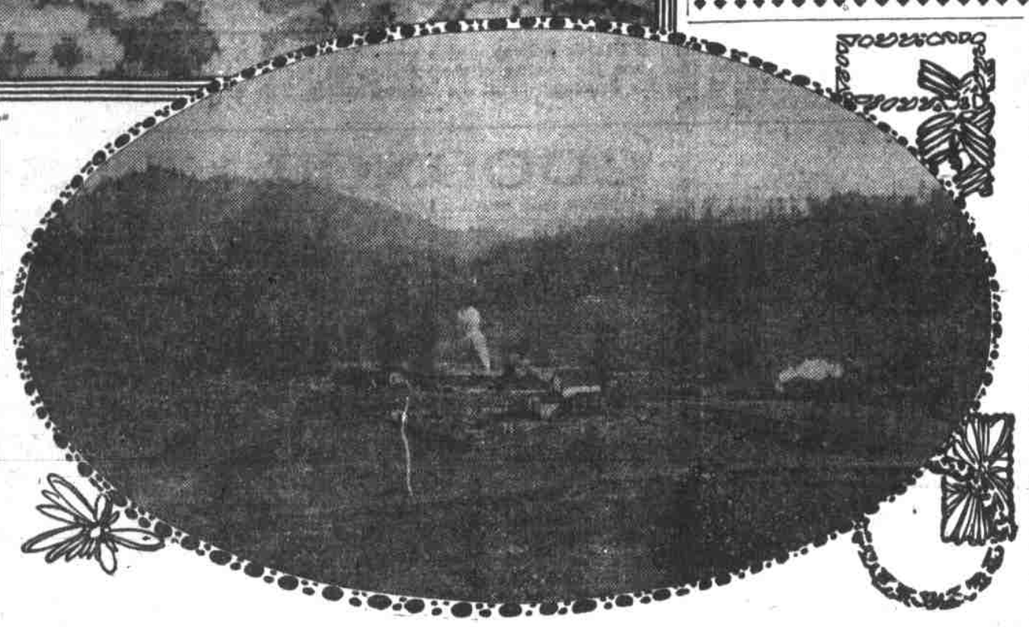
# JOURNAL'S NORTHWEST NEWS

ROUNDUP OF THE WEEK IN STATES OF PACIFIC SLOPE

CURRENT EVENTS DEVELOPMENT AND GENERAL PROGRESS

## The "Italy of America" Is in Oregon



Where the Coast Climate Attains Perfection.

## LIQUOR IS TABOOED IN THE IDEAL COLONY

### Deeds to Property in Southern Oregon Settlement Contain Forfeiture Clause.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Wolf Creek, Or., Nov. 7.—Nestling snugly at the feet of the pine-clad mountains of southern Oregon, in the northern end of the Rogue River valley, is a vertitable beauty spot without a rival on teh coast. It is Wolf Creek valley, in which "Oregon's Ideal Colony" is now forming. Surrounded by mountains which protect from biting, destructive storms; possessing soil of surpassing depth and fertility, the purest mountain water, springs abounding everywhere, and much of the land subirrigated; at an altitude of 1,318 feet, which does not affect those with heart trouble and has a tonic effect upon people from the enervating south; with a rainfall of 33 inches, sufficient to produce the finest flavored and best-keeping fruits and vegetables without irrigation, it is all that its name signifies.

The colony is on the main line of the Southern Pacific railroad, 268 miles south of Portland, the famous two-mile loop of this scenic route encircling the valley. The old California and Oregon stage road also passes through it, so that transportation facilities are of the best. The climate is superb. With a temperature as even as can be found anywhere in the temperate zone, it well merits the appellation, "Italy of America."

Because of the overlapping of the humid and arid zones, and the peculiar soil adaptabilities, horticulturists are being attracted from all parts of the country, assured that the finest Tokay grapes, Newtown and Spitzenberg apples, cherries, peaches, pears and all kinds of berries can be grown to perfection.

**Strawberries in April.**

Though the spring was later than usual, ripe wild strawberries were picked on April 27, some of which attained a size of two inches in circumference. Wild black and raspberries grow as large and fine here as those cultivated in other sections, and because of the abundance, size and quality of the wild, few cultivated have been grown. This will be a profitable crop between the trees now being planted, till they become to bearing age.

Higher than the hope of money-making, the owner of Wolf Creek and promotor of Oregon's Ideal colony holds the purpose of developing a community which shall be kept as clean morally as it is proved by nature and every deed contains a forfeiture clause in case any of the property is ever used or allowed to be used for the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquor. Only those approving this and favorable to character-building institutions are invited to invest; those opposing cannot buy at any price.

Rev. W. J. Smith, the founder of the colony, was trained in the Lutheran church and later preferred the Presbyterian; but he is first a Christian and secondly a Presbyterian, and has often been taken for a Methodist. He always discourages the sectarian spirit, and invites and already has in the colony representatives of almost all the denominations, who are working together and sustaining services without any outside help.

### $416,000 FOR KLAMATH

**Project Appropriation Is Largest Made Thus Far.**

Klamath Falls, Or., Nov. 7.—The secretary of the interior has allotted $416,000 out of the reclamation fund to be used to carry on the work in the Klamath project in 1909. It is the largest appropriation ever made for construction work on this project, being an increase of $50,000 over last year.

## Reception Guests Panic Stricken by Mysterious Female

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

The Dalles, Or., Nov. 7.—A wave of excitement swept this city when a strange woman, heavily veiled, appeared as an unbidden guest at a reception given by one of the prominent society women. The hostess was receiving her guests when the unknown, gowned in somber black, glided by her and on into the dining-hall, where refreshments were being served.

It was supposed that the veiled woman was a friend of the hostess and she was served with refreshments. As soon as she had partaken she disappeared as silently and as mysteriously as she had come. The incident caused considerable agitation among the guests.

Investigation revealed the woman's identity. She is a trusty at the city jail, having been arrested soon after the district fair on two charges.

## Canadian Lynx Killed

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Odessa, Wash., Nov. 7.—Hunting with rocks is one of the innovations in Lincoln county. From the success attendant on the first venture the pastime may become extremely popular. H. W. Pollard and L. D. Hammer are responsible for the new sport.

While on their way to town from their ranch they discovered what seemed to be a big wildcat, devouring the remains of a rabbit. The two men were unarmed. Gathering a supply of rocks they opened a fusillade upon the beast. He turned and started for them, but a fortunate "shot" stunned him and he was quickly dispatched. Those who have seen the animal pronounce it a well-defined specimen of the Canadian lynx.

Hunting is better than for many years in this section. Game is plentiful and little difficulty is experienced in securing a good bag.

## MOTHER AND BABES PRAY FOR DEAR ONE'S SAFETY

### Searching Parties Are Scouring Snow-Swept Mountains in Search of Harry Heath.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Helena, Mont., Nov. 7.—Harry Heath, a Unionville miner, is believed to have lost his life in a fight with a bear while hunting on the middle fork of the Dearborn, or to have perished in a furious snowstorm which has raged since he left his home. Did he lose his way in the storm and grope helplessly over the montains until he fell into the deep soothing sleep which overcomes freezing men and from which they never wake, or did he tumble into a bear trap, or fall into a prospect hole and break a leg, and then die of starvation, thirst, exposure or suffering?

These are the questions which his friends are propounding and to which they have as yet found no answer. It is very likely that he met death in any one of these forms, for it will be almost a month tomorrow since he has been heard from, when he went out from the hunting cabin to get a bear. Mrs. Heath and five babies are nearly prostrated by the agony of suspense. Night after night they have waited for the return of Mr. Heath to the Unionville cabin, but he has not come.

**Babies Ask for Papa.**

"When will papa come, mamma?" the babies ask, and Mrs. Heath turns away to hide the tears which gather in her eyes. Fearing the worst, hope sustains her, and the bare possibility that her husband will be back tonight, tomorrow night, or the day after, at the latest.

James Hardgrove left Helena this morning to join searching parties which are scouring the Dearborn country on snowshoes and skis in an effort to find some trace of the missing hunter. All the ranchers on the middle fork of the Dearborn are aroused.

Heath left Unionville October 9 or 10 for the Dearborn country, to look after some mining claims he has there and to hunt. He expected to be gone a week or 10 days and possibly three weeks. No alarm was occasioned at his absence until last week, when a hunter passing Heath's cabin entered. He found the place deserted. It was evident the house had been unoccupied for at least a week. While looking through the premises the hunter found a note held on the table by a candlestick. It was dated October 13 and was in Heath's handwriting. According to the telephone message received it read:

"I killed a cub bear yesterday and am going back after it. I will be back here October 15.

(Signed) "HEATH."

**Fate Is Problematical.**

Not a trace has been seen of him since. The leaving of the note is considered by many a peculiar circumstance, and it is the opinion that Heath had a premonition of disaster and left the missive that his friends could trace him.

Old bear hunters believe that Heath was killed by the old she bear, who, when she came back and found her cub dead, remained by its side and was encountered by Heath when he returned to get the cub.

It is also possible that Heath lost his way in a snowstorm and perished or dropped into a prospect hole. Early this month there was four feet of snow in the Dearborn country and since Heath left Helena there has been another big snowfall.

## REMARKABLE STORY BROUGHT TO LIGHT BY CANINE'S DEATH

**Trixie—The Story of a Dog.**

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Rainier, Or., Nov. 7.—Trixie is dead. Mourning her death are a five-year-old son, Toodles; a chicken, Happy Hooligan; several domesticated birds, and the family of L. Swett, besides many men, women and children of this city. Trixie was a "mother" dog. She mothered every kind of dumb animal that came her way that needed maternal care. How she acquired her remarkable mothering traits will never be known. Neither will her history. She was a tramp dog.

One morning about 13½ years ago the hired man of L. Swett's store came down rather early, on a dark winter morning, and went to the pile of shavings in the workroom to get some material to start a fire. He stuck his hand in and it was immediately grabbed by a dog. He got a light and found it to be a Skye Terrier. He made friends with the dog and took her home. She did not care for his home, and so Mr. Swett's family adopted her. The dog made up with the household immediately. Though they advertised extensively, the owner was never heard from. She wore a nice collar, with the license paid for, and appeared to be about two or three years old. She was named Trixie by Mr. Swett's children. She proved a valuable watch dog and rat catcher.

**Trixie's Vocation, Mothering.**

Her real vocation in life, however, was that of being mother. She lived only for the sake of mothering something, it seemed. First it was Mr. and Mrs. Swett's baby and then it was her own babies. Her hobby was that of adoption. Whenever a litter of kittens arrived Trixie never failed to assist the mother cat in nursing and caring for them. She seemed to love them as much as her own offspring. She would lay contentedly by the hour nursing about three puppies and four kittens.

Recently a man brought a little chicken about four days old that had gotten lost from its mother and asked Mr. Swett's children if they would care to raise it. Trixie heard its pitiful cries and her mother instinct was at once aroused. She jumped up and cried and begged for the chicken until it was given her. Then she let it lay close to her and keep warm. She would not even move to scratch her fleas. Her eyes seemed never to leave the chicken.

It was all very well until the chicken was two or three days older and wanted to run about. Trixie could not understand this, and every time the chick ran away from her she would run after it and carry it back in her mouth, very careful not to hurt it. It seemed as though dogs and chickens were not well suited to each other, for she wanted to treat it exactly as she would her own puppies, which rather puzzled the chicken. If a stranger came near her she would look sullen and growl. She worried continually over the safety of her adopted baby. If any one took it from her she would cry piteously until it was returned. When the chicken grew older it deserted its strange mother. Trixie was lonesome for a long time afterward and moped around with a sorrowful, pleading mien. The chicken's name was Happy Hooligan.

**The Little Mother Chloroformed.**

Two years ago a drunken man kicked her in the side and shortly afterward a small lump appeared. It grew larger each month. Everything possible was done. She had every luxury and comfort possible, but during this last year it was obvious that her days were numbered. The lump became an abscess, and she began to suffer intense pain. The sorrowing family could not make up their minds to part with her and kept putting off the inevitable—chloroform. During the last few months of her life she became inactive, lying in one place the greater part of the time. A couple of weeks ago she became blind in one eye and refused food. The family knew that her time had come. A friend was called in who was a trained nurse and after a consultation it was decided that chloroform would be the easiest method. Trixie lay on her soft bed in the corner, all unsuspecting of her imminent death. A soft rug was saturated with chloroform and the rest was short and merciful. She lay down comfortably, heaved a sigh, and went to sleep—forever. She lay as in life, one ear half-cocked up, as if listening for something.

Trixie's son, Toodles, is just a plain, lovable dog. He watches the building and catches rats, his chief aim is to mainly pick fights with all the big dogs. He stops neither at a bull dog nor a mastiff. He fights them all. He misses his mother very bitterly and refused food for several days after her death. She caressed him until the last.

## ELECTRIC RAILROAD FOR HOOD RIVER VALLEY SEEMS ASSURED

## RAIL CONNECTION FOR KLAMATH SOON

### California Northeastern Is Putting On Additional Men and Machinery.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Klamath Falls, Or., Nov. 7.—In five days more will be heard the ring of the pick and shovel reverberating from the right of way of the California Northeastern at this city. Three hundred men will be at work, preparing the grade from the terminus of the Adams dike to the cut in the Hot Springs addition and this number will be increased as rapidly as possible, until upward of 500 laborers will be at work.

This is the message that comes to this city from the offices of Erickson & Peterson, the contractors who are now engaged in completing the grade to the water's edge. The grade to Worden is completed, ready for the rails, and the steel gang will begin laying Monday. From Worden to the channel, a distance of two miles, the grade is completed, with the exception of the finishing work, which is now under way and which will be done in a week. When this part of the grade is ready for the rails the men will be transferred to this city.

**Steam Shovel to Work.**

The big steam shovel which has been employed by Erickson & Peterson on most of their contract is now at Teeters Landing and will be brought through to this city. It will be first employed on the cut near the old racetrack. When this work is completed it will be transferred to the big cut north of the Hot Springs addition, where over 100,000 yards of earth have to be moved.

Contractor Sears was in the city yesterday and stated that he was making rapid progress with his contract, the work moving much faster than he expected. He stated that the present program was to begin work in this city within ten days and that the force of men to be employed here this winter would not be less than 300 and probably would reach 500.

"As I understand it," he said, "the orders are to rush things, and judging from the preparations being made everything will hum until the railroad is in operation to this city."

## PROFITABLE MEETING PROMISED TEACHERS

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Husum, Wash., Nov. 7. — The joint teachers' institute for Klickitat and Skamania counties to be held at White Salmon, November 10 to 20, promises to be a profitable meeting. Among the educators of the state who will be in attendance are State Superintendent H. B. Dewey of Olympia, Dr. Edward O. Sission of the State college at Seattle, Professor W. J. Beach of the State college at Pullman, and Miss Laura J. Soper of The Dalles. The visiting teachers will be given a reception Monday evening, November 16.

### Y. M. C. A. AT CHEHALIS

**Indications Point to Erection of $15,000 Building.**

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Centralia, Wash., Nov. 7.—This city will soon have a Young Men's Christian association and an up-to-date building suitably adapted for its use, if present indications materialize. State Secretary C. W. Wilcox, representing the state association, was in the city this week at the invitation of Mayor Miller, to look into conditions and give his advice regarding the possibility of getting an association. In company with the mayor he interviewed a number of the leading business men of the city who gave assurance of support. Mr. Wilcox advised the erection of a permanent building. It would cost in the neighborhood of $50,000, and would contain a large gymnasium with running track, a swimming pool, baths and lockers, parlor, game rooms, reading rooms, night school rooms, and probably sleeping rooms for members, making it a complete club home.

## TWO APPLICATIONS TO CITY COUNCIL

### Believed That Hill Interests Are Seeking to Secure Fruit Shipments.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Hood River, Or., Nov. 7.—Deep interest is centered here in the fact that two applications have been made to the city council for franchises for an electric road. One of them is asked for by H. B. Langille, secretary of the Upper Hood River Valley Development league, who says he has assurance of the support of property owners there and in the lower valley, and stipulates that in case the franchise is granted the necessary financial aid to build the road will be secured from local capitalists.

The other application has been made by C. A. Bell, proprietor of the Mount Hood hotel, and a large property holder here. It is stated by Mr. Bell that he believes that the time is ripe at Hood River for an electric line which will give the city greater conveniences and shipping facilities over the boat lines. It is believed that big interests are behind the application for the Bell electric road franchise, as the proposed route is the only one that would not have to cross the O. R. & N. tracks to reach the river. As the principal boat line to Hood River is controlled by the Northern Pacific, it is thought that it may be endeavoring to get a foothold on this side of the river that will make it possible to divert some of the through freight to its line on the North Bank.

**Preliminary Survey Made.**

Some time ago engineers for the Portland & Seattle made a preliminary survey of the valley. At the time no information could be obtained as to their purpose in doing so, but it is intimated that the officials of the new Hill road are looking for some of the business from here in the near future, when Hood River will be shipping 3,000 to 4,000 cars of apples in one season.

The completion of a new steel bridge over the Hood river, which will be opened in a few days by the city, makes the plan a feasible one and is, in fact, the only way a deepwater landing can be reached except by building another bridge below the one recently constructed by the O. R. & N. and crossing its tracks.

It has always been claimed by the managers of the Mount Hood railroad that electric power would be applied on the road which they recently built up the valley as soon as it is extended to its destination, and they have already constructed a $50,000 electric plant, which runs the big mill of the Oregon Lumber company at Dee. It has been expected that they would apply to the city for a franchise to use the city streets. The Mount Hood company has stated its intention of building loops in connection with its steam road throughout the valley.

It is stated by the members of the city council that before any of the franchises are granted substantial proof will have to be shown as to who is backing the projects.

### PROPERTY ADVANCES

**Forty-Acre Tract Brings Waldport Owner Big Returns.**

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Waldport, Or., Nov. 7. — Waldport property is steadily advancing in value. A few years ago J. H. Glines purchased, at a nominal price, forty acres of land joining the town. Shortly afterward he sold the standing timber on the land, which amounted to over a million feet, for something more than the purchase price of the forty acres. This year he has been selling acre tracts for building purposes at $100 per acre. Should the entire tract be sold at this figure a net profit of $4,000 will be realized by Mr. Glines on the transaction, but in all probability the price will be advanced before the entire forty acres is sold.

## HILL BUYS LAND IN KLICKITAT COUNTY

### Line Will Be Built Into Heart of Rich Timber District.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Husum, Wash., Nov. 7.—One of the largest and most valuable timber tracts in Klickitat county will soon pass into the hands of Sam Hill, son of the railroad magnate, and several Seattle capitalists. The Klickitat White Pine Lumber company, with headquarters at Goldendale, is the owner of 60,000 acres of choice timber land in this county, and it is this land that will pass under control of the railroad magnate's son.

The large tract lies abqut 16 miles east of Trout Lake, and the Hill interests contemplate building additional mills at Goldendale. From the latter city they expect to build a railroad to the site of the timber tract. The timber is the choicest of white pine, the present company having shipped within the past few weeks over 1,000,000 feet of lumber to Salt Lake and other points.

**Rail Facilities Developed.**

Underwood, just over the line in Skamania county, one mile west of White Salmon, is undergoing important improvements along the line of developing the North Bank railroad facilities. A gang of men and teams are at work grading in the space between the main track and the business street front for the purpose of putting in an "industrial track," for the convenience of merchants and the surrounding country.

A new railway station will also be completed by the first of December. The increasing business interests of the town of Underwood have demanded these two acquisitions for some time. There are 43 stations along the line of the North Bank railroad between Vancouver and Pasco, a distance of 221 miles. "Industrial tracks" are completed at 23 of these stations, the smallest capacity being for ten cars.

## THE DALLES PEOPLE WANT PAVED STREETS

### Mayor Wingate Starts Movement by Naming Paving Committee.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

The Dalles, Or., Nov. 7.—Mayor E. M. Wingate has caused the property owners in this city to agitate the question of paving Second street in this city. He embodied that idea in his message last July and at the meeting of the city council Wednesday night he stated that the time had come to consider the matter. He appointed a committee to take it up and report to the city council from time to time, that body to act on the committee's recommendations.

The committee appointed is composed of F. S. Gunning, E. M. Williams, Al Bittingen, E. H. French, Victor Marden, L. A. Schanno, William Michelbaugh, Grant Mays and F. L. Houghton.

This committee of business men will thoroughly consider the paving proposition and will confer with other large property holders on the matter, so that by spring the city fathers will be fully informed and will be able to judge of what action to take.

The city has been greatly improved of late, a new city hall having been built, an up-to-date hotel under construction and a handsome library building which will soon rise.

Mayor Wingate believes the city is getting large enough to become more progressive, and considers that improved streets is what the city needs. The proposition is meeting with general favor.

## MALHEUR CITIES MAY TEST LOCAL OPTION

### Decision of Supreme Court Likely to Result in Litigation.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Vale, Or., Nov. 7.—The decision of the supreme court regarding the validity of the local option law is likely to result in litigation in Malheur county. In Vale, at present, the old saloon men are waiting uncertain as to whether the city will allow licenses, but elsewhere there is a tendency to test the proposition in court.

Judge Davis of the circuit court, now in session here, has issued an order to the proprietors of a saloon at Westfall, thirty miles from here, to show cause why they have not closed their saloon since the county voted dry. This saloon has been running ever since the election. The proprietors intend to fight the prohibition ordinance.

In Vale there is considerable doubt as to how the majority of the electors would vote on the prohibition proposition now that it has been tried out. Mayor Wheeler and other leaders of the prohibition movement, assert that the majority for a dry town would be increased, but opponents of the measure declare that there are as many or more drunken men to be seen now than before the saloons were put out of business; and point out that the city is out the $2,400 revenue derived from the licenses before prohibition. The situation in Ontario is much the same.

Several prosecutions for the sale of liquor in alleged "soft drink" shops are pending.

## OIL LAND BOOM IS EXPECTED AT VALE

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Vale, Or., Nov. 7.—A boom in oil lands is confidently predicted by those interested here and it is thought that the excitement will commence soon after the holidays. On November 10 a party of 10 or 20 oil men from Baker City will arrive here. They will spend several days looking over the property of the Columbia Oil & Gas Developing company, and the other companies operating in this vicinity.

The result of their visit is likely to have considerable effect upon the speculative value of the stock of the oil company. Should the result of the inspection prove satisfactory the operations of the concerns interested will be increased.

## ILLINOISANS BUY RANCH IN MALHEUR

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Vale, Or., Nov. 7.—Two young attorneys from Illinois, M. E. Finch of Carmi and F. C. Oxman of Durker, have purchased from C. M. Grimes, an old resident of the county, his 1,000-acre ranch, situated in the Willow creek valley, for $30,000. Mr. Oxman is a brother of C. H. Oxman, a wealthy rancher of this section. The newcomers have returned home to pack up their household goods and will take up their residence and the "simple life" in Malheur county in the course of a few weeks.

## SIDELINE STORIES OF GREAT NORTHWEST

### WATERWORKS BOND SALE

**Work Will Commence at Once On Oakland Plant.**

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Oakland, Or., Nov. 7.—Mayor Hunt received a telegram today stating that the $15,000 issue of water bonds had been sold and that the money was on deposit. The city council has all plans matured for immediate construction work on the waterworks plant, and unless unforeseen delays are occasioned through non-arrival of material, work will be well under way by December 1. Credit is due Mayor Hunt and the council in carrying the election authorizing the bond issue and in effecting the sale of the bonds without legal complications.

### PROSPECT FOR GOLD

**Thousands Have Been Taken From Waldport's Beach.**

Waldport, Or., Nov. 7.—The ocean beach south of Waldport is being thoroughly prospected with a view of gold mining this winter. In the past, thousands of dollars have been taken out of the black sand along this beach. The gray sand piles up on the beach several feet deep during the summer months, but during the winter is nearly all washed away, leaving only a thin covering of black sand on the bed rock. This sand pays the average miner from $5 to $10 per day and often much more, according to the facilities employed.

### SCHEDULE UNKNOWN.

**Train Service on New Wallowa Branch Line Not Decided.**

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

La Grande, Or., Nov. 7.—Contrary to rumors and published reports local officials know little or nothing about the time that the new train service into Wallowa county will go into effect. The orders have not been issued from headquarters and until they are, no one knows definitely what the schedule will be. In all probability there will be no continuation of the service beyond Wallowa, until the road is ballasted on to Joseph. When such is the case, one mixed train will leave La Grande and a similar train will leave Joseph each morning, the crews laying over at the other terminus each night.

### KLAMATH RESORT RAIDED

**Eight Men Are Arrested on Charge of Gambling.**

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Klamath Falls, Or., Nov. 7.—A raid was made late Tuesday evening on what is presumably a "soft drink" place. Eight men were arrested on charge of gambling. Sheriff Barnes and three deputies made the raid. The men arrested were Carl Reed, proprietor; C. F. Goodrich, dealer, and six local characters. A warrant has also been issued for the arrest of C. N. Meyer, owner of the building, and J. V. Houston, proprietor of the Central Bar.

## OREGON DEVELOPMENT

### Honore Palmer Buys Copper-Gold Claims in Southern Josephine.

Grants Pass, Or., Nov. 7.—Honore Palmer, son of Mrs. Potter-Palmer, has purchased the group of copper-gold claims owned by the Southern Oregon Copper company, in the Blue Ledge district of upper Applegate river. The consideration is not made public, but it is known to be a large sum, as the group bought is not only one of the richest, but also the best developed of the Blue Ledge district. Mr. Palmer has invested considerable money in southern Oregon during the past two years, placing it both in fruit lands and mines. This recent purchase, however, is one of the largest he has made in this section.

Mr. Palmer has placed a crew and will begin the active development of the claims at once. The properties have been under development for several years by the original locators, among whom are several southern Oregon and Spokane mining men. The claims are opened by tunnels, the deepest of these being driven to a depth of some 400 feet, from which depth a crosscut exposes the main ore body. The upper tunnel is in 80 feet on the vein. The main ledge is from seven to ten feet wide. The ore is sulphide throughout, the values running from 4 to 5 per cent copper, five ounces silver and $2.80 a ton in gold.

It is a good smelting proposition, and the new owner will develop it for reduction by smelting.

### Drillers at Ontario Strike Pocket of Oil at Depth of 500 Feet.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Ontario, Or., Nov. 7.—A small pocket of oil has been opened by the drilling rig now in operation at Ontario. This has given rise to the liveliest expectations of success in the search for oil now being prosecuted, and Ontario citizens feel that their town is probably the center of a big oil field which will be uncovered within a short time. Drilling has been in progress on the present well for about three weeks, and a depth of 500 feet has been reached. Indications have been favorable from the first, but the piercing of this pocket of oil is the first positive proof that oil is really here. The bailer was let down and brought up a quantity of asphaltum oil which was tested and found to burn well. It only remains to find a retaining sand beneath the shale now being drilled through to have petroleum in paying quantities.

Some delay was occasioned for a short time, soon after drilling began, by the breaking of a casing as it was being put into the well, at a depth of about 130 feet. This difficulty was overcome several days ago, however, and drilling has been going on without any interruption since. Nearly 100 feet a day is being added to the depth. The shale is soft and yields readily to the drill.

It is expected to complete the well within 60 or 90 days, and the drillers express themselves as thoroughly confident of making a big strike.