

40-CENT LUMBER

Northern Pacific Not Likely to Quote Desired Rate.

TOO MANY EMPTY CARS WESTWARD

Mellen Does Not Like to Disturb Relations With Puget Sound.

TACOMA, Wash., Oct. 21.—President Charles E. Mellen, of the Northern Pacific Railway Company, had no sooner reached Tacoma than he was notified that a delegation had been organized to see him. The delegation was headed by United States Senator Addison G. Foster, and its mission was to secure a 40-cent rate on lumber from Puget Sound to Missouri River territory.

Some time in August the lumber manufacturers of the Puget Sound country began to take a serious view of the situation. For some time the principal lumber market has been California, inaugurating a reduced rate for the Southern Pacific Railroad has been supplying the California market with Oregon lumber. There is a lot of 60 yards to be supplied in the territory referred to, but some of these yards are partially supplied with what is known as "Bull Pine" lumber, thus still further curtailing the market for Washington lumbermen. The Northern Pacific and Burlington railroad managements seem to have recognized the force of the lumbermen's arguments and are in the right California to compromise on the 40-cent rate at various points reached by the Burlington, in the vicinity of Cheyenne, Wyoming and Denver, Colorado, and a few other points in the coveted territory.

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It was apparent from the first that nothing could be gained in the way of a concession from the president of the Northern Pacific. He gave his visitors respectful attention and then leaned forward in his chair and said: "The Northern Pacific is already hauling more empty cars west than it can do with profit. It will not pay to increase the equipment for a haul one way. These traffic matters are in the hands of Mr. Hannaford, and I will take this up with him."

It is a well-known fact that President Mellen does not care for anything that would prejudice the interests of the Union Pacific. The Union Pacific is the strongest ally that President Mellen has ever secured. As the traffic is now distributed he evidently does not care to disturb the equilibrium of business. He looks forward to the time, and that very soon, when the Union Pacific will come to Tacoma and Seattle. Another track will be laid for the exclusive use of the Union Pacific, and it will be done by simply widening the present track and doubling the number of tracks. The Union Pacific will become a tenant of the expensive terminal facilities at both Tacoma and Seattle.

MAKING A PERSISTENT FIGHT.

Efforts of Puget Sound Lumbermen to Get Into Oregon's Field.

SEATTLE, Wash., Oct. 21.—The lumbermen of Washington have been making a very persistent fight to secure a new field for, approximately, 20,000,000 feet of lumber annually. This field is now supplied almost entirely by the yellow pine manufacturers of the South and the white pine mills of Michigan. The territory which is being so earnestly sought comprises the states of Kansas, Nebraska, Wyoming, Colorado and South Dakota, and is reached by the Union Pacific, the Burlington and the Great Northern roads. The number of yards in that district is estimated at 300, with an annual consumption of over 20,000 car loads. Nebraska leads off with 500 yards, Kansas has about 100, Colorado, 60, Wyoming 30, and South Dakota 20. The Pacific Northwest heretofore shipped into this territory about 30 car loads a year, and it is said by many of the lumbermen that if a rate of 40 cents per hundred pounds could be secured from this section to the Missouri river points it would replace yellow and white pine to a great extent. It is claimed that if fire would break even with yellow and white pine, that the state of Washington would ship 10,000 car loads to the territory referred to instead of 300 as at present.

JUDGE ELLIOTT DEAD.

Well Known in Oregon for Last Forty Years.

ASTORIA, Oct. 21.—Judge Milton Elliott, one of the best-known characters in Oregon for the past forty years, died this morning of old age. He was born in Virginia on March 23, 1815, and came to the coast in the 40s and first made his home in Oregon City. He was a lawyer by profession and practiced at the first court regularly organized in this state. He has made his home in Astoria for the past twenty years, but recently has not been in active practice and has spent the winter in California. His only known relative on this coast is Miss Olivia Elliott, who resides here and is almost 90 years of age.

Old Citizen of Astoria.

S. T. McKean, an old and respected resident of this city, died last evening after an illness of many months. He was 69 years of age, and had been a resident of Oregon for over 50 years, having crossed the plains with his parents in 1847. For a number of years previous to his last illness he was in the employ of the late Captain George Flavel and the representative of his estate, Mr. McKean leaves a widow and three children. His funeral will be held on Tuesday, under the auspices of the Pioneer and Historical Society and the A. O. U. W., of which order he was a prominent member. The interment will be in the old Clatsop cemetery.

Larger Field Necessary.

One of the chief arguments put forth by the lumbermen is that it is absolutely necessary to secure a larger field for their product. During the past 12 months the number of saw mills in the state of Washington has increased nearly 25 per cent, making the total number of mills in the state over 200. The exact number of new mills built or old ones reopened is 46 for a period of one year. The capacity of these additional mills is put at something over 2,000,000 feet per day and it is estimated that the total capacity of the mills of the state is over 7,000,000 feet per day, and their capacity for a single year is upwards of 2,000,000,000 feet. The roll shipments during 1899 aggregated 225,000,000 feet or, in round numbers, 15,000 car loads. The cargo shipments amount to 425,000,000 feet, leaving it estimated 1,500,000,000 feet surplus lumber. No deduction is made, however, from the

GETTING BETTER WATER

EIGHT MILES OF PIPE LINE FOR BAKER CITY SUPPLY.

Gravity System to Supersede a Steam Power Plant—Democrats Organize for County Work.

BAKER CITY, Oct. 21.—Baker City's water system is being pushed to completion. If weather favors as it did last Fall, by December 31 the city mains will be filled with mountain water, as pure as that of Butte or any other of the main thoroughfares of the city. It is this last alternative that was finally agreed upon. The closing of Fourth street will work a hardship upon the residents that part of town lying north of the railroad track, but it was thought that this would be more than counterbalanced by the retention within the heart of the city of the roundhouse and depot. A mass meeting of the citizens came, after much discussion, to this conclusion:

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OREGON'S ADVANTAGES.

Washington lumbermen also assert that Oregon has certain advantages over lumbermen in this state which the railroads of this state should recognize. It is claimed that logs can be purchased in Oregon at \$3.50 to \$5 per thousand, while in Puget Sound they cost \$4.50 to \$5.50 per thousand. Wages at Portland it is stated, are also lower than on Puget Sound, ranging from \$1.40 to \$1.50 per day, as against \$2.25 on Puget Sound. The same argument is used with reference to the alleged low wages prevailing in the South, which enables the pipe manufacturers to dispose of their product in competition with fire to very great advantage.

The lumbermen of the Pacific Northwest are also endeavoring to induce the government to apply for all contracts for government buildings. They in many instances do not insist upon the exclusive use of fir, but ask that fir be placed in competition with yellow pine when proposals are asked for the construction of government buildings or any government work. In all tests that have heretofore been made by the government of the yellow pine lumber, yellow pine has taken a very large figure and has been well known among government officials, who in many instances give preference over fir, specifying in a general way, "yellow pine or other good quality lumber." With a clause of that kind in the specifications the officer in charge usually accepts the lumber specified and does not consider the merits of fir.

The Washington lumbermen are not entirely unanimous regarding the propriety of forcing their products into Denver and what is locally termed "the Oregon territory." They do declare that the 40-cent rate will possibly bring about a revolution by the Oregon dealers and an invasion of "the Washington territory" by the Webfoot lumbermen. At present it is generally understood that the Oregon City now has, or is likely to have for many years, Elk Creek, at its lowest stages, is reported to afford a flow of 30 cubic feet per second. A considerable increase of population will need to be made before the demand will exceed the supply. The entire system when completed will cost about \$25,000.

At a point a few yards from the reservoir, the water shaft is being sunk, which will enable the city to utilize the splendid power given by the 600-foot fall for an electric-light or other plant. In view of the fact that the city is now in contract now in force and the general dissatisfaction of business men with the amount of light furnished the city, plans are already discussed for installing a city electric-light plant. Such use of the water would not deteriorate it in any manner for drinking purposes, and if not turned to good account in this manner, the excellent power will go to waste.

Democracy have completed their

organization in Baker County and are now at work for the campaign. By the La Grande City Council and the O. R. & N. Co. Johnson was chosen to fill the office. J. F. Clark, E. P. Perkins, W. C. Hindman, D. M. Kelly, L. Crabb and Jud Ballentine were elected vice-presidents, H. C. Eastman secretary, W. James treasurer, and State Senator William Smith, C. W. James, J. G. Foster, S. B. Kidder and James York were appointed as executive committee. A membership list between 200 and 300 was reported for the club, which has a branch organization at Bourne reported to have nearly 70. It was determined to have local speakers visit the smaller towns and conduct of the county once a week if possible.

Articles of Incorporation have been filed

here for the K. K. & E. Mining Company with headquarters and principal place of business at Sumpter. A general mining business, operation of electric-lighting plants or electric-power systems is set forth as its purpose. C. P. Keat, William Smith and M. Kane are the incorporators. The capital stock is \$15,000.

REACHED AN AGREEMENT.

LA GRANDE AND O. R. & N. CO. Both to Be Accommodated.

LA GRANDE, Oct. 21.—An agreement has been entered into between the La Grande City Council and the O. R. & N. Co., extending certain privileges to the company which it has not heretofore enjoyed. Yesterday Mayor Berg received a copy of the agreement, signed by President Mohler, and this is accepted as the conclusion of a matter which has agitated the local public for some time. The question arose out of the recent burning of the old depot. There was the general and very natural demand among the citizens that the new depot be built south of the old site, between the tracks and town, and this request the company was ready to grant. But a serious difficulty arose. This would mean the changing of the main track, which would restrict still further the already too limited switchyard, rendering it impossible to make up the large freight trains now being handled. The company therefore found it necessary either to build the depot to the east of town, near the Alliance mill, to remove the roundhouse elsewhere, or to extend the tracks across Fourth street, one of the main thoroughfares of the city. It is this last alternative that was finally agreed upon. The closing of Fourth street will work a hardship upon the residents that part of town lying north of the railroad track, but it was thought that this would be more than counterbalanced by the retention within the heart of the city of the roundhouse and depot. A mass meeting of the citizens came, after much discussion, to this conclusion:

HOPS MAY GO KING

THE DOMESTIC DEMAND IS NOT YET SUPPLIED.

Larger Proportion Than Usual Left in the Hands of Growers—Saving Apples and Prunes.

SALEM, Oct. 21.—There is quite a general feeling among hop men that before the home market shall have been supplied the price of hops will go to fabulous prices. It will be remembered that early in the season hops were contracted at 9 to 12 cents per bushel, but by some means the growers managed to get money for picking purposes without the extensive contracting that has prevailed in the past. Contracting was slow from the first, and even the dealers were surprised when the season closed to see what a small

IF BRYAN WERE PRESIDENT

The United States Treasury Would Be Emptied Into the Rapacious Maw of the Silver Trust.

—Philadelphia Examiner.

If none better were to be had, perhaps by this season would be taken, and other cities less favorably located would be glad to take what Baker will throw away. But Nature has placed within close proximity the Elkhorn spur of the Elk mountains, and within two miles of city can be had the beds of snov which feed Elk Creek, from which the new system is laid.

Elk Creek rises about 25 miles from Baker City and takes a southerly course that brings it less than six miles away before joining the Powder River. It was formerly used to wash the placers at and near Auburn, where the John Marshall of Eastern Oregon commenced work 40 years ago. In order to secure the water of Elk Creek, all of which was placed, the water rights of a large placer-mining company had to be purchased at a cost of \$100,000.

Head works were put in the creek eight and one-half miles from Baker City, this project has been completed already. For about seven miles a 14-inch terra cotta pipe is used, but where the line leads down the hill on the edge of the valley, wrought iron pipe, capable of withstanding high pressure, takes the place of terra cotta. A good portion of the line has already been laid. Just one mile from the city a reservoir is being constructed at an elevation of 30 feet above the city level. Its capacity is 1,100,000 gallons. Heavy concrete walls are being laid, which will be finished off with a fine concrete surface and lined with asphalt. That no faults may occur in this work, the city has secured the services of O. C. Stearn, supervising engineer of the city, who will see that the proceedings closely. This reservoir will give a pressure of 88 pounds to the square inch in the city mains, which will throw a stream over any building that Baker City now has, or is likely to have for many years. Elk Creek, at its lowest stages, is reported to afford a flow of 30 cubic feet per second. A considerable increase of population will need to be made before the demand will exceed the supply. The entire system when completed will cost about \$25,000.

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Flight of Natives in Interior of British Columbia.

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Chinaman Killed a Negro, an Indian and Chief of Police.

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"We Are Pleased in Philippines by Power Higher Than Human."

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was the orator of the evening, and his speech was the feature of the meeting, which attracted a large and appreciative audience throughout his discourse, which lasted an hour and a half. Upon the Philippine question Judge Lowell said: "We are placed in the islands by a power higher than human influence, and there we will stay until the flower of civilization shall bloom in its beauty and the seeds of American liberty there planted shall find fruition in the heart of every islander and the hope of every tribe. He poorly measures the conscience and courage of American manhood who dreams that the Republic will prove recreant either to the trust the world reposes in it or the responsibility humanity imposes upon it."

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years ago carried torches in the procession, among them being Charles Webster, a prominent farmer of Glen, in this county.

AWARDED \$5000 DAMAGES.

Verdict at St. Helens for Loss of an Arm.

ST. HELENS, Or., Oct. 21.—Last night the jury in the case of Bowers vs. The Star Lumbering & Logging Company returned a verdict for \$5000 damages in favor of the plaintiff. This was one of the hardest-fought legal battles ever witnessed in Columbia County courts. Three days were spent in presenting the case to the jury. The action for \$10,000 damages was brought by the plaintiff, a well-known farmer for the loss of Bowers' right arm. On or about the 7th of March, 1899, Bowers was engaged to act as brakeman upon the logging company's train, then hauling logs from the mill at St. Helens to the bridge Bowers fell in such a manner that his right arm was severed from his body about two inches from the shoulder joint. He was taken to the hospital and cared for, the company paying hospital fees and doctor bills.

Wills made no reply, but quietly named six years as their sentence. His action is commended generally in this county.

R. J. Slater has discovered that the brass plate found this week on the reservation near here, inscribed with the name of Mrs. Ruth A. Black, May 3, 1861, is probably memorial of the wife of a pioneer of this country. S. M. Blackman came through here in 1861, and who, in founding the Umatilla River below Pendleton, lost his wagon by overturning in the swollen stream, and whose wife was drowned. Mr. Black went to Union County, where he was County Clerk for four years. He was buried in La Grande. The plate was to mark the grave of Mrs. Black, and efforts are being made now to find where the grave was located.

A company is forming to build a creamery at Milton, in the east end of this county. There is also talk of putting in a fruit and vegetable cannery at that place.

G. M. Morrison, of Adams, states that the crop conditions are now perfect. The fall rains have done wonders for the weeds to so thrifty a growth that the farmers have been enabled to cut them and thus remove them from land which otherwise would be foul next Spring.

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Portland, have later dates. Many Populists and some Democrats, who supported Bryan four years ago, have announced their intention of voting for McKinley this time.

Oregon Notes.

Al Boucher brought down from his mountain ranch this week three potatoes that weighed 5 1/2 pounds, says the Athena. Three. One tested the scales at 5 1/2 pounds, the other two weighing 2 1/2 pounds each. General A. J. Goodbrod is arranging to ship from Union a trainload of apples, consisting of 17 carloads. This will be one of the largest shipments ever made from Union at one time.

We were aware, says the Willows News, that a great number of hogs were going out of this section, but were somewhat surprised to learn that McDonald Bros. had shipped 100 head and the Willows Mercantile Company 100 already this season.

Citizens of Iona, Morrow County, have agreed to form an irrigation company with \$25,000 to get the flowing mill and elevator moved from Grants to their town. The elevator will clean 5000 sacks of grain an hour, and the engine is large enough to furnish power for the saw works and an electric light plant in addition to running the mill.

Art Minor this week delivered 200 head of 2-year-old steers to Vincent & Wittenberger, who will winter them on Butter Creek, says the Hopedale Times. That is getting to be great feeding headquarters, and there is now about 200 head of cattle chomping the grass on the place. Recent great hay region of Morrow County, and one man alone, Oscar Thompson, this year cut