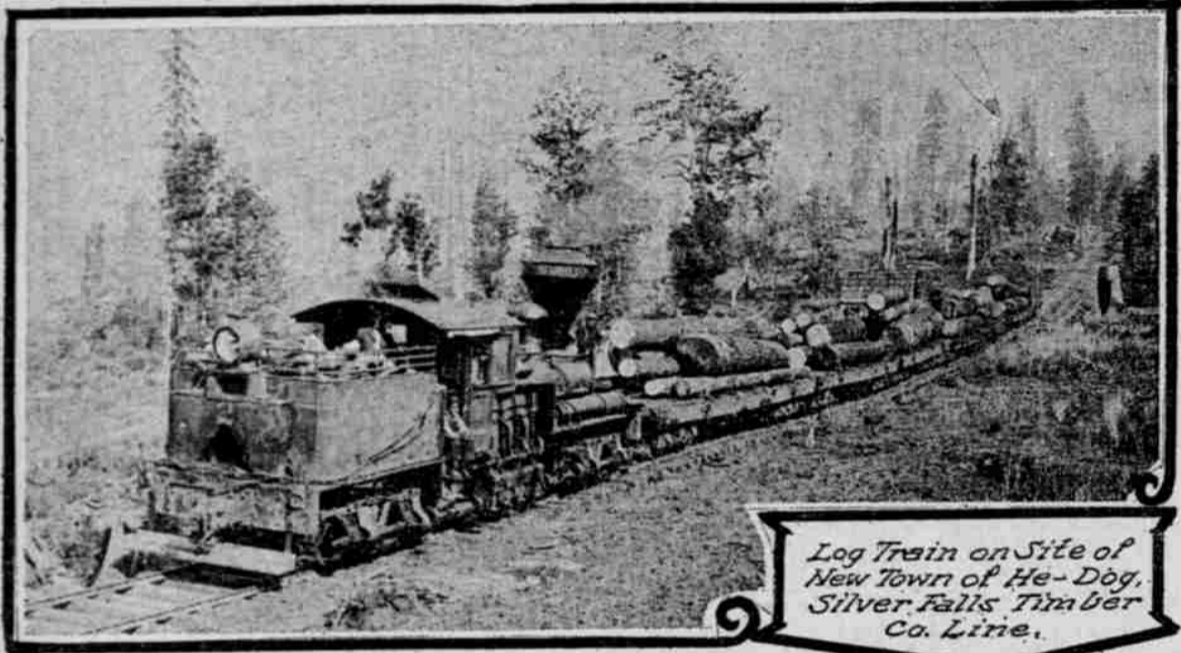


# CAPITALISTS GIVE RENEWED LIFE TO HOMER DAVENPORT'S HOME TOWN

\$1,500,000 Preliminary Investment in Logging Road and Portland, Eugene & Eastern's Electric Extension, Coupled With Other Payroll Preparations, Start Rush in Silverton, Or., Famed Cartoonist's Birthplace.



Silverton Lumber Co Plant, Silverton, Ore.



Log Train on Site of New Town of He-Dog, Silver Falls Timber Co. Line.



Ames Dam, Silver Creek, Silverton, Ore.

SILVERTON, Or., April 12.—(Special.)—Coincident with the beginning of construction of the Molalla Valley division of the Portland, Eugene & Eastern Railway Company interurban electric line a group of Illinois, Texas, Wisconsin and Oregon timbermen invaded the old home town of Homer Davenport at Silverton, Or., and they are now engaged in building one of the best logging railroads in the West.

By the preliminary investment of \$1,500,000 the Silver Falls Timber Company is making 2,000,000 feet of Douglas fir available to the markets of the Columbia River, and every day of 25 years following the completion of the new mountain railroad will see 500,000 feet of logs delivered to the big electric system at Silverton. The material will be hauled by rail to points below Willamette Falls, where it will be dumped into the Willamette and floated to the saws farther down. The largest log dump known to exist in Oregon is now under construction for this company at Oswego.

To Silverton the enterprise means an additional payroll of more than \$40,000 a month, most of which will remain in this city and adjoining territory, and is expected to accelerate the business revival which assailed this city in 1907, when R. A. Cowden, W. H. Reynolds and H. R. Latham came here from Idaho and established the Silverton Lumber Company mill, where 80 men are employed and which has a payroll of \$15,000 each month. Up to that time the fame of Silverton was largely due to Homer Davenport's story of a country boy and his description of the silver cornet band. After the mill and Cowden came paved streets, a revival of all branches of business and a municipal growth of startling proportions.

Big Working Crew Assembled. Flagg & Standifer, the Portland contractors, are already at work on the new logging railroad, which is to extend 25 miles southwest of Silverton, 250 men, a number of steam shovels, sleds and other grade-building machinery being now in the field of operations. Yesterday the Silver Falls Timber Company began work on its new railroad machine shop, located on a 10-acre tract of land adjoining the northwest border of Silverton.

The officers of the Silver Falls Timber Company and the men who are representing the immense amount of capital necessary to finance this tremendous development enterprise are Jacob Mortenson, of Oak Park, Ill.; L. B. Menefee, Portland, and a former Texan; C. T. Latimer, Illinois, and M.

C. Woodard, Wisconsin. The latter is on the ground as manager for the company. The body of timber which is to be removed and delivered to the market consists of a solid tract on the headwaters of Powers Creek, Marion County, and is bounded on the east by the Governmental forest reserve. It is the fact that the reserve contains unlimited billions of feet of logging material that will be available to the logging railroad after privately owned lands are cleared that makes the proposition so thoroughly satisfactory to Silverton people. And it is also this consideration which is causing the owners and builders of the new rail-

road to put it down in the most substantial manner. When the Silverton Lumber Company came here in 1907 and purchased a large acreage of timber in the Abiqua basin, it constructed 1 1/2 miles of logging railroad up Powers Creek. Since that time it has carried 125,000,000 feet of logs to the company mill at Silverton, but every car delivered traveled one-third more miles than would have been necessary had the track been devoid of curves.

Works Nears Completion. When the Silver Falls Timber Company came into the field it took over the 1 1/2 miles of track belonging to the Silverton Lumber Company and the

first contract given to Flagg & Standifer was to reconstruct the track, take out the curves, ballast the steel. That work is now practically completed and the new road is pronounced by railroad men to be equal to many of the trunk highways crossing the Rocky Mountains. Grading, silling and bridge construction began 40 days ago on the 1 1/2 miles of new road to be constructed southeast from the terminal of the old Silverton Lumber Company road, but has been hindered seriously by the rains, which have fallen in the mountains with a persistence that has been unparalleled in all history. Near had nothing on Flagg & Standifer, however. Noah built an ark, Flagg & Standifer have put their field headquarters on mud sleds and, with the aid of donkey engines, these buildings slide along the grade in keeping with the advancement made by the trunk line. There are 12 camps at work on the extension, all of them with full crews and equipment. It is planned to begin on the lands of the Silver Falls Timber Company not later than the first of July and that every day thereafter will see 70 cars of logs brought into the Silverton terminal yards and that every car will carry not less than 7000 feet. Until such time as the Portland, Eugene & Eastern Railway reaches Silverton and which will parallel the new logging road for the first five miles out of this city, the log trains will be handled over to the Southern Pacific Company and will go to Oswego and Columbia River ports via Woodburn.

The Silver Falls Timber Company is now receiving its rolling stock to be placed on the new road, two Shay geared engines being on the grade work and two eight-wheeled Baldwin locomotives being on route between Spokane and Portland. Twenty-four donkey engines will be used for yarding and loading logs in the woods. The company will employ 350 men in the woods and on the railroad. It is promised that all of the supplies necessary for keeping this force of men will be purchased at Silverton.

Business Rush Begins. In addition to the transportation of logs the new logging railroad will develop a section of the Willamette Valley where unlimited opportunities exist for homebuilders. The logged-off lands of Powers Creek are being turned into prune orchards, while on the big burns which course through the western border of the timber belt the wheat farms where 100,000 bushels are annually harvested. Arrangements have been perfected for the leading of these crops at He-Dog, the only named station on the new line.

Under the new arrangement for operating the railroad the Silver Falls Timber Company undertakes to supply logs for the use of the Silverton Lumber Company mill at this place, which has a capacity of 125,000 feet a day and which has never been idle since the first whistle tooted six years ago. For several years prior to that time not a single new house had been erected in Silverton. The town was as dead as a liver and a morgue, but now there usually is a scrap for every town office, new buildings are going up everywhere and another mile and a half of paved streets are to be put down during 1913.

## 'Barney,' Hood River Hermit to Lose Home

In March of Progress Residence of Hibernian Recluse, 4x15 Feet, Must Be Razed.

HOOD RIVER, Or., April 12.—(Special.)—Happy is the man who is more content than Barney Flynn, Hood River's most unique hermit citizen. Barney, an Irishman, who speaks with a brogue that is pleasing to any one with a drop of the Hibernian blood in his veins, lives in Hood River's oldest "house," a shack made of fir boards. The castle is but about four feet wide and 15 feet long, but within it Barney has stored away all of his earthly belongings. His locker and mulligan pot and a few relics remind him of his days of roving.

The hut was built in the early days of Hood River, almost half a century ago, by two Dutch trappers. It was used later by employees of the O. R. & N. Company. The city has made surveys for a new street to penetrate the business and factory portion of the city, and the new highway will pass over the site of Barney's home. In a few weeks the tenantry will have to move. A tone of sadness enters his voice when he talks of having to give up the old haunt, but only for a moment; for, although Barney is an Irish hermit, he is even more optimistic and cheery in nature than the average Irishman.

This Celt was born in the County Sligo 67 years ago. He came across the continent in 1870 with a number of countrymen, and since that time has worked from one port to another on the Pacific Coast, early always in the employment of one of the large railroad systems. He has never felt just right, except when forming a sheep pen or when one of the big transportation companies. He tried sheep-herding, but a month or two gave him an everlasting hatred of sheep. Barney has retired from active work, his last position having been that of trackwalker for the O. W. R. & N. Company, and has been living in his little cabin. He practices the simple life severely, nor does he believe that bathing is good for the health, and it is probably years since he experienced the sensation of a plunge or a shower. This Irishman has been provident and has saved up enough money to provide for his old age.

## MAN KILLS TOTS AND SELF Sculptor, Losing Fortune, Exterminates His Family.

PARIS, April 5.—(Special.)—A sculptor named Barbier, aged 53, of Saint Just, near Lyons, recently embarked his whole fortune—about \$7000—in a share speculation.

When he saw a considerable profit on his deal his wife counseled him to sell out, but he hung on for more, and lost it all. The other night at dinner he asked his wife to get him some tobacco. She went out, taking with her her eldest child, a boy by previous marriage. When she had gone Barbier, after carefully closing the shutters and locking the door, shot his own children, a girl of 4 and a boy of 2. He then sat down in a chair and blew out his brains.

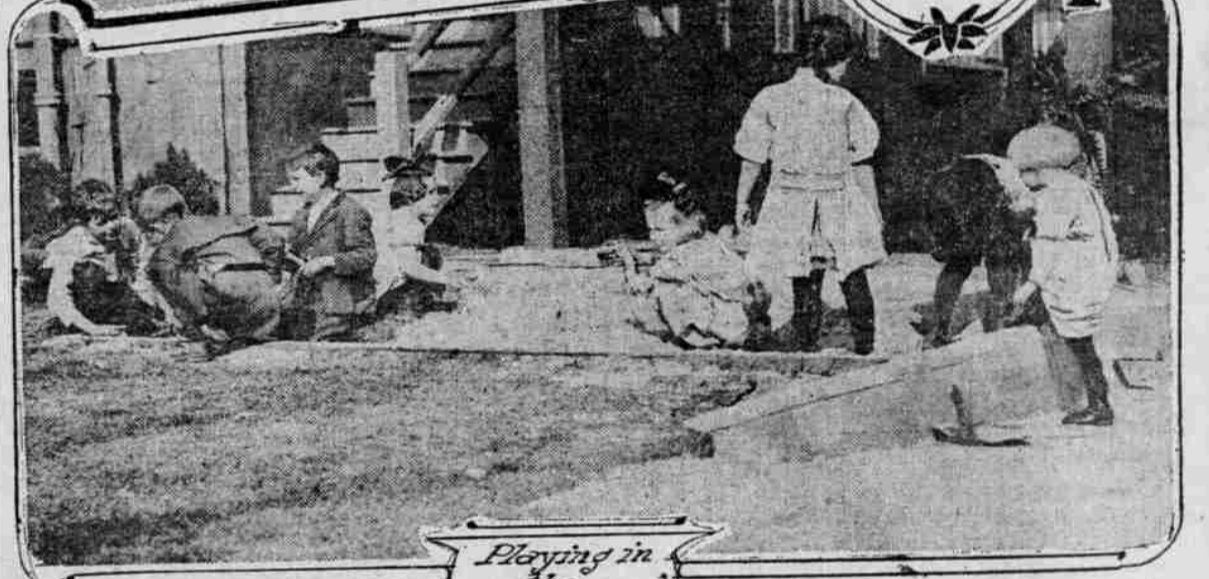
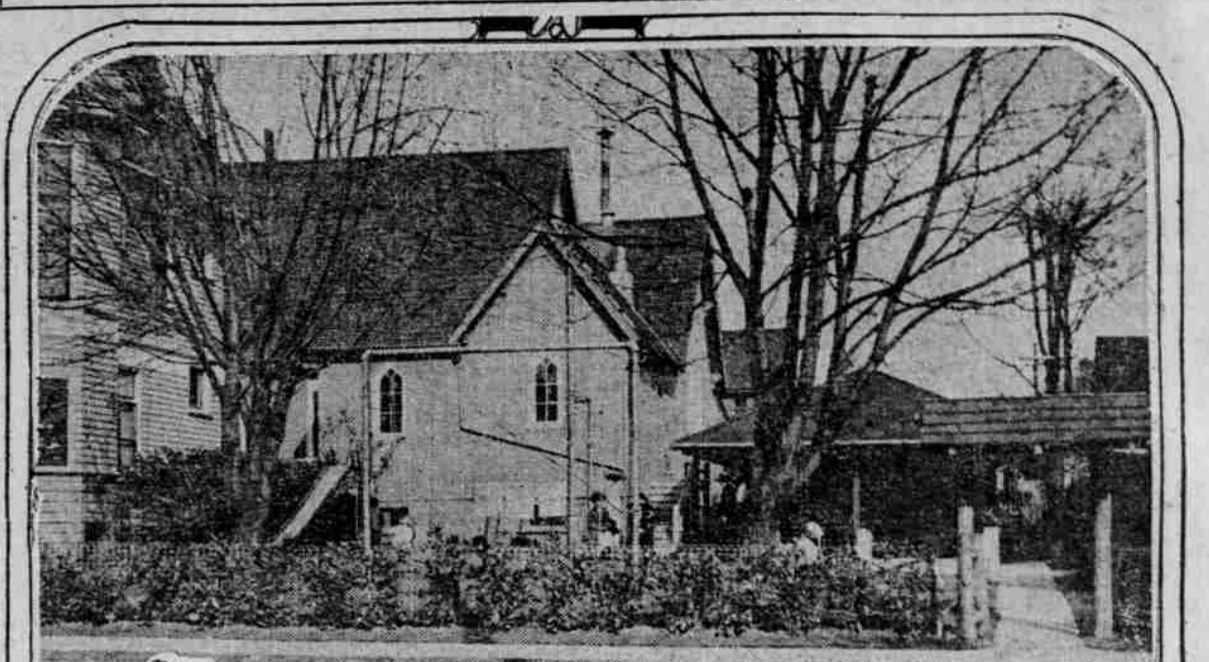
The grief-stricken wife is so prostrated by shock that she is not likely to recover.

## Nothing to Do Till Tomorrow. (Judge.)

Charley Sing, a Chinese gardener, peddles truck in Salt Lake City. One of his best customers is a banker. One morning Sing drove up to solicit orders for vegetables, and he found the banker working among the flowers in the yard. It was Decoration day, and the bank was closed. "You no work today?" inquired Sing. "I have no time to do that," replied the banker. "This is a holiday." "Me work all same," said Sing. "Me work all same every day 'cept Sunday afternoon." "What time do you do Sunday afternoon if you don't work?" inquired the banker. "Me washes plenty shirt last all week," was the Chinese reply.

# ST. DAVID'S CHURCH PLAYGROUND IS ATTRACTIVE TO CHILDREN UNDER 7

Miss Catherine Taylor Is in Charge, Teaching Children How to Use Various Apparatus—Rev. H. R. Talbot, Rector, Originated Idea, Which Is Now Being Carried Out for Benefit of Youth.



LITTLE folks of all sizes and ages up to 7 swarmed last week over the new playgrounds established between St. David's Church and the rectory on the east side of East Twelfth street. These grounds were provided for children under the age of 7 years, and since the pleasant weather came they have been well patronized by the little tots from the neighborhood. Miss Catherine Taylor is in charge, teaching the children how to use the various apparatus provided.

Rev. H. R. Talbot, the rector, originated the plan to turn the lawn between the church and manse into a playground for the use of the children of the neighborhood under the age of 7 years, this limit being set because the space is small, and it was felt that if children above that age were admitted the tract would be over-

crowded. The community heretofore had no playground. The first cost was about \$500, and has been covered. With this money the green lawn was transformed for the use of the children. In the front is the area for games, which is 60x80 feet in size. In this space are swings, teeters and slides. Just in the rear are sand pile boxes, wading pool and a drinking fountain. The play pavilion is located at the rear side and is 43 by 34 feet. It is provided with benches, and may be used when the weather is damp. Miss Taylor supervises the play of

the children. She has had experience and takes care of the children, so that parents may trust her with them. She will instruct them in games. Over the entrance to the playground are the words, "St. David's Playgrounds—Free to All Children Under the Age of 7." Also, on the gate, Dr. Talbot had inscribed the Scriptural quotation, "And Jesus took a little child and put him in the midst of them."

A playground expert was consulted in providing equipment and in laying off the tract. A committee has been appointed as a board of directors, which consists of the following: Bruce Rowen, chairman; F. S. West, treasurer; Walter Backus, secretary; executive committee, Rev. H. R. Talbot, Bruce Asher, C. N. Stockwell, W. H. Hallan, E. L. Chamberlain, St. Clair Morris, W. H. Kattleman, A. J. Vial and D. B. Meckie.

## ARDOR OF ANGLERS IS NOT DAMPENED BY RAIN

Trio of Portland Society Sportsmen Brave "47" Varieties of Weather in Fruitless Search for Elusive Fish of Necanicum.

SEASIDE, Or., April 12.—(Special.)—Frank G. Owen, Brant H. Wickershman and S. Russel Smith, of Portland, after a two days' fishing trip on the Necanicum River. The three society sportsmen were thoroughly convinced that they experienced 47 varieties of weather while on the trip and that rain, sleet, snow squalls and warm sunshine were not the kinds of weather they had encountered when they wrote "What Everybody Knows About Angling."

The three fishermen left Portland on a late train shortly after the opening of the season and did not know until they reached Astoria that Seaside was off the map on certain days as far as the Spokane, Portland & Seattle is concerned. The day of their departure was one when the schedules ignore Seaside. Weaker-hearted sportsmen would have entered the minds of these fellows. They jumped from the train, secured an automobile and, in spite of high winds and a heavy downpour, they chugged into Seaside and landed at the Moore Hotel about 4 o'clock Saturday morning. Here they dismissed the automobile, jumped out of their city togs and rigged in slickers and hip boots. Mr. Owen and Mr. Wickershman hired a livery rig and drove up the river beyond Johnson's ranch, knowing a lot about the beauties of sleep and being some-

what of a weather prophet, decided that one ducking was enough for one night, turned in and went to bed. He promised to get up early and meet his companions, but to "Russ" the beauty of early rising is not appreciated as it might be by others who do not have to practice it. Mr. Smith, knowing no necessity for getting up early, kept tucked under the covers at the Moore Hotel, while Messrs. Wickershman and Owen were fishing for fish that would not bite.

It was after lunch when the two weary and half-frozen fishermen returned to the hotel, and they were a most disgusted when they learned that "Russ" Smith was still peacefully sleeping. After bathing and lunching, the pair roused Mr. Smith and the trio took in the sights of Seaside, passed a part of the afternoon chopping wood for a couple of lads who were picking up drift on the beach, giving evidence of real ability in ax manipulation. Sunday, after a snow squall, the sun appeared, and the party again got out fishing tackle, hip boots and other equipment. They found that the boatman was giving his boathouse the absent treatment. After waiting about an hour, they went back to the hotel, had lunch and started out on foot up the river. It was a case of "fisherman's luck" once more. They came back empty-handed. Other Portland sportsmen who were out to take advantage of the opening of the fishing season were John Gill and Morris Abrams, Mr. Gill and Mr.

Abrahams were more fortunate than the other three, for, while they did not rhapsodize about their luck, each was able to show a beautiful string. Mr. Abrams and Game Warden Clark Lowery rowed up the river, and while drifting back caught seven or eight handsome trout.

## COMPOSER'S SON IS ANGRY Request to Conduct Opera in Honor of Parent Is Denied.

BERLIN, April 5.—(Special.)—German impresarios will have to exercise caution in issuing invitations to Herr Siegfried Wagner to conduct for them when it is a case of honoring his father's memory. The 100th anniversary of Richard Wagner's birth is to be celebrated on May 22 at the Regensburger Theater by a festive performance of "Die Meistersinger," in which some of the first Wagner artists of Germany will sing. An immortal composer is to be unveiled in the foyer Siegfried Wagner was requested to conduct the opera. The following laconic telegram was sent by him in reply: "In consideration of the German nation's attitude in the 'Parisfall' question, what you ask is impossible. Apply to Dr. Richter."

New Building for Woodland. WOODLAND, Wash., April 12.—(Special.)—E. O. Elver broke ground today for a one-story reinforced concrete building at the corner of Davidson avenue and Front street, the building to have a frontage on Davidson avenue of 16 feet and on Front street of 80 feet. The building will be used for a garage and for farm implements. This will make the sixth concrete performance of which are for business purposes, that have been erected here in the past three years.