

# HAPPENINGS FROM AROUND OREGON

## RAILS TO CENTRAL OREGON

Preparations Go Forward for Construction of Huge Bridges.

Madras—Preliminary preparations are going ahead for the immense steel bridge which is to span Willow creek at Madras. This bridge is on the Deschutes Railway company's line and will be the highest as well as the longest bridge projected for Central Oregon. Another immense steel structure will be the Oregon Trunk bridge across the Columbia at Celilo. This will be the second bridge the Hill people have built across the Columbia within 100 miles of Portland.

A large number of new men were added to the construction crews on both roads during the past week. Carloads of laborers pour into the Harriman camps over the Columbia Southern railroad to Grass Valley and Shaliko. While the Harriman people are thus mustering forces by way of their line through Sherman county, the Hill contractors are daily receiving recruits at The Dalles and Dufur. As many as 100 laborers are reported to have been lodged at Dufur, the terminus of the Great Southern spur from The Dalles, at one time, while to Grass Valley, on the Harriman road, even larger numbers were gathered. June is set as the time for the completion of the Harriman road into the Deschutes valley. Twohy Bros., general contractors for that road, are authority for the date. It is the general belief the Deschutes road will be the first completed to Redmond.

## State Wins Battle for Taxes.

Salem—The state has won the first battle for the collection of several thousand dollars of accrued taxes during 1906, 1907 and 1908, under the gross earnings act of 1906 from the Wells-Fargo express company. Suit was instituted several months ago in the circuit court for this county. The attorney general demurred to the answer of the corporation, and the demurrers were sustained by Circuit Judge Burnett.

The court held that to answer to the complaint made by the corporation to the effect that the gross earnings tax was unconstitutional because it was enacted by the initiative, was not sufficient, for the Supreme court of the state of Oregon has held the initiative amendment valid. The point has been carried by the Pacific States Telephone & Telegraph company to the United States Supreme court for final determination in the case similar to the one now being prosecuted by Attorney General Crawford against the Wells-Fargo company.

## Big Steel Bridge for Willows.

Enterprise—The contract for building the 175 foot span steel bridge across the Grand Ronde river at Troy has been let by the county court to the Columbia Bridge company of Portland for \$7,984.

The bridge will be the largest in the county and will rest on concrete-filled steel piers. About 50 tons of material and tools, including 36 tons of steel, eight tons of cement and four tons of tools, will have to be hauled by wagon from this city to Troy, a distance of 47 miles. The bridge is to be ready for traffic by August 1, 1910.

## \$1,000 for 1910 Boost Fund.

Eugene—There remains nearly \$1,000 in Eugene's 1909 publicity fund. It will be applied to the 1910 fund, which has reached the sum of \$13,000. The board of governors has not yet selected a successor to John H. Hartog, the publicity manager who recently resigned. The board has elected the following officers: F. M. Wilkins, president; W. A. Bell, vice president; R. McMurphy, secretary and treasurer.

## Sells Farm for \$18,000.

Baker City—The E. A. Chambers farm, about 2 1/2 miles north of this city, comprising 240 acres of land and well improved, has been sold to Edward York at \$75 per acre, or \$18,000. Before purchasing the Chambers place Mr. York sold his Warren Spring farm, between Muddy creek and North Powder, 50 acres, to Lorin Perkins, for \$5,100.

## Rumors of New Railroad.

Painley—What does it mean? Announcement is made that the Nevada-California-Oregon railroad company has signed a contract with the Nugent-Richardson Construction company for the grading of the extension from Alturas to Lakeview and that work will begin some time in January. It is stated further that the new line will be a broad gauge.

## Thousand Pairs of Birds Shipped.

Corvallis—During the season just past the Simpson pheasant farm, of Corvallis, shipped out of the state to the Idaho game preserves 1000 pairs of China pheasants, to be used for propagation purposes. Under the state game laws these birds cannot be shipped beyond the borders of Oregon except under permit from the game warden.

## Thirty Musicians in Joseph Orchestra.

Joseph—Joseph has one of the best orchestras in Eastern Oregon. There are 30 musicians in the organization a number of them having played in professional organizations at other places.

## Clatskanie for Good Roads.

Clatskanie—At a meeting of the citizens of Clatskanie and vicinity a tax six and one half mills was voted. The good roads people carried the day by a large vote.

## WATER 2,000 ACRES IN CROOK

Homesteaders Near Bend Cooperate to Reclaim Valley Land.

Bend—L. D. Wiest has secured a water right from Fall river 25 miles south of Bend, and will irrigate 2,000 acres next year. A company to be known as the Fall River Irrigation company will be organized in the near future.

The land to be irrigated is located between the mouth of Fall river on the South and Spring river on the North, on the west side of the Deschutes, the surface being almost level, and having a gentle slope towards the north and east.

The cultivation and irrigation of the same quality of soil in the vicinity has proved that it will produce immense crops of timothy hay and vegetables.

A remarkable feature of this project is that there will be no waste land between the canal and the river, as there are no high ridges and no rock whatever.

The lands included under the system are owned by an energetic class of homesteaders, and the company will be organized and the capital stock owned entirely by them. Among these are M. J. Main, John Usher, A. D. Lewis, John Peters, Joe Hoffman, Bob Bowser and Harold Palmer.

The main canal will be eight feet wide on the bottom and six miles long.

## Big School Population Increase.

La Grande—One thousand four hundred sixty-eight school children, varying in ages from 4 to 20 years, populate the La Grande school district according to figures filed with the county school superintendent from this district. This is an even gain of 97 over last year's school population. There yet remains one district in the county to be reported before Superintendent Bragg can compile the county school population.

## Construct Big Fish Pond.

La Grande—Adolph Newlin is preparing to construct a lake on his tract of land near town. By some excavations and dyke work a pond can be constructed which will cover about four acres of ground and will be several feet deep. The lake will be stocked with mountain trout. The site is ideal, it being surrounded by a heavy growth of trees and shrubbery.

## Develop Limestone Quarry.

Roseburg—The big limestone and cement deposits a few miles south of this city are to be developed next year. A plant will be placed on the property soon, with a capacity of 100 barrels per day. The big cement plant of the company is being located near Portland and will have a capacity of 1500 barrels per day. Most of the material for its operation will be shipped from the Roseburg quarries.

## Telephones in Central Oregon.

Madras—The Deschutes & Harney Telephone company is the new name of a concern that will build a line from Roseland to Silver Lake, extend the Paulina line from Hardin to Burne, build a toll line from Redmond to Madras via Culver and install an exchange at Madras.

## PORTLAND MARKET.

Wheat—Track prices: Bluestem, \$1.20; club, \$1.10; red Russian, \$1.08 @1.09; valley, \$1.08.  
Barley—Feed and brewing, \$30@31.  
Corn—Whole, \$35; cracked, \$36 ton.  
Oats—No. 1 white, \$32.50@33 ton.  
Hay—Timothy: Willamette Valley, \$18@20 per ton; Eastern Oregon, \$18 @21.50; alfalfa, \$16@16.50; clover, \$15@16; cheat, \$15@16; grain hay, \$15@16.  
Butter—City creamery extras, 39c; fancy outside creamery, 34@39c per pound; store, 22 1/2@24c. Butter fat prices average 1 1/2c per pound under regular butter prices.  
Poultry—Hens, 14 1/2@15c; springs, 14 1/2@15c; ducks, 20c; geese, 12c; turkeys, live, nominal; dressed, 24@25c.  
Eggs—Fresh Oregon extras, 42 1/2c per dozen; Eastern, 28@30c per dozen.  
Pork—Fancy, 10@10 1/2c per pound.  
Veal—Extras, 11@11 1/2c per pound.  
Fresh Fruits—Apples, 1 1/2@3 boxes; pears, \$1@1.50 box; cranberries, 39c per barrel.  
Potatoes—Carload buying prices: Oregon, 65@85 per sack; sweet potatoes, 2c per pound.  
Vegetables—Artichokes 75c per dozen; cabbage, \$1.60@1.75 per hundred; celery, \$3.50@4 per crate; horseradish, \$1.50 per box; pumpkins, 1 1/2@1 3/4c; sprouts, 6@7c per pound; squash, 1@1 1/2c; tomatoes, 75c@81c; turnips, \$1 per sack; carrots, \$1; beets, \$1.50; parsnips, \$1.50.  
Onions—Oregon, \$1.30@1.40 sack.  
Hops—1909 crop, 20@21c; olds, nominal.  
Wool—Eastern Oregon, 16@23c pound; mohair, choice, 25c.  
Casaca bark—4 1/2c per pound.  
Hides—Dry hides, 18@19c pound; dry kip, 17@18c per pound; dry calf-skin, 19@21c per pound; salted hides, 10@11c; salted calf-skin, 15@16c; green, 1c less.  
Cattle—Best steers, \$4.50@4.75; fair to good, \$4@4.25; medium and feeders, \$3.25@3.50; cows, top, \$3.50 @3.85; fair to good, \$3@3.25; common to medium, \$2.50@3.75; bulls, \$5.25@5.50; heavy, 4@4.75.  
Hogs—Best, \$8.50@8.65; medium, \$7.50@8.25; stockers, \$6.50@6.75.  
Sheep—Best wethers, \$5.50@5.75; fair to good, \$4.50@5.25; yearlings, best, \$5@5.25; fair to good, \$4.50@4.75; lambs, \$6@6.25.

## COLONIST TRAVEL HEAVY.

Year of 1909 Was Record-Breaker. More Expected in 1910.

Chicago, Jan. 3.—The colonizing work done by the railroads in the west and Pacific northwest during the spring and fall of 1909 broke all records in railway history. Figures prepared by the management of the Harriman lines show that the number of colonists who were taken into the Pacific coast territory far exceeded the number in any other year.

The increase over the colonist movement of 1908 was fully 70 per cent, and may have been in excess of this.

Figures for the movement over the Hill lines are not available, the management refusing to give any detailed information regarding the number of new home makers they transported into the northwest during the last year.

It is understood, however, that the Hill lines did not make as determined an effort to secure colonists as they have made in former years. This fact is said to be due to trouble in the colonist department of the Northern Pacific which led late in the year to the resignation of C. W. Mott, general immigration agent. On the Great Northern road, the illness of Max Bass, general immigration agent, which resulted in his death, somewhat retarded the work of taking homeseekers to the northwest.

It is understood that in 1910 the management of both the Great Northern and the Northern Pacific, aided by the management of the Burlington, are to make a special effort toward populating the vacant lands along their lines in the fertile states of the northwest.

In each year the railroads have two short periods which they call colonist periods. The spring colonist period is from March 1 to April 30, while the fall period is from September 15 to October 15. In the fall period of 1909, the Harriman lines sold a total of 11,541 tickets to California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah, Colorado and Wyoming points. In the corresponding period of 1908, the same lines sold a total of 6,227. The increase for 1909 was 5,314 tickets. This is an increase for the fall period of 85 per cent. In the fall of 1908 colonist tickets were sold between September 1 and October 31, during which time the Harriman line sold a total of 15,816 tickets. Accordingly, in just half the time in the fall of 1909 the Harriman lines sold within 4,275 tickets of the number sold during the 60-day period of 1908.

## DYNAMITERS IN TOILS.

Striking Railroad Machinists Attempt Violence, Is Belief.

Baltimore, Jan. 3.—Following an attempt last evening to blow up the Gay-street bridge of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, three men were arrested on a charge of conspiracy with intent to dynamite the bridge and also the Mount Clair machine shops of the company. The bridge was not seriously damaged. William R. Shipley, Hamilton W. Lighter and William H. Zimmerman, all machinists, were later taken into custody. Detective Captain Humphrey claims to have evidence directly implicating the men.

## Prison Cruelty Alleged.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 3.—General Dodd, formerly overseer of the city prison, testifying before the investigating committee, in addition to corroborating the stories of cruelty to prisoners, and of filthy and unsanitary conditions, declared that the food served to the prisoners was unfit even for the lower kind of animals. Prisoners frequently showed bread containing flies, he said, and one man brought him a piece of bread containing a spider. He declared the place was overrun with vermin. Pearl Bryan, one of three white women who was hung up by rings while at the stockade, said she was strung up nearly 45 minutes and was only taken down when they saw blood running down her arms.

## Mount Pelee Is Active.

St. Thomas, D. W. I., Jan. 3.—Cable advices received here report a violent earthquake in the French island of Martinique and the British island of St. Vincent early today. Mount Pelee, a volcano on the island of Martinique, and La Soufriere, in St. Vincent, are reported active. A message from Fort de France, Martinique, says an earthquake shock was felt, but no damage was done. Nothing has been heard from St. Vincent since early today. Considerable anxiety is felt here about Kingston, Jamaica.

## Paroled Convict Is Shot.

Chicago, Jan. 3.—Harry Featherstone, a paroled convict, who has a long police record, was shot and seriously injured here today in a chase which followed a robbery of a South Side saloon. Featherstone and two companions were pursued after they had rifled the till and a policeman who joined in the chase sent a bullet into Featherstone's back. Search was begun for his companions. According to the police, Featherstone has participated in many daring robberies.

## Labor Fights Big Trust.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Officers of the American Federation of Labor tonight issued a call on its 1,540,000 members to subscribe to a fund with which to wage a fight on the steel trust. The call arraigns the corporation as inimical both to labor and to the country and as a violator of the laws. The sum of \$154,000 is to be raised at once.

# The Redemption of David Corson

By CHARLES FREDERIC GOSS

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## CHAPTER XI.—(Continued.)

It occurred to him that if he left the body where it was and it should be eventually discovered, it would afford the gravest suspicions of foul play; but that if he dragged it back again to the road and laid it with its face to the dust, against the rock with which the deed was done, it might pass for an accident.

Once more that hideous smile of cunning lit up the face which in these few moments had undergone a mysterious deterioration. He hastily removed the heap of rubbish, shuddered as he saw the loathsome thing once more exposed to view, but seized it, dragged it back, and placed it with consummate art in the position which his criminal presence had suggested.

As it lay there in the road nothing could have seemed more natural than that it had fallen from the horse; he felt another momentary relief from terror, in which he cunningly concealed a still more sagacious plan, on noticing Pepeeta from her. Having watched the players for a long time, David convinced himself that he could employ this trick successfully, and took his place at the table.

David felt his way along with a coolness that astonished himself, and his very first experiment with the delicate apparatus concealed in his sleeve was such a brilliant triumph that he saw it was undetected. With a strengthened confidence, he made the stakes larger and larger, and his winnings increased so rapidly as to make him the center of attention. The crowd swarmed round the table. The spectators became breathless. The gamblers were first astonished, then bewildered. As their nerve failed them, David's assurance increased, and when day broke ten thousand dollars lay upon the table before him as the result of his skillful and desperate efforts.

Their loss astonished and enraged the gamblers to such a degree that with a preconcerted signal they sprang at their opponent, determined to regain their money by violence. The move was not unexpected, nor was he unprepared. He fought as he had played, and so won the sympathies of the bystanders than in an instant there was a general melee in which he was helped to escape with the winnings.

He was the hero of the trip, and a career had opened before him. Satellites began to circle around him and to solicit his friendship and patronage. When he disembarked at New Orleans he had already entered into a partnership with one of the most notable members of the gambling fraternity, and purchased an interest in one of those "palaces" where games of chance attracted and destroyed their thousands.

The newspapers made the story throngs of that gayest of all cities familiar with the incidents of David's advent. He and Pepeeta became the talk of the town. They rented a fashionable house, and swung out into the current of the mad life of the metropolis of the South.

For a little while this excitement and glory softened the pain in the heart of the man who believed himself to be a murderer and encouraged him to hope that it might eventually pass away. He played recklessly but successfully, for he was a transient favorite of the fickle goddess. When gambling lost its power to drown the voice of conscience, there was the race, the play and the wine cup. To each of them appealing in turn, he went whirling madly around the circles of the great maelstrom in which so many brilliant youths were swallowed in those ante-bellum days.

For two years David and Pepeeta lived together in New Orleans. They were years full of import, and of trouble. A baby came to them, lived a few weeks, and then died. David pursued the occupation he had chosen, with the vicissitudes of fortune usually attending the votaries of games of chance, and the moral and spiritual deterioration which they invariably develop.

Pepeeta altered strangely. Her bloom disappeared and an expression of sadness became habitual on her face. She was surrounded by luxuries of every kind, but they did not give her peace. With an ambition which never flagged she sought self-improvement, and attained it to a remarkable degree. Endowed with an inherited aptitude for culture, she read and studied books, observed and imitated elegant manners, and rapidly absorbed the best elements of such higher life as she had access to, until her natural beauty and charm were wonderfully enhanced. Yet she was not happy, for her life with David had brought her nothing but surprise and disappointment; something had come between them, she knew not what.

"Day des growed apart," said the old negro "mammy," who was with them during those two years. "Seemed to des tech each other like mables at a single point, staid of gneitin' together lak two drops of watah runnin' down a window pane. Mars David, he done went he own way, drinkin' and gamblin'; he lak a madman when he baby die. He seem skeered when he see Miss Pepeeta. She look at him wid her big black eyes full of wonder and surprise, stretch out her lit han's, and when he run away or struck her, she des go out to the lit baby's grave, creepin' along lak a shadder through the gyarden, soft lak and still. Dar she des set down all alone and sigh lak de breeze in he old pine tree. Some days she gony away all alone and de brack folks say she wanner all

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## CHAPTER XII.

The morning after the fight David and Pepeeta hurried on to Louisville, and from there took a steamer to New Orleans. Pepeeta was radiant with joy as they embarked. "How happy I am!" she cried. "It seems as if I had left my old life and the old world behind me!"

"And I am happy to see you glad," answered the wretched youth, whose heart lay in his bosom like lead and whose conscience was writhing with a torture of whose like he had never even dreamed. They embarked unknown and unobserved; but as soon as the first confusion had passed, their singular beauty and unusual appearance made them the cynosure of every eye.

"Who is that splendid fellow?" women asked each other, as David passed with Pepeeta on his arm, while under their breaths men declared that his companion was the loveliest woman who had ever set foot on a Mississippi steamer.

David was in heed of excitement. The thought of his crime was constantly agitating his heart, the prostrate form of the doctor with the bloody wound on his forehead was never absent from his mind, and through all the ceaseless rumble around him he could hear the dull thud of the stone upon the hard skull. The efforts which he made to throw off these horrible weights that crushed him were like those of a man awakened from a nightmare. He scarcely

dared to speak for fear of uttering words which would betray him and which seemed to tremble on his lips. Had he been on shore he would have fled to the solitude of a forest; but here he was resistlessly impelled to that other solitude—a crowd. The necessity of being gay with his beautiful bride and of concealing every trace of his terror and remorse taxed his resources to their utmost limit, and in his nervousness he kept Pepeeta moving with him all day long. At its close she was completely exhausted; and retired early to her stateroom. Freed from her company and craving relief from thought, David made his way straight to the gambling tables where the nightly games were in full swing.

In the months which they had spent together the quick had indoctrinated David into all the best-known secrets of this vice, and besides this, had familiarized him with the use of a certain "hold out" of his own invention, with which he had achieved incredible results and which was new to the fraternity of the river. Having watched the players for a long time, David convinced himself that he could employ this trick successfully, and took his place at the table.

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aroun' in de woods. When Sunday come, she des slip into de churches lak a lit mouse and nibble up de gospel crumbs and den run away before de priests catch her. Dark days dose, in de old Ballantrae mansion! And den come de night when dey panted. You done heah about dat?"

The old colored mammy was right. "They just grew apart," as it was inevitable that they should. Perfect self-manifestation is the true principle and law of love, and when a guilty secret comes between two lovers, suspicion and fear inevitably result. They become incomprehensible to each other.

It was a frightful discipline; but she was sanctified by it. Day by day she became more patient, gentle and resigned, and in proportion as she grew in these graces, her lover's awe and fear increased, and so they drifted farther and farther apart. Such relationships cannot continue forever, and they generally terminate in tragedy.

After the first few months' excitement of his new life, David's conscience began to torment him anew. He became melancholy, then moody, and finally fell into the habit of sitting for hours among the crowds which swarmed the gambling rooms, brooding over his secret. From stage to stage in the evolution of his remorse he passed until he at last reached that of superstition, which attacks the soul of the gambler as rust does iron. And so the wretched victim of many vices sat one evening at the close of the second year with his hat drawn down over his eyes, reflecting upon his past.

"What's the matter, Davy?" asked a player who had lost his stake, and was whistling good-humoredly, as he left the room.

"Leave me alone," David growled, and reached for a glass mug containing a strong decoction to which he was resorting more and more as his troubles grew intolerable. A strange thing happened! As he put it to his lips its bottom dropped upon the table and the contents streamed into his lap and down to the floor. It was the straw that broke the camel's back, for it had aroused a superstitious terror.

With a smothered cry he sprang to his feet and gazed around upon his companions. They, too, had observed the untoward accident, and to them as well as to him it was a symbol of disaster. Not one of them doubted that the bottom would fall out of his fortunes as out of his glass, for by such signs as these the gambler reads his destiny.

He pulled himself together and made a jest of the accident, but it was impossible for him to dissipate the impression it had made on the minds of his companions or to banish the gloom from his own soul. And so after a few brave but futile efforts to break the spell of apprehension, he slipped quietly away, opened the door and passed out into the night.

(To be continued.)

## PREY OF THE TIGER.

Has Preference for Human Flesh After Once Tasting It.

In the intervals of rest and recreation, which Mr. Rees doubtless allows himself he may do worse than give his most attentive consideration to certain facts mentioned by a writer in the Indian Forester bearing upon the evolution of the forest tiger's taste, first for cattle and then for human meat, the India Daily News says.

When tired of the monotony of the menu provided by deer or wild pig the forest tiger develops a taste for domestic cattle, and then its modus operandi is a very interesting study. The menu is changed from deer-forest to cattle-breeding area, where the tiger leisurely carries on its depredations until shot—an operation which, however it might shock Mr. Rees, is one of the most beneficent acts of the sportsman.

As the writer in the aforesaid periodical says, the transition from cattle slaying to man slaying is not a great step. Where cattle abound human beings are, and once the tiger has tasted the human meat it develops an extraordinary passion for it. And so it must have its daily feed. It goes anywhere in search of food.

Many years ago a tiger swam the Rangoon river, nearly a mile in width, and landed in the heart of the locality, crept under the raised floor of a Burman hut and was promptly slaughtered.

About six years ago a large tiger was observed on the platform of the Shwe-Dogan pagoda at Rangoon and was shot by a party of soldiers told off for the purpose. The superstitious Burmese attributed the outbreak of plague in Rangoon to the shooting of this tiger, which they declared was some particular manifestation of the Buddha. It is a curious fact, however, that the plague outbreak occurred shortly afterward, and the city has not since been free of the scourge.

## A Compromise.

"You'll have to send for another doctor," said the one who had been called after a glance at the patient.

"Am I so ill as that?" gasped the sufferer.

"I don't know just how ill you are," replied the man of medicine, "but I know you're the lawyer who cross-examined me when I appeared as an expert witness. My conscience won't let me kill you, and I'll be hanged if I want to cure you. Good day."—Philadelphia Inquirer.

## Before and After.

She was a frivolous, fashionable young woman with beaux galore, but one man with only a small income seemed to be the favorite.

"You'll have to work hard before you win that girl," said his mother.

"And a good deal harder after you win her," answered his father, who knew what he was talking about.—Tit-Bits.

Kindness in ourselves is the honey that blunts the sting of unkindness in another.—Peabody.