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TOM MINOT BEGINS SUIT ON GRANT

Attorney Wants Southern Oregon Company's Claim to Road Grant Cancelled

PORTLAND, Or., Sept. 9.—The state of Oregon, as a political corporation, Oswald West, as Governor, and A. M. Crawford, as Attorney-General thereof, are made defendants with the Southern Oregon company, a corporation, successor in interest to the Coos Bay Wagon Road Company, in a suit filed in the U. S. District Court by T. S. Minot, a San Francisco attorney, representing 158 claimants to quarter sections of timber land in Coos county, now held by the Southern Oregon company.

The bill of complaint alleges non-compliance in the execution of the terms of a land grant made first by Congress to the State of Oregon in 1869, on condition that a military wagon road be constructed from the navigable waters of Coos Bay to Roseburg in Douglas county. This grant was made on condition that the lands "should be sold to one person only in quantities not greater than one-quarter section, for a price not exceeding \$2.50 per acre."

tion of which the grant was originally made.

Notables Are Involved.

It is alleged that in these transactions Miller, or Woodruff, was simply acting as the agent of Collis P. Huntington, Charles Crocker, Leland Stanford and Mark Hopkins, who, the complaint asserts, were the actual parties of interest.

Other transactions are named whereby this tract and the balance of the lands passed through various hands, finally ending up with the alleged "wrongful" title vested in the Southern Oregon Improvement Company, with, in 1884, "a fraudulent and nugatory deed of trust or mortgage" to the Boston Safe Deposit & Trust Company.

In these transactions, it is alleged, the principals were in conspiracy, acting for the benefit of "certain preferred stockholders in the Southern Oregon Improvement Company and the Southern Oregon Company."

It is contended that true title to the lands now rests in the state, and that neither the statute of limitations nor the "doctrine of laches" applies in the case.

158 Claimants Sue.

The 158 claimants named in the bill of complaint offer to pay into court \$2.50 per acre for the lands they claim, and further offer to reimburse the Southern Oregon company for all sums rightfully expended by it as trustee, with offsets for "all timber unlawfully removed and all lands fraudulently sold to other parties."

The prayer of the complaint is that the court definitely settle and adjust the rights of all parties interested; that an injunction issue against any "further depredations on the property involved; that a decree be entered requiring the Southern Oregon company to relinquish title; that a receiver be appointed to wind up the affairs involved in the suit, and that judgment be granted to the complainants for their costs and the disbursements in the suit."

TO START MILL AT BROOKINGS

Big Lumber Plant in Southern Curry County is Now Nearly Completed

PORTLAND, Or., Sept. 9.—Within the next thirty days the Brookings Timber & Lumber Company plant at Brookings, Or., one of the finest industrial plants in the state, will be ready for operation. This was announced by Supt. P. J. Shropshire, who is in Portland on business connected with the new industry.

Taking the new enterprise in its various departments, it is the most important investment venture in that the coast, and until the Brookings located about six miles north of the California line on an open harbor of the coast, and until the Brookings interests began their preliminary operations there it was one of the most isolated and forbidding portions of all undeveloped Oregon.

Now, however, the men behind the great project, involving an investment of capital running into the millions, are about ready to open one of the most up to date lumber plants on the coast; they are laying out a complete townsite; they are building a network of first class standard gauge railroads; they are developing a fine harbor with excellent deep-water facilities; they will market their lumber on their own bottoms; they have their own turbine plant for generating electricity, which will be used exclusively in operating the company's many enterprises.

The sawmill, which is of the finest possible construction, with reinforced concrete foundations, floors and supports, will have a total capacity of 250,000 feet a day, and will be a permanent plant employing from 250 to 300 men.

The company owns about 35,000 acres in Curry county, most of which is heavily timbered with high grade fir. The estimated holdings including over 2,000,000,000 feet of merchantable timber.

"We are putting this plant in as a permanent proposition," explained Supt. Shropshire. "It is being constructed along the very latest improved lines, with its entire equipment and machinery of the very latest and best. The townsite is being laid out and developed with improvements and buildings along the most modern lines. The same class of construction applies to our harbor, wharves and shipping facilities, our railroad enterprise connecting with our various logging camps and the camps themselves. We shall ship our lumber in our own vessels and our loading and unloading devices will be the best that can be installed. We shall have our own electric plant and water supply and one of the most important enterprises in connection with the operation of the sawmill will be the large concrete dam 100 feet long and 75 feet high, which will give us a log pond of twenty acres.

"We shall begin operations with only one side of the mill and will cut about 125,000 feet a day until we get the other side completed."

The Brookings interests operated for many years in the lumber manufacturing business in California, but their supply of timber became depleted and they began buying in Curry county, their property containing about the only redwood found in Oregon. The company still owns a number of modern lumber yards in California and the output of the Brookings plant will be marketed to these points.

NEWS OF NEARBY TOWNS

GARDINER FISH CASE

Suit was brought in the Justice Court of Gardiner district by the Umpqua Packing Company, to replevin a fishing net from John Ruddle, who claimed to own the net by virtue of a bill of sale given him by one Frank Deboak. The Umpqua Packing Company contended that the said Frank Deboak did not own the net when he sold it to the defendant, and that the said company were the owners. The matter was settled out of court by Deboak paying for the net and costs. The plaintiff was represented by J. H. Austin.—Umpqua Courier.

MYRTLE POINT POINTERS.

News of Upper Coquille As Told by The Enterprise.

Miss Mae Lund, of Coquille, who has been the guest of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Lange for a week, returned to her home on Saturday, after having been in attendance the entire week at the institute. She goes to resume her duties at the Fat Elk school, District No. 19.

Billie Smith, who for a number of years has conducted a barber shop at the Coaledo camp of the Smith-Powers Company, was in town the fore part of the week. He has commenced the erection of a shop near the South Fork camps.

At 3:30 Tuesday afternoon, September 8th, 1914, at the home of the officiating clergyman, Rev. Thos. Barklow, occurred the marriage of William B. Sullivan and Miss Cora E. Elford, two well known young people of the Myrtle Point section. They left on the 4 o'clock train the same afternoon for Marshfield for a short stay.

SILO MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

Prof. W. A. Barr, of O. A. C., has just wired Coos County Agriculturist Smith that he can be in Coos county September 15th to 18th. The probable schedule of the silo meetings he is to hold will be as follows: Marshfield, Sept. 15. Coquille, Sept. 16. Lower Coquille, Sept. 17. Myrtle Point, Sept. 18.

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