

LUMBER MEN MAKE DEMAND

(Continued from page 1.)

made by the commissioner of corporations, who had charge of this investigation under the Secretary and Labor. The petition calls attention to the fact that this report was only a partial one and failed to give the lumber producers the verdict they desired.

The petition closes with an urgent request that the "charges against the lumber manufacturers of the United States be as promptly brought to a conclusion as seem likely to be those against lumber dealers who have been brought into court."

Secretary Nagel in transmitting to the President the answer to the lumbermen's complaint, says the report of the Bureau of Corporations was not only important and relevant to the issue involved in the resolutions of Congress, but that the amount of standing timber and the concentration of its ownership were absolutely essential to the discussion of the questions involved. The Secretary says the bureau found a wholly unexpected and a very remarkable degree of concentration of standing timber. It thus applied a second and absolutely essential basic fact in the discussion of lumber prices.

The Secretary says the Bureau of Corporations has, considering the magnitude of the task, supplied necessary facts as rapidly as possible; that it is now carrying on also an investigation into competitive methods, a report on which will be presented as soon as possible. Referring further to the statement of the lumber men that the first and only report made by the Department of Commerce and Labor was the report in 1911 on standing timber, Secretary Nagel says the bureau has also for some time been carrying on investigations into the actual course of the prices of lumber, and this, too, will be presented as soon as finished. Incidentally Mr. Nagel points out the difficulty of gathering this information.

Secretary Nagel says, in reply to the demand for a verdict, that it would be wholly impracticable for the bureau, and entirely outside of its jurisdiction, to render a verdict on the existence of the so-called lumber trust or conspiracy in restraint of trade; that the question is strictly a legal one. Any attempt on the part of the Bureau of Corporations, says the Secretary, to make such a finding of guilty or not guilty, would be an absurdity in itself, and would establish a most embarrassing precedent.

Manager Bronson, in the letter to President Taft, under date of March 1, takes up serialism, the subjects as stated and commented on by the Secretary, and says that notwithstanding the importance of the inquiry as to standing timber, it is not responsive to the part of the Senate resolution that the investigation of the lumber industry should be conducted with the particular object of ascertaining the existence of any combination, conspiracy, trust agreement, or contract in restraint of commerce.

Manager Bronson expresses the hope that the investigation into competitive methods, which Secretary Nagel says is under way, will be presented as soon as possible.

Regarding the request for a verdict, Manager Bronson says they felt that Secretary Nagel's criticism is unworthy; that the indictment mentioned in the letter to the President was referred to as a moral indictment, and that the verdict asked for is of similar character.

KILLS THOUSANDS OF MICE

Midway Stock Farm Rid of Pest by Using Advice From Agricultural College.

CORVALLIS, Ore., April 4.—Thousands of field mice have been killed, and the Midway stock farm of Attorney Chester G. Murphy of Portland thus rid of a serious pest, by the use of a formula furnished by the Oregon Agricultural College.

"Some time ago I wrote for a preparation with which to kill field mice on my place near Woodburn, and you kindly sent me a formula," says Mr. Murphy in a letter to the college. "I wish to express my thanks for your courtesy in the matter, and to advise that we have by the use of this formula stopped the evil and exterminated hundreds and perhaps thousands of these mice."

The remedy given him was strychnine prepared with boiling water and thick syrup and used to poison wheat corn. An ounce of strychnine sulphate is dissolved in a pint of boiling water and stirred thoroughly into a pint of thick syrup. In this half of bushel of wheat or corn is soaked over night, and this bait is spread on the ground, under cover that birds may not be poisoned, but so that the mice can get at it.

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ROADS ALONG TWO STREAMS

Plan to Construct Fine Highways Along Coos River and Catching Inlet.

The long-talked-of water level road from Marshfield to Sumner will soon become a reality if petitions that have been put in circulation among the property owners along Catching Inlet meets with the success that is anticipated. The petitions provide for changing the present road from Eastside to Sumner from across the hill to the bank of Catching Inlet, the new roadway to be built by dredging out the channel, bulkheading the bank and using the dredgings to build up the pike-way. The plan is to require the property owners along the inlet whose property will be greatly benefited by the improved channel and highway as well as protected from floods by the roadway serving as a dike to cost a large share of one-half of the cost, the county paying the other half.

Coos River property owners are considering a plan for a similar improvement along the river. The idea is to construct a road from the mouth of Catching Inlet along the bank of the river to the headwaters of South Coos river. It is claimed that the channel needs dredging anyway and practically the only extra expense would be the cost of putting in the bulkhead. It is likely that petitions for the Coos River roadway will soon be circulated.

It is understood that Marshfield automobile owners will get behind both projects and aid in bringing them both about and that probably a considerable portion of the expense will be contributed by Marshfield property owners.

WATER POWER FOR S. P.

Company Files on Big Rights on McKenzie River.

SALEM, Ore., April 4.—Presumably for the purpose of securing power to electrify the main and West Side lines in this state, the Southern Pacific Railroad company has filed with State Engineer Lewis an application to appropriate the waters of the McKenzie river. The application calls for the appropriation of 400 cubic feet per second and the diversion of the water of Clear Lake through a canal 4 1/2 miles long, generating 36,136 theoretical horsepower, utilizing a fall of 795 feet. The dam is to be 31 feet high, costing approximately \$85,000, and the total cost is estimated at \$1,600,000.

For years the Southern Pacific maintained a station at Clear Lake and also made a study of the power situation, and the engineering department expressed its firm conviction that the power will be used for the electrification of the company's railroad lines. This is the second largest power project in the state.

As the power site is located in the forest reserve, the company must get a permit from the federal government for the land and from the state for the water. In discussing the subject, State Engineer Lewis emphasized the necessity of co-operation between the state and the federal government relative to water power sites in the state, as under the present conditions, development will always be slow. The engineer will next report and advocate a system of co-operation between the two governments which he believes will solve the problem and be a great stimulus to the development of water power for irrigation and other purposes in the state.

COUNTY COURT PROCEEDINGS

SYNOPSIS OF THE COUNTY COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Adjourned March, 1912, Term. In Re roads and Bridges. W. H. Harmon, damages, Norway-Burton Prairie road, \$96.00. Pioneer Hardware Co., 2-2. Wheel scrapers 133.51. J. J. Burns, for interest 2-2. Wheel scrapers 6.49. General Fund. A. F. Linegar, 4099 2c stamped envelopes \$7.04. T. J. Thrift, stamps for statements 100.00. J. H. Estes, for support of self, month of March, 1912 \$8.00. State of Oregon, } ss. County of Coos, }

I, James Watson, County Clerk of Coos County, Oregon, ex-officio Clerk of the County Court for said County and State, custodian of the records, archives and files for said County, do hereby certify that the foregoing Statement is a true and correct Statement of the Amounts of Bills allowed, on the various funds of the County as audited by the County Court of said County and State at the adjourned March, 1912, term thereof, as the same appear in the Journals of said Court now in my office and custody.

Witness my hand and the seal of the County Court affixed this 2nd day of April, A. D. 1912. JAMES WATSON, County Clerk.

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CLOSE DEALS AT NORTH BEND

Southern Pacific Gets Right-of-Way Across Pony Inlet Tide Flat.

W. J. Fellows of Ten Mile is in Marshfield today to close negotiations with C. H. Marsh, right of way agent for the Southern Pacific, for the sale of right of ways across a tract of tide-flat near the mouth of Pony Inlet which Fellows and Sylvester Backey own. The price has been agreed upon and is said to be about \$400 per acre.

The land lies between the Simpson Park property and the Pony Inlet channel.

Peter Loggie, of North Bend, who was a Marshfield visitor today, stated that he understood that the Southern Pacific had closed negotiations for the purchase of the Brouillard, Banks and Jacobson residence property and was about to close with several others.

Mr. Fellows and Mr. Marsh reached an agreement concerning Mr. Fellows' interest in the tract and the papers in the deal will be executed about April 15.

ELECTION IN EUGENE

Charter Amendments Except One Are Beaten.

EUGENE, Ore., April 4.—Interest in the annual city election Monday centered in the first ward, where sharp contest was waged between S. P. Ness, member of the council from the fourth ward, who some time back moved into the first ward, and Y. D. Hensil, the latter winning out with 44 votes to the good.

The preliminary campaign in the fourth ward had been much less strenuous, but the result there was far closer, E. A. Bean securing a plurality of but 11 over E. M. Harvey.

In the second and third wards there was little doubt as to the result and E. Koppe and E. L. Dorr were re-elected by pluralities of 72 and 91. The Socialists, who for the first time had a city ticket in the field, polled 106 out of the 1345 votes cast for councilmen.

Of the four propositions to amend the city charter, all were defeated except the one that would increase the limit of sewer bond indebtedness to \$200,000. By authorizing these bonds the voters have approved the plans of the sewer committee of the council to install a main trunk sewer to drain the whole city and provide the basis of a sewer system for the next 40 years.

The proposition for salary for mayor and council was voted down by 848 out of the 1318 votes cast on this question.

The proposition to give the council power to assess abutting property for street lighting installation, receiving but 5 votes less than the sewer bond plan, was rejected by a majority of 388 votes—the largest negative majority.

NORTH BEND NEWS.

Mrs. Peterson of North Inlet was a guest yesterday of her daughter, Mrs. John Freeland.

Miss Ellen Anderson who spent a few days at the Child's home in Coquille, returned to her home on Sherman avenue this week.

Capt. Edgar Simpson returned today from a business trip to Portland.

Mrs. W. N. Ekblad is improving rapidly from her recent operation at Mercy hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Warrell, who recently went to Vancouver, Wash., to attend the funeral of Mr. Warrell's brother, returned today on the Breakwater.

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STR. WASHINGTON WILL SAIL FOR SAN FRANCISCO, FROM COOS BAY, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3. STEAMER HOMER SAILS FOR SAN FRANCISCO FROM COOS BAY THURSDAY, APRIL 4, AT NOON. F. S. Dow, Agent Ocean Dock

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"THE FRIEND OF COOS BAY" S. S. ALLIANCE EQUIPPED WITH WIRELESS Sails From Portland for Coos Bay at 6:00 P. M., Friday, April 5. CONNECTING WITH THE NORTH BANK ROAD AT PORTLAND NORTH PACIFIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY. Phone 44. C. F. McGEORGE, Agent.

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