,122 88 collected by him during the month of April. This is the largest sum collected in any month since last August. The money is divided among the various funds as follows:

School principal	$15,661 43
School interest	2,489 52
University principal	66 00
University interest	64 50
Agricultural College, principal	746 85
Agricultural College interest	22 66
Tide land	32 42
Swamp land	40 00

Ten Counties Have Paid Up.

Three counties today paid their 1899 state taxes in full, Marion County remitting $7,995 64; Clatsop, $16,166 84 and Baker, $17,487 48. Multnomah County also made a payment of $45,000 upon her 1899 state taxes. The counties that have paid their state taxes in full are Baker, Benton, Clatsop, Columbia, Harney, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake and Sherman.

State Treasurer Moore today received a remittance of $281 50 from the Sun Insurance Company in payment of the 2 per cent. tax upon its net receipes. Every insurance company liable to the tax has now paid the amount due.

Clerk J. J. Murphy, of the Supreme Court, today turned into the state treasury $583 05, the amount of fees collected by him during the month of April.

A remittance of $1730 has been received from the National Home for Disabled Soldiers, to be credited to the Oregon Soldier's Home fund.

Salem's Building Boom.

There is a good-sized boom on in Salem building circles. The contractors in charge of the construction of the new Odd Fellows' Temple are working as large a force as possible in making the excavation, and are rushing the work of hauling stone for the foundation. The dirt taken out of the excavation is used to make fills in low places in Salem streets.

Work was begun today on the changes to be made in the opera-house block, and that building will be remodeled throughout.

The stone foundation for the new Hansen & Landon planing mill was completed today, and the work of erecting the building is being rushed.

Marion County Fusionists.

The Democrats and Populists have called a "citizens' mass meeting" to be held in this city Friday. It is now reported that, after making an effort to secure signatures to a petition for the meeting, not enough names could be secured, and the project has been abandoned. The ticket put up in opposition to the Republicans will therefore lack the seeming ratification of a citizens' meeting, and will stand before the people as a fusion ticket. It will, however, be called a "citizens' ticket." The Populists have not agreed to all the Democratic candidates, and the Populist County Central Committee having adjourned sine die, no ratification of the Democratic candidates for County Judge and Recorder can be made. Petitions are being circulated for the nomination of T. Y. McClellan, Populist candidate for County Assessor, and George L. Brown, Populist candidate for the Legislature. Professor J. J. Krapps was tendered a joint nomination for County School Superintendent, but he declined to run unless the nomination should be made by a citizens' convention. He may, however, be nominated by petition and placed on the ticket without his consent.

Greene Instead of Ramsay.

A petition was circulated today among Salem Democrats for the purpose of nominating Thomas G. Greene, of Portland, as candidate for Supreme Judge. Greene is to take the place left vacant by Judge Ramsay's failure to file his acceptance. The petition was signed by all Democrats to whom it was presented.

Capital City Brevities.

Owing to a failure of the Military Board to hold a meeting at Portland yesterday, Adjutant-General Gantenbein did not come to the capital today to confer with Governor Geer regarding the holding of the encampment of the National Guard. It is expected that the Governor and Adjutant-General will hold a conference tomorrow and perhaps decide upon a place for holding the encampment.

Harry Wright, an ex-student at the Reform School, was today given a preliminary hearing on a charge of burglary before Justice of the Peace Johnson, and was bound over to appear at the next term of the Circuit Court. Wright was charged with stealing a revolver from the residence of Joseph Miller, and some harness from the barn of A. McGill. At the hearing today he admitted the truth of the charge, and waived examination.

The local branch of the G. A. R. has appointed the following committee to make arrangements for the observance of Memorial day: B. H. Bradshaw, J. Q. Barnes, G. W. Davis, L. D. Henry, D. W. Matthews. The committee will meet tomorrow evening to determine the nature of the exercises to be held on Decoration day.

Local dealers in wool and mohair say that there is very little being done in mohair, as all the clips not yet sold are small. Small lots are sold occasionally, bringing 27 cents.

The receipts of the County Clerk's office for the month of April were $268; of the Recorder's office, $188.

The Asylum Board today let contracts for furnishing 3000 cords of wood for the Asylum, the bulk of the wood to be furnished at $2 74 per cord.

CAUGHT A FISHING OUTFIT.

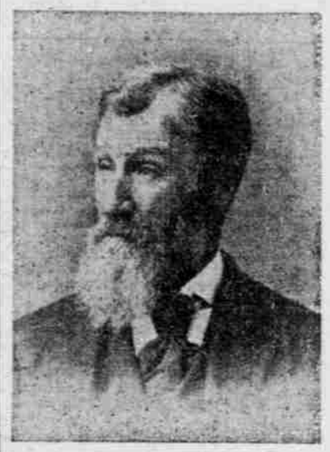
Taken With a Dozen Fresh Salmon Illegally Caught in Clackamas.

OREGON CITY, May 1.—Deputy Fish Commissioners Loughery and Baldwin captured a large fishboat, net and dozen salmon, a short distance above the Clackamas hatchery. The outfit was brought here tonight and locked up, pending confiscation proceedings.

There is a good run of what fishermen call half-salmon in the Willamette, and profitable hauls are being made. These half-grown Chinooks are now bringing 6 cents per pound, in some instances, the buyers receiving the fish here. The attaches of the State Fish Commission state that this run is young hatchery salmon, and that they range from 2 to 3 years old.

The Deputy Fish Commissioner will go to the steelhead hatchery on Salmon River tomorrow to relieve Superintendent Tom Brown for a few days.

Superintendent S. W. Downing, of the Clackamas hatchery, is now hatching 25,000 rainbow trout eggs, recently shipped from California. After sufficient development takes places, the young fry will be turned loose in a trout stream near Pendleton, by request of the Oregon Fish & Game Association.



Ex-Sheriff James P. Combs, of Crook County, an Oregon pioneer of 1852, who died at Prineville, Or., April 3, aged 77.

Woman in Barn Insane.

This morning an unknown German woman was found in a farmer's barn, at Milwaukie, apparently insane and unable to give an account of herself. Roadmaster Counsell took the woman in his wagon and started to bring her to Oregon City, but upon reaching Clackamas Station she escaped from his custody. The Constable took her in charge and delivered the woman to the Sheriff. She was examined before the County Judge and committed to the insane asylum. The woman in an unintelligent way gave her name as Ida Mary Vinegar, but no further information could be elicited, as she seemed incapable of giving any account of herself. She is apparently about 40 years old, medium height, light complexion and weighs about 150 pounds.

Poor Outlook for Hops.

Road Supervisor E. L. Baker stated today that the hops in the southern part of the county did not give promise of over two-thirds of a yield, and growers are more or less discouraged. The majority of the growers put their product in the pool, and are getting small returns. In the vicinity of Marks Prairie and Barlow the hops are making very slow growth, and one farmer says that the growers are not giving the yards the usual careful cultivation.

Two New Walla Walla Unions.

Two new unions have been formed in Walla Walla. The cigar-makers organized Sunday. They elected the following officers: President, F. J. Heister; vice-president, J. M. Fiedler; financial secretary, R. J. Boehm; recording secretary, Charles F. Troeger; treasurer, C. J. Tewalt; sergeant-at-arms, A. Krahl. The object of this organization is to create a demand for home product, and to boom the blue label of the cigar-makers, and all union labels.

On Friday last, Thomas J. McCauley, of Seattle, president of the State Association of Horseshoers and Blacksmiths, organized a branch in Walla Walla, every blacksmith and horseshoer in the city being a member. The officers elected were: Marshall Martin, president; Frank Leroux, vice-president; W. E. Williams, secretary; Alex McAllister, treasurer.

The hardware dealers of the Pacific Coast have united, and a man must have a union card to obtain materials from them.

Why Murphy Was Arrested.

WALLACE, Idaho, May 1.—P. D. Murphy, referred to in Washington dispatches, was arrested at Burke by a Deputy Marshal, Thursday, for intimidation and inciting trouble, and calling miners "scabs." He was discharged today.

Shingle Mill at Goshen Burned.

NEW WHATCOM, Wash., May 1.—Fire this morning destroyed the Hastings shingle mill, at Goshen, together with 1,000,000 shingles. The loss is $3000; insurance, $3000.

New Postmaster at Tamarack.

WASHINGTON, May 1.—Merrill Vas Tassell was today appointed postmaster at Tamarack, Umatilla County, Oregon, vice J. D. Gish, resigned.

Washington Notes.

Leo Simmerman has been appointed Postmaster at Alto, Columbia County, vice Anna Servis, resigned.

A weekly newspaper will be established at Dayton under the management and editorship of Fred Marvin, of Spokane. It is said that the paper will contain 20 pages, will be known as the Constitution, and will declare its allegiance to the Democratic party.

Ass Churchill, one of the oldest residents of Stevens County, died Saturday at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. W. H. Morrison, of Kettle Falls. Mr. Churchill had reached the age of 92 years, and was possessed of all his faculties until the last.

The Yakima National Bank has been authorized by the Washington Irrigation Company to deliver $250,000 to the former owners of the Sunnyside Canal, on the confirmation of the sale of the Yakima Investment Company's property, made on March 6. The property was purchased at forced sale by the Washington Irrigation Company, which is composed in part of the California Trust Company, of San Francisco; Ladd & Tilton, of Portland; Blaine-Denny estate, of Seattle, and the General Electric Company, of Boston.

WHO OWNS EUGENE LAND?

VALIDITY OF CERTAIN COUNTY TITLES CALLED IN QUESTION.

Suit to Determine Whether County Can Alienate Title to Land Given for Public Purposes.

EUGENE, Or., May 1.—The case of W. T. Campbell and George Fisher vs. the Eugene Loan & Savings Bank, E. O. Potter, County Judge and W. T. Bailey and H. D. Edwards, Commissioners, was filed in the Circuit Court today. The object of the suit is to set aside and nullify certain deeds given by the County Court to a strip of property around what is known as the Public Square. This public square lies about in the center of the city, and is occupied by county buildings and parks.

When the Town of Eugene was originally laid out it was on property which belonged to Charnel Mulligan and Eugene F. Skinner, they having acquired title from the Government under the donation land laws. A portion of each of these adjoining donation claims was laid out in town lots, and the City of Eugene thus got its start.

Mr. Mulligan, being public-spirited and at the same time hoping to create a good demand for his town lots, deeded to Lane County a certain tract to be used for county Courthouse and other buildings. And the county, after accepting the gift, opened two city streets through the tract, Eighth and Oak streets, intersecting in the center of the tract, and a street 100 feet wide around the square. This divided the county's tract into four equal squares, and on one of these was erected the Courthouse, while another was used for the county jail. No buildings have been erected on the remaining two quarters, and trees have been planted to give shade, and they are used as a sort of public park.

There has never been any use for a 100-foot street around this property, and, as it was adjacent to business property, the owners of the abutting property have been allowed the use of 34 feet of this street. On it they have built woodsheds, cheap warehouses, etc. They had the use of the land, but would not build permanent improvements, because they had no title. Thus it became unsightly, and plans have long been discussed by which it could be improved. The county had dedicated it to the city as a street, and therefore could not sell. Some also claimed the county could not sell any part of the property, on account of the manner in which it acquired title. The present County Court went at the work with an idea of settling it for all time. In the first place, the street had to be vacated before any sales could be made, and the City Council took proper action vacating 34 feet of the 100-foot street, and the property thus vacated reverted to the county. Then the property-owners were offered the 34 feet abutting on their respective lots at a price agreed upon by appraisement. Nearly all of them were glad to pay the price and get title to the property. Campbell and Fisher were the only ones owning property on Willamette street which was affected who did not accept the proposition. After they had refused to purchase the 34 feet between their property and the street, the strip was sold at public auction to the highest bidder.

The Eugene Loan & Savings Bank bought that adjacent to its lot, and has cleared the ground and begun work on a fine new building.

Campbell and Fisher have said that as soon as any building was attempted on this property they would ask for an injunction, and they have filed this suit. The result will be to settle the matter of the validity of the proceedings resulting in the sale of the land. If the acts of the County Court are sustained, it will settle all dispute over the title to quite a number of parcels of land, on which substantial structures will be erected.

BIDS FOR WATER BONDS.

Nearly 7 Per Cent Premium Offered for Those of Baker City.

BAKER CITY, Or., May 1.—The City Council tonight opened the bids for the $100,000 of bonds for the building of the gravity water system. The bids were as follows:

N. W. Harris & Co., of Chicago, $100,000, with a premium of $6801, and accompanied by a certified check for $5400.

The Rudolph-Clayton Company, of Cincinnati, O., $100,000, with a premium of $5000, and accompanied by a check for $5300.

W. J. Hayes & Sons, of Cleveland, O., $100,000, with a premium of $5571, and accompanied by a certified check for $5280.

S. A. Kean, of Chicago, $100,000, without a premium or check.

Morris & Whitehead, of Portland, $100,000, with a premium of $5235, and accompanied by a check for $5000.

The bids were referred to the finance committee for consideration and recommendation, and the committee will report at a special meeting of the Council, to be held at 1 P. M. tomorrow.

Escape of Men Held for Murder.

News reached this city today of the escape of Frank Turner and Thomas Keeton from the jail at Canyon City, where they were held for the murder of Thomas Eagleton at Granite, about six weeks ago. The prisoners were removed to a room at the top of the jail building while the main cell was being fumigated, and effected their escape through a window. Another prisoner accompanied the pair, but was afterwards captured. The Sheriff of Grant County has offered a reward of $400 for their capture.

THE QUARANTINE STATION.

It Will Be Ready for Use by the Middle of July.

ASTORIA, May 1.—It is now definitely settled that the construction of the Columbia River quarantine station, near Knappton, will be far enough advanced by the middle of July so that the station can then be used. Quarantine Officer Hastings has received word from the department at Washington that the plans for the disinfecting wharf and buildings have been approved, and bids for the construction of them will be opened by the supervising architect on May 28. This wharf is to be located 650 feet from the shore line, along the edge of the channel, and will be 250 feet long and 60 feet wide. At its outer edge there will be 23 feet of water at extreme low tide and a ship's length further out the depth is 35 feet, sufficient to accommodate the deepest draft vessels afloat. Two buildings are to be erected on this wharf, each 100x30 feet. One of them is for the disinfecting plant and the other is to contain the bathrooms and laundry for the use of passengers held in quarantine. The size of these establishments will permit the disinfecting of the persons and baggage of from 500 to 700 passengers a day.

While these buildings are but a small portion of what are contemplated for the station, they are the ones most urgently needed, and, under the provisions of the specifications, they must be completed within 60 days after the contract shall be let. There is an old cannery building on the property, and it is Dr. Hastings' intention to use this structure temporarily as quarters for quarantined passengers, should occasion require. The plans for the shore buildings have not yet been approved, but they will be quite extensive. Among them will be quarters for about 1200 people, residences of the quarantine officer and his assistants, as well as separate quarters for the officers of quarantined vessels and their cabin passengers. It will probably be several months before all this work will be completed, but as the disinfecting machinery has been shipped from the East and will be ready for installation as soon as the buildings on which bids are called for are erected, the most important part of the plant will soon be in operation. Dr. Hastings says he will continue to board vessels in the lower harbor as heretofore, and only those on which some work is to be done will be taken to the station.

BIG FISHING COMPANY.

One Formed in Minneapolis With $1,000,000 Capital.

NEW WHATCOM, Wash., May 1.—The North Pacific-Norway Fishing & Packing Company, with a capital stock of $1,000,000, has been formed in Minneapolis to engage in the fishing business and erect canneries in Alaska. Whatcom is named as the Pacific headquarters.

A Strange Mining Peril.

Silver City (Idaho) Avalanche.

William Davidson, who has a contract on the General Conner mine, came near losing his life last Tuesday. He was working alone in the lower tunnel and had gone in after eating his dinner to clean up from the shots fired in the forenoon.

According to the survey, the tunnel was supposed to pass 20 feet below the old shaft connecting with the surface workings, and Bill had no thought of being in dangerous proximity to the shaft, but about the first lick with his pick to take down a loosened bowlder, the water came. He heard it coming, and reached for his candlestick, when he was struck on the side of the head with a rock forced out by the flood of water. There was a wheelbarrow in the tunnel, and the first rush of water threw him beyond it, and undoubtedly saved his life, as the wheelbarrow wedged across the tunnel and broke the force of the current. Bruised and bleeding, with his eyes and mouth full of gravel, and nearly drowned, Mr. Davidson made his way out of the tunnel and got to his cabin. He wore hip gumboots and they were packed so full of sand that he had to cut them off. The shaft which he unwatered was 50 feet deep, and connected with old stopes, and the flow of water therefore was under heavy pressure.

Two Miners Missing.

KASLO, B. C., May 1.—It is feared that Eric Erickseon and Pete Foss have found their tombs in the great Lardo Glacier. Their bodies will remain in their sepulchre of ice till snow melts in June. They left here last Fall for their claims on Bear Creek. They did not come out, and their families are afraid that the two are among the long roll of dead miners.

Medford Saloon Burglarized.

MEDFORD, Or., May 1.—A. M. Helm's saloon was entered by burglars last night and money and stock amounting to about $50 taken. The burglar, supposedly a tramp, forced his way in by a rear window late in the night, after the night-watchman went off duty.

Salmon Stolen at Nestucca.

SHERIDAN, May 1.—About 100 cases of salmon were stolen from the Little Nestucca cannery a few days ago. The cans and cases were unlabeled, and will be difficult to trace. A reward of $100 is offered by the owners for the arrest and conviction of the guilty parties.

Humphrey Bill Signed.

ALBANY, N. Y., May 1.—Governor Roosevelt today signed Senator Humphrey's bill amending the general corporation law prohibiting foreign stock corporations from doing business in the state where the word "trust, bank, banking, insurance, indemnity, guarantee, guaranty, savings, investment, loan or benefit" is a part of its corporate title, except it conforms to the banking or insurance law of the State.

Siegel-Cooper Co. Incorporated.

TRENTON, N. J., May 1.—The Siegel-Cooper Company, capital $24,000,000, was incorporated here today to deal in goods of all kinds in New York, Chicago and other cities.

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