

Coos Bay Times

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRES

WATCH THE WANT ADS. There are many good bargains to be found there. Anything lost or found is always advertised in The Times.

OL. XXXVI. Established in 1878 as The Coast Mail.

MARSHFIELD, OREGON, MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 1913.—EVENING EDITION.

A Consolidation of Times, Coast Mail and Coos Bay Advertiser. No. 158

JACK, THE PEEPER" THOUGHT TO BE UNDER ARREST NOW

John Rand, Deranged Stranger from The Dalles, In Jail As Suspect.

ALSO SUSPECTED OF PETTY THEFTS

Description Tallies With That of Prowler—Played "Possum" Before Arrest.

John Rand, who came here a few months ago from The Dalles and had previously been located at Jack, the Peeper, the mysterious individual who has been bothering Marshfield homes and been raising havoc with clothes left on the lines over night. He is demented.

Rand was arrested last night by Officers Shoup and Smith. The landlady of a rooming house on the street notified the officers of his presence there. The place was formerly occupied by the Grace hotel.

She became greatly alarmed yesterday when Rand did not get up and refused to respond to calls. When the officers were called, Rand refused to respond and they forced the door. They found him dead, apparently asleep or unconscious. They spoke to him and shook him but he would not respond. Finally they called Dr. Dix who decided that Rand was "playing possum."

A search of his pockets revealed a 32-caliber revolver, loaded. He is about 33 years old and is of medium size. He had a light overcoat and light hat. His description tallies exactly with that given by F. D. Dow and Mrs. Abbott and Mr. Dow informed Marshal Carter today that he was pretty sure that Rand was the man who was at his place the other night.

As near as can be gathered from Rand, he is of Finnish descent.

The landlady at the rooming house says that she was afraid of Rand. He had been stopping there for about a month, prior to her taking charge of the place. He didn't seem to have any work, but would leave the house late in the evening and remain out most of the night. This tallies with the visits paid by the murderous "Jack, the Peeper."

Marshal Carter said today that he was positive that Rand is the man wanted. However, owing to his being demented, he will take him before the board of sanity commissioners.

Rand was a reader of dime novels and Officer Smith says that he had started to write a few "Nick Carter Detective Stories." Parts of these were found in his room.

There is another clue which the officers are working on in connection with the mysterious stranger at various houses.

Marshal Carter thinks that Rand is guilty of the Baltimore Cafe robbery and other petty thefts that have occurred recently.

WILSON TO BAR NAUGHTY DANCE

President-Elect to Prohibit Bunny-Hug, Turkey Trot, Etc., at Ball.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Should there be an inaugural ball, despite President-elect Wilson's wish to the contrary, there may be no turkey-trotting, bunny-hugging nor grizzly-bearing if it is held in the Pension building.

Representative Roddenberry offered an amendment to the resolution authorizing the use of the Pension office, which is worded as follows: "That the grant of the use of the Pension building for the inaugural ball is expressly upon the condition and with the limitation that for the prevention of acts of public indecency, the following so-called dances are absolutely barred and prohibited: "Grizzly-bear gyrations, the bunny-hug tenderloin movements; the turkey-trot contortions, and all like vulgarisms of the hoche-conchee dance, and all similar forms of gymnastic convulsive movements suggestive of the degenerate revelleries of the segregated districts."

EUGENE PIONEER DEAD. Eugene, Ore., Jan. 20.—Frank W. Osburn, pioneer banker of Eugene, died in his apartments at the Hotel Osburn at 7:30 o'clock Friday morning, after an illness of long duration. About a year ago, while walking on the street, he was stricken with a malady resembling apoplexy and was bedfast for a long time.

TO PROSECUTE FOR FIGHTING

Marshal Carter and City Attorney Goss to Continue Punishment.

City Attorney Goss announced today in police court that information would be filed against parties at the Blanco hotel for permitting a fight to go on in the lobby there Saturday night without separating the men or calling the officers. He and Marshal Carter were indignant over the affair.

However, Sheriff Gage, who is here from Coquille today, stated that he had not been notified about Landis' whereabouts. All that he had heard of him was the receipt of a card from Jim Hayes, a former Coquille saloon-keeper, asking if the \$1,000 reward offered for Landis, was still good. Hayes was in Arizona, Hayes knew Landis well in Coos County, and whether he has received a "tip" as to his whereabouts is questioned. It may be that he has.

A reward of \$1,000 was originally offered for Landis but owing to the lapse of time it no longer holds good. The Landis' crime caused a greater stir in Coos County than any other crime in the history of this section. On May 19, 1892, the Quigg boys saw a stranger burying something under a tree on their ranch. The ranch is just this side of Coquille, and near the railroad track. They hid and watched the burial and

thinking may be he had planted money or treasure, they waited until he left and then dug up the spot. They discovered a man's foot before they had dug very far and immediately called the officer. The corpse was dug up and was found to be W. U. Daly, a farm hand from Blackwell, Okla., who had been working for Mrs. S. A. Yoakam. He had about \$80 in cash when he left, and it was supposed that this was the motive of the murder.

While a crowd was gathered in Coquille around the corpse, Landis appeared in the crowd. The Quigg boys pointed Landis out as the man they saw burying the corpse. There was a clash between Sheriff Gallier, now a resident of Bandon, and Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Sinclair over Landis' arrest. While they clashed, Landis went to his rooms and got his guns and started out afoot. He was never seen again, although a score or more of possums searched the country for weeks.

Landis was then said to be forty-three or forty-five years old. He had been in this section some time, first coming as a stove peddler and later acting as a timber cruiser and locator. A half dozen men who had been with Landis mysteriously disappeared, and after the Daly crime, he was charged with making away with them.

Sheriff Gage says he has at times received cards telling about Landis being located at different points but the quest of him has always been futile.

FRED SLAGLE'S LUCKY ESCAPE

Well Known Coquille Business Man Meets Accident in Bandon.

(Special to The Times) BANDON, Jan. 20.—Fred Slagle, the well known business man of Coquille, had a narrow escape from drowning here this morning. Mr. Slagle was hurrying with others to catch the steamer Coquille, and just as he was stepping from the deck to the steamer his foot slipped and he plunged headlong into the current, which was running strong and high. Fortunately, he escaped striking any of the piles and as he rose to the surface Geo. Treadgold, who saw Slagle fall, hurried to the rescue, and hastily picked up one of the tow lines of the steamer Elizabeth that was lying at the dock, and threw it to the Slagle, who seized it, and was pulled on board. He escaped with nothing worse than the shock of a very cold early morning plunge, but if assistance had not been so prompt another tragedy of the sea might have been recorded.

WIRES DOWN MAIL IS LATE

Coos Bay is still pretty badly isolated as a result of the storm and the landslides that accompanied it. The long distance telephone line and Western Union are out of commission, and it is uncertain when service can be restored.

This morning, two days' letter mail and one day's paper mail was received by the Marshfield postoffice. The balance of the delayed mail has been expected in hourly but had not arrived late this afternoon.

RUMOR THAT LANDIS IS IN ARIZONA

Sheriff Gage Says That He Has Only Had Inquiry About Reward—Recalls Series of Mysterious Crimes.

A rumor that M. D. Landis, wanted for the murder of W. U. Daly near Coquille in 1891 and suspected of several other mysterious Coos County murders, had been located in Arizona, was denied by Sheriff W. W. Gage today. The rumor had it that Sheriff Gage had been apprised of Landis' whereabouts.

However, Sheriff Gage, who is here from Coquille today, stated that he had not been notified about Landis' whereabouts. All that he had heard of him was the receipt of a card from Jim Hayes, a former Coquille saloon-keeper, asking if the \$1,000 reward offered for Landis, was still good. Hayes was in Arizona, Hayes knew Landis well in Coos County, and whether he has received a "tip" as to his whereabouts is questioned. It may be that he has.

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ROGUE RIVER FISHING LAW

Bill Introduced in House to Open Industry But Hard Fight Is Expected.

SALEM, Jan. 20.—Representative Reames of Douglas and Jackson has introduced a bill in the House opening the Rogue river from the sea to the mouth of the Illinois river, a distance of 30 miles, to commercial fishing.

Declaring that the Hume fishing plant on this stream and other fishing industries enjoyed a monopoly to the extent that it destroyed angling, the people of Jackson county secured the passage of an initiative measure two years ago, closing it to commercial fishing. At the last session the legislature passed a bill opening the stream, but it was vetoed by the governor.

Reames' bill will not prove satisfactory to the representatives of either Josephine or Curry counties, the two other counties interested, and an amendment has been made that another measure will be introduced, patterned after the measure passed at the last session. Those interested in the subject in Josephine and Curry counties take the position that Reames' measure will only benefit the Hume fishing plant and the few other fishermen, and their plan is to open the river to commercial fishing as far as Grants Pass. When the subject comes finally before the house, it will precipitate a fight.

School Supervisor. Unanimously the senate committee on education will report adversely to the bill which provides for the repeal of the county supervisory law, known as the Huntington act.

Educational forces are lining up here as well to back the committee in its efforts to kill off the repealing act and the contest promises to be a bitter one, inasmuch as Dimick is just as strong in asserting he will make every effort to secure a repeal of the act.

New Liquor Laws. The roadhouse is the target of one of the first liquor bills of the present session of the legislature, which was introduced in the House by Representative Gill of Clackamas.

The bill prohibits the issuance of a license to sell liquor outside of any incorporated city or town. It also hits at the near-beer industry, providing a heavy penalty for selling near-beer, no matter how small the percentage of alcohol, in territory that has been voted dry.

The sale of near-beer in dry communities has been a prolific cause of trouble. The governor's recent squabble with the Roseburg brewery, was due to a controversy as to whether alleged near-beer contained enough alcohol to bring it within the real beer classification.

CARD OF THANKS. To the many friends who by their acts of thoughtful kindness and sympathetic assistance and especially to the Knights of Pythias for their kindly aid during the recent sad and tragic bereavement caused by the death of our beloved brother, Philip Fourier, we extend our sincere and grateful thanks.

FOURIER BROS.

SAYS THAT FEW INTERESTS NOW CONTROL TIMBERLANDS

Commissioner of Corporations Conant Makes Startling Report to President.

SAYS NATION SHOULD INCREASE RESERVES

Wants to Keep Virgin Timber from Falling Into Hands of Private Owners.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—The concentration into the hands of a few powerful interests of an enormous percentage of the timberlands of the United States has created a problem so grave for the nation in the judgment of Luther Conant, Jr., Commissioner of Corporations, that today he recommended to President Taft that the existing national forests not only be retained by the federal government, but increased as far as practicable.

This note of warning was sounded by the commissioner in forwarding to the President the full text of Part I of the Bureau of Corporation's investigation of the lumber industry—industry made by direction of Congress. A summary of this report, showing the extent of concentrated control of timberlands was sent to the President and published nearly two years ago.

To increase government ownership of forest lands the Commissioner urges that the forests of Alaska be included in reserve, as well as all timbered lands recovered in forfeiture suits. He advises a further searching inquiry into land grants of the past with the view of installing additional forfeiture suits if the facts justify the procedure.

Mr. Conant warns that attempts are still being made to "secure" transfer of public timberlands to private owners under the same plea of settlement which in the past often proved wholly specious and insincere. "Much of the timberland still remaining in public ownership," continues the commissioner, "is adapted only for timber purposes. All that could be properly asked by a bona fide settler is the surface of arable land after the timber has been removed, but too frequently back of the argument made in the name of the 'settler' is the desire to acquire the timber or other natural resources rather than the soil itself. It seems desirable, therefore, to direct public attention to the fundamental difference between disposing of agricultural lands to actual settlers, whose industry contributes directly to the material and social upbuilding of the community, and the alienation of virgin timberlands, which do not require, and, indeed, hardly permit of, improvement by private owners, and the value of which is rapidly rising because of reductions in the supply and the increase in population. The public service involved in the more speculative holding of this timber for an advance in price, under present conditions of settlement of the country, is practically negligible. When, moreover, such lands become concentrated in a comparatively few hands, there is, instead of a public service, a serious public danger.

"Without entering into a discussion of possible solutions of certain grave problems involved in the present concentration of timber ownership, it may be pointed out that the Government today still owns, exclusive of the forests of Alaska, about one-fifth of the country's total supply of merchantable standing timber. It is the agency best adapted to practicing reforestation on a large scale. Recently important suits for forfeiture of extensive timberlands have been brought by the government on the ground of nonfulfillment of conditions imposed in the grants by which these lands were alienated from the public domain. For these reasons, it would appear, therefore, that the government may later be able to materially strengthen its relative position as a timber owner.

"The facts set forth in this report clearly point to the desirability of maintaining the integrity of the national forests and of extending to other publicly owned timber, including forests in Alaska and timberlands that may be recovered in forfeiture suits now pending or subsequently instituted by the government, the cardinal principle of the national forest policy, namely, the retention of the fee to such lands at least until the timber is removed. Decision will then have to be made between retaining such lands for reforestation and disposing of the surface. It seems clear, moreover, that the fundamental principle to be followed in the sale of the timber itself is that the terms of sale should be such as to insure to the public treasury substantially the full stumpage value at the time that such timber shall be actually cut."

In the summary of the report previously published, the then Commissioner of Corporations, Herbert Knox Smith, set forth that the Southern Pacific Company is the greatest private holder of timber in the United States.

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W. F. RAU IS NOW INVOLVED

Former Marshfield Man Member of Medford Company Charged with Fraud.

MEDFORD, Ore., Jan. 20.—The Mail Tribune prints the following story involving a former well known resident of Marshfield, Oregon: "Grave charges of fraud and conspiracy to defraud are made by creditors against Chas. H. Schneekloth and W. F. Rau, of the Rogue River Commission Company, which is now insolvent. When it became evident that the concern was about to fail, large quantities of merchandise are alleged to have been ordered from wholesale houses and sold or bartered away at less than cost, the proceeds pocketed and the creditors left to hold the sack—simply losing the goods. In addition scores of farmers, whose produce was handled on consignment are alleged to have been defrauded, the company selling the goods and appropriating the money for its own use. Much hardship has been caused on many farms by these fraudulent operations. Schneekloth and Rau are now on an automobile tour of California, where the latter is negotiating for the purchase of a hotel at Chico. "Rau's connection with the company was a mysterious one—he was not an officer, only apparently an employee, yet he figured in the closing transactions.

Tale of Frenzied Finance "J. A. Perry has been appointed by the creditors as trustee of the insolvent corporation and his investigation into the way in which this corporation was managed reveals a system of high finance that would have done credit to the wildest dreams of Wallingford. "A favorite way that the corporation practiced in the last thirty days of its existence was to order and receive a large consignment of goods, sell it cheap to another firm in the city, and the individuals of the corporation, take from the merchants to whom they sold the goods, credit coupon books in their own names for the amounts of their purchase. Another way was to make collections aggregating \$1000 at a time and then simply charge the amount collected to the salary accounts of Schneekloth and Rau. "A number of farmers who placed goods upon consignment with the commission company are now considering the advisability of instituting criminal proceedings against the officers of the corporation as are some of the larger creditors. Mr. Perry, as trustee, estimates that the debts of the concern will aggregate \$13,000 and that the assets will not exceed \$2000 and it is doubtful even if this amount can be obtained from the wreck.

"Schneekloth came here as manager for the Union Meat Company, but left them to go into the commission business at Portland. Returning he started the Rogue River Commission Company. Rau was formerly with the Hotel Moore and the Hotel Medford, but severed his connections last summer, joining Schneekloth during the last few months of the business."

ORDER IN FOR RAILWAY TIES Southern Pacific's Contract With Wedderburn Trading Co. Causes Speculation. GOLD BEACH, Ore., Jan. 20.—The indications that the Southern Pacific is planning to rush the construction of its lines down the coast from Coos Bay to Eureka are growing stronger every day. Engineer Wolfram and about fifteen surveyors are pushing the survey through and today it was reported here on good authority that the Wedderburn Trading Company had just been given a big order for railroad ties. The order, it is said, will keep the small mill, which the company put in, busy for a year or more. No announcement has been made of the number of ties or where and when they are to be delivered has been made.

FRESHET OVER; DAMAGE SMALL

Trains Run Through to Myrtle Point Today; Landslide Near Scottsburg.

The Coquille River freshet which for a few hours Saturday threatened to do much damage went by without causing serious loss. The local railway, which was unable to get its trains through to Myrtle Point Saturday, got its trains through today.

Trainmaster Harry Mohr stated today that the road had escaped serious damage. None of the track was washed out. In some places between Coquille and Myrtle Point, where it was overflowed Saturday, the track was warped a little and the roadbed is still very soft, causing the trains to run slowly. The bridges and trestles were not damaged.

Today, most of the track between Coaledo and Coquille was overflowed, four to six inches of water covering it in many places. However, the river is going down rapidly, and it is expected that there will be no water on the tracks by tonight.

Parties from Coquille today state that logs had been brought out of the upper Middle Fork of the Coquille by the freshet Saturday, the first time in five years. Friday night's wind did more or less minor damage in Coquille, and in the immediate vicinity.

Several log bombs on the Coquille were broken Saturday but it is understood the logs were caught farther down the river, and are being held for their owners. Much of the lowland was overflowed and logs and refuse were washed out on the bottom lands.

Two Bad Slides. The landslide near Summer Friday was one of the worst in years. It occurred near the Wilson ranch, and an immense amount of dirt and rock slipped into the road. Large trees went with the mountain side and landed across the road, making the clearing difficult.

Delays Gardiner Stage. Word was received today that there had been a big landslide on the road between Scottsburg and Allegany, tying up the stage service. Parties who left here last Saturday morning were unable to get through. However, it was expected the road would be cleared today.

Catching Inlet Damage. During Friday night's storm the milk shed on Alec Mattson's farm on Catching Inlet was blown down. During the previous storm, the house on the Arthur Mattson ranch was damaged considerably by being blown from its foundation.

Coos River Lower. Coos River is quite a bit lower today, the big freshet being over. E. R. Hodson was down today and said that the raise had not done any damage. He said there was lots of snow in the mountains and that warm weather or a heavy rain might cause another big raise suddenly.

Emmett Pierce and Geo. Gould of the North Fork got out most of their logs and many are reported to have come out from Henry Hoeck's old camp at Smith Basin. The Smith-Powers Company sent down quite a few from their South Coos River camp.

Rain Ceases. The stopping of the rain Saturday eliminated the danger of a record-breaking freshet. Since

early Saturday morning up to this morning only ten one-hundredths of an inch of rain fell. The total rainfall since September 1 to this morning on Coos Bay was 40.88 inches.

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COMMISSIONER OF CORPORATIONS CONANT MAKES STARTLING REPORT TO PRESIDENT

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