

VETO READY FOR LITERACY IMMIGRATION TEST

PERENNIAL RAILROAD RUMOR RISES AGAIN

HAS J. HILL SYSTEM ACQUIRED O. & C. LINE?

Ashland Excited at Prospect of Becoming Southern Terminal; Little P. & E. Sits Up and Looks Wise

(From Ashland Tidings)

Has J. J. Hill secured the old C. & O. roadbed between Ashland and Portland, now forming a part of the Southern Pacific? Such is the rumor brought to Ashland Saturday last, and while there is no way to substantiate it, there are some things which are not out of harmony with that state of affairs. Hill, so the story goes, slipped over to Germany in January and when the S. P. had let the day of their option slip by to lease the road for another term of years, he put one over on the Harriman interests.

Some of the things which might point that way are these: About a year ago a report was published that the Southern Pacific, with its Natron cut-off and its line to the coast completed, would not care for this line. Another is that J. J. Hill last year expressed his intention to be into Frisco with a steam line in 1915. Jim generally succeeds in what he attempts to do.

Third, reported signs of activity on the P. & E. recently. The Tidings is informed that all wood piled along its tracks at Butte Falls has been ordered removed to make room for ties and road material for extension, ostensibly because of the proposed development of a large tract of timber above Butte Falls.

Did Samuel Hill mean more than appeared on the surface when he made the remark in Ashland a couple of weeks ago, "You may see more of the Hills the coming summer than you ever dreamed of?" Coupled with the report that Hill had secured the line was one that it would mean much for Ashland, but that is but natural. A. C. Riggs and others tell of having heard the same report previously as rumor in Portland, but only as rumor.

Has the sudden activity of Governor West and others in the attempt to block the government's suit to dissolve the merger any bearing on the above rumor? According to the maps published, the line from Ashland north would go to the Union Pacific and that from Ashland south to the Southern Pacific in the event of unmerger.

Would such a condition help or harm Ashland? It might stop much of the through travel, but, on the other hand, it would give Ashland competition between Portland and San Francisco rates which might help solve the freight rate problem. San Francisco might get rates into Ashland which would compel a reduction to Portland, and vice versa.

It is an old, old saying that a fool can ask questions that a wise man cannot answer, and this is emphatically a case of that kind. The only thing to do is to wait and see.

For Re-Establishing Ashland Normal

Ashland is arranging to force the issue of reopening the Southern Oregon State Normal school, and will hold a public mass meeting on Tuesday evening, February 24th, to discuss ways and means. The matter will be placed before the voters of the state by initiative petition, at the coming elections.

"Shoot Up" Country Dance.

Pendleton.—By "shooting up" a country dance Lou Capen and Jack Murdock, two farm laborers, staged a frontier day drama at Juniper. No one was injured, but the two succeeded in thoroughly terrifying the women and completely intimidating the men, finally escaping on horseback under cover of their guns.

Mammoth's Tooth Found.

Albany.—A fairly well-preserved tooth of a mammoth was found by J. G. Crawford, a local archaeologist, in a car of gravel which had been received here from Canby.

The tooth is seven inches long, five inches high and three inches wide. It shows some decay.

Drain to Have Cannery.

Drain.—A co-operative cannery association was organized here with a capital of \$2000, practically all subscribed.

CHARLES R. CRANE



Charles R. Crane, the Chicago manufacturer, who may be sent as ambassador to Russia.

SARDINE CREEK SCHOOL RAISES FLAG

Progressive District Will Also Install a Manual Training Department

Friday of last week was a happy day at the Sardine Creek school house. It was Flag Raising Day, and there were reasons why the ceremony was an occasion of especial importance. The children had earned the beautiful new flag by selling badges, and the fifty-foot flag-pole was selected, prepared, hauled to the school-ground and set up by the boys and girls.

Another cause for celebration was the fact that the school-board has recently purchased a \$20.00 chest of manual training tools, and the pupils plan to build their own work-shop and benches. This will be one of the first country schools in the state to awaken to the call of industrial education, which speaks well for the energy and progressiveness of the people of District 88 and their teacher, Miss May Lawrence. Much credit is also due Supervisor E. R. Peterson, who first suggested the idea.

It will be remembered that this is the district which won the School Fair banner at Gold Hill last fall, and it evidently is determined to keep in the lead.

An interesting program of songs, recitations, and readings appropriate to the occasion was given.

Body of Love Lorn Suicide Recovered From Rogue

Grants Pass, Or. Feb. 16.—The body of the man found floating in Rogue River near the mouth of Taylor creek has been identified as that of Ed Sappe, a young man 24 years of age who disappeared from this city on December 10. Sappe had been disappointed in a love affair and from remarks made by him just previous to his disappearance it was feared that he had committed suicide, and search had been made for him by his friends. Sappe leaves a brother and other relatives in the Galice district, where he had been employed in the mines.

Sappe came to this city on December 8, registering at a local hotel. He had been infatuated with a young lady of this city for some time, but claimed that she had at last refused to keep her promise to marry him. Sappe, it is alleged, sought legal advice in an effort to bring about the marriage, and the young lady's father also sought the advice of County Attorney Miller to get Sappe to discontinue his attentions to the girl.

Grand Jury Hard at Work Considering Much Evidence

The grand jury, now in session at Jacksonville, busied itself this week with the attempt by unsuccessful contractors to attack the reputation of County Judge Tou Velle and State Highway Engineer Bowlby, and with the consideration of abusive anonymous letters relative to the Siskiyou highway contracts. Tuesday the jury returned a true bill against A. A. Johnson, charged with living in and about a house of ill fame; also, a true bill against Jack Miller, accused of burglarizing an Ashland store, and a not true bill against Joe Howard on the same charge. Not true bills were returned in the case against W. H. Odin and E. C. Welch, charged with framing mining frauds in a property exchange on Evans Creek.

Human Trombone Will No More Charm Audiences

Carl Hanff, a vaudeville actor known as the "human trombone", was discovered dead in his room at a Medford lodging house Monday morning. Death was found to have been due from catarrh of the heart. Hanff appeared at the Isis theater the evening preceeding his demise.

Ashland Banks to Consolidate

The U. S. National and the First National banks of Ashland have announced their impending consolidation, transacting business under the latter name. The combined capital and surplus will approximate \$120,000, with deposits of over \$500,000.

ELECTRICIAN MEETS TRAGIC DEATH IN OWN BATH ROOM

Richard Curry Receives Voltage From Water Heater, Is Stricken Saturday Last

Death was dealt with tragic swiftness to Richard C. Curry, an employee of the California-Oregon Power company, Saturday morning about nine o'clock, when he was electrocuted in the bath room of his own home at Ray Gold. Efforts to resuscitate the stricken man failed after two hours of heroic methods by Drs. Dow, of Central Point, and Porter, of Medford.

Curry was repairing an electric water heater, carrying but a voltage of 110. No one was with him, but the supposition advanced is that he grasped a water pipe in his work, causing a heavy ground circuit. Members of his family discovered the prostrate form on the floor, and telephoned to the general offices of the power company in Medford, who rushed medical aid to the scene.

The theory advanced is that a weak heart superinduced death from the electricity. Curry was of splendid physical build, and worked as an operator at the plant. He was well known in Medford, where he resided until recently. He was middle aged, and leaves a wife and seven children, the oldest being thirteen years old.

Curry's body was taken to Medford and prepared for burial. The only mark upon the remains was the blackened tip of the little finger of the left hand. The funeral services were held from the Baptist church Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock, the Rev. W. D. MacCullough officiating. The W. of W. lodge, of which he was a member, conducted services at the grave, interment being made in the I. O. O. F. cemetery. Deceased was 35 years of age.

Steelhead for Yamhill.

Sheridan.—Steelhead salmon have never been found in the Yamhill river, though they are found in many streams of smaller size on the east side of the Willamette. Representative R. L. Graves is determined to make the Yamhill one of the best angling streams in the state, and to this end has secured three carloads of young steelhead salmon to stock the stream. One of these will be liberated at McMinnville, one at Sheridan and one at Willamina. A car of trout will be liberated at Carlton.

Nab Portland Chinese Woman.

Portland.—Mrs. Toy Yoke, who is alleged to have eloped on November 27 from this city with Won Wah, the latter having in his possession \$1000 in money and jewels, belonging to Lee Hong, was arrested in Chicago, according to word received by the local police.

She will be brought here to answer to a charge of grand larceny, local officials say. It is alleged the couple eloped immediately after the theft from Hong.

O. W. R. & N. Buying Land.

Pendleton.—Ellsworth Benham, of Portland, representing the O. W. R. & N. Co., arrived at Stanfield and at once began buying land for the right of way of the proposed Coyote cut-off. This action apparently confirms the report which has been current for the past few days that the railroad company expects to commence operations this spring.

Postmaster Alleged Defaulter.

Goldfield, Nev.—With an estimated shortage of between \$5000 and \$10,000 charged against his accounts, E. R. Collins, for eight years postmaster of Goldfield, is a fugitive from justice and a federal warrant charging him with embezzling the specific sum of \$1500 has been issued for his arrest.

2-Pounder 11 Weeks Old.

Tacoma.—Florence Virginia Cole is a future voter of Washington here who is attracting much attention because at the age of 11 weeks she weighs only two pounds. The nurses say she is perfectly normal in every way and has not been sick at all in the weeks of her existence in the basket surrounded by hot water bottles.

Sixty Hurt in Collision.

Springfield, Mo.—Sixty persons were injured, a score of them seriously and five probably fatally, in a collision of two St. Louis & San Francisco railroad passenger trains at Nichols Junction, four miles west of here.

THE MARKETS.

Portland.
Wheat—Club, 87c; bluestem, 98c; red Russian, 86c.
Hay—Timothy, \$17; alfalfa, \$14.
Butter—Creamery, 35c.
Eggs—Candled, 36c.

Seattle.
Wheat—Bluestem, 98c; club, 87c; red Russian, 86c.
Hay—Timothy, \$17 per ton; alfalfa, \$14 per ton.
Eggs—37c.
Butter—Creamery, 36c.

State Hangs Man, Sues.

Astoria.—The county court made an order directing that G. C. Fulton be employed to prosecute a suit in equity to foreclose a lien of the state in the sum of \$622.70 against the estate of Oswald C. Hansel, who was executed at the state penitentiary recently.

The amount due is the court costs for the trial of the case against Hansel, when he was convicted of murder.

Core Brands Suit as Political Plot.

Oklahoma City, Okla.—Denouncing the allegation as an "infamous lie," United States Senator T. P. Gore, from the witness stand, declared that charges of improper conduct, the basis of the \$50,000 damage suit against him by Mrs. Minnie E. Bond, were the invention of a coterie of disappointed office seekers intended to bring him into disrepute and wreck his chances for renomination.

Houghton, Mich.—Three Waddell-Mahon Detective Agency guards and a deputy sheriff were found guilty of manslaughter for killing Steve Putrich, a striking copper mine worker, at Seeberville, on August 14 last.

Dr. Shaw Breaks Ankle.

New York.—Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, president of the National Woman's Suffrage association, slipped while alighting from a train in Jersey City and sustained a fracture of the right ankle.

Indian's Rights Urged.

Philadelphia.—Full rights of citizenship for the American Indian were advocated by speakers at the council of the Society of American Indians, held at the academy of natural sciences.

BURNETT BILL WILL SURELY PASS SENATE

NATIONAL BANKS GIVEN SIXTY DAYS TO ACT

Congress Would Investigate the Tardy Hen; Senate Create Six Vice-Admirals at \$11,000 Per

AUGUSTUS O. BACON



Augustus O. Bacon, United States senator from Georgia, chairman of the senate foreign relations committee, who died in Washington.

BAND COMMENDED BY ESPEE OFFICIAL

Musical Greeting of the Demonstration Train is Warmly Appreciated

An appreciation, not only of the spirit of the Gold Hill Concert Band in volunteering their services for the recent visit of the demonstration train in this city, but of similar spirit which prompted the attendance of citizens of Gold Hill and vicinity in number 700 strong upon that occasion, is the letter received this week by band master Harry Day, from H. A. Hinshaw, general freight agent of the Southern Pacific. Mr. Hinshaw, who accompanied the momentous special, writes as follows:

Portland, Or., February 17, 1914.
Mr. H. Day,
Band Leader,
Gold Hill, Oregon.

Dear Sir:—Am taking this means of expressing to you and the other members of your band, the appreciation of this Company and the College people of the cordial welcome which was accorded the Farming Demonstration Train upon its arrival at Gold Hill on the 12th inst., which together with the excellent attendance we had at your point, proves the deep interest which the people of Gold Hill and surrounding country are taking in our efforts to assist to the greatest possible extent in the development and upbuilding of the territory served by our lines.

Yours very truly,
—H. A. HINSHAW.

Taxes Delinquent April 1st; 1 Percent Monthly Penalty

Assessor W. T. Grieve last week turned over to Treasurer Cronemiller the 1914 extended tax rolls, which total \$895,934.38, divided as follows:
State and county taxes.....\$560,360.69
Special school tax..... 175,884.55
Special city tax..... 139,297.00
City liens..... 19,072.24
Fire patrol..... 1,319.90

Under the new law there is no 3 per cent rebate granted on payment of taxes, which are delinquent April 1. One per cent a month is added for non-payment between April and September. If one half the taxes are paid April 1, the 1 per cent per month is added to the remaining half.

Between April and September there is no penalty but interest, but after September a penalty of 10 per cent is added plus the interest.

Washington.—President Wilson will veto the Burnett immigration bill if it comes to him for his signature with the so-called literacy test contained in it.

This became known from an authoritative source after Chairman Smith, of the senate immigration committee, had announced that the bill, virtually as it passed the house, including the literacy test, would be favorably reported to the senate soon. Prospects are that the bill will pass the senate as reported from the committee, but the measure never will become law, according to close friends of the president.

The president does not consider literacy a test of character, and believes some other means should be devised to prevent undesirable aliens from entering the United States.

It also became known that suggestions with reference to Chinese and Japanese immigration made to the house committee on immigration last Friday by Commissioner Caminetti, of the immigration bureau, were not in accord with the views of the president. Mr. Caminetti's views were expressed without previous knowledge by the white house. The Burnett bill contains no Asiatic exclusion provisions, the house having voted down all amendments in that direction.

Reserve Time Limit Expires Feb. 22.

Warning has been issued to national banks by M. C. Elliott, secretary of the federal reserve bank organization, that to comply with the currency act they must signify within 60 days of its enactment their intention to join the new system. Several banks had expressed the belief that the law allowed them 12 months to make known their intentions. Under the law national banks that do not signify within 60 days must prepare to liquidate, and are allowed 12 months for this process.

The circular explains also that state banks and trust companies which signify their intention of becoming members of the system will be allowed to participate in the selection of directors of reserve banks in their districts.

At the close of business at the treasury department Saturday, 6849 national banks had applied for membership out of a total of 7500 in the United States. The time limit for applications is February 22.

Investigate How to Make Hens Lay.

How to make hens lay more eggs was one of the multitude of investigations authorized in the agricultural appropriation bills reported.

Congress will continue to distribute free seeds, the weather bureau service will be extended to the Panama canal and insular possessions, more than \$200,000 will be spent studying how to eliminate the waste and profits in foodstuffs between the producer and the consumer and a general reorganization of the department of agriculture along lines of great efficiency as laid down by Secretary Houston were authorized in appropriations aggregating \$25,000,000.

Higher Naval Rank Created.

The bill to create six vice-admirals in the navy was passed by the senate and now awaits action by the house. Their salaries were fixed at \$11,000 a year and the age of retirement at 65 years.

How a British naval commander in Mexican waters might assume command over American forces by virtue of his seniority of rank was discussed in animated fashion in the course of the debate on the bill.

National Capital Brevities.

President Wilson will likely name the men to compose the new federal reserve bank board by about March 1. The senate passed the Smoot bill to open withdrawn Alaska coal lands to homestead entry, but reserving to the government title to the coal.

President Wilson spent several days in bed last week nursing a cold. All engagements were cancelled.