

THE COQUILLE HERALD

VOL. 35, NO. 17

COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1917.

PER YEAR \$1.50

JOHNSON WILL OPERATE MILL

Leases Property from Dollar Company to Cut Big Order of Spruce for Sitka Co.

WILL MEAN DOUBLED PAYROLL

Work of Preparation Will Commence at Once

The Dollar company mill, formerly the property of the Coquille Lumber company, has been leased by E. E. Johnson from the Dollar people and will be put into operation by him as soon as the machinery can be overhauled and put in shape to run. Ever since the Coquille Lumber company was forced to shut down the mill about six months after it was built in 1912, the people have looked forward to the time when it would again be put into operation.

When the price of lumber began to "come back" after a slump of several years, it was expected that the Dollar people would operate the mill themselves; but the high freight rates which they were able to obtain with their lumber boats made it more profitable for them to haul for others than to operate.

Mr. Johnson began negotiations with the Dollar company shortly after closing a contract with the Sitka Spruce company, of Portland, for large quantities of spruce timber. He returned Thursday from a trip to San Francisco and announced that the deal was closed and that the mill would probably be running by the first of next month.

The property which Mr. Johnson leased is practically new as it has only been operated about six months and has been well taken care of while it was lying idle. Mr. Johnson states, however, that without the expenditure of considerable money the mill will produce but little more than his other mill. Running in its present condition it will employ about 30 men and will cut about 40,000 feet per day, which is about the average cut of the Johnson mill.

C. McC. Johnson will have charge of the work at the new mill which will attend to the cutting of the spruce timber, while the other mill will handle the fir.

With the commencing of the operation of a second mill here it is expected that it will be necessary to obtain men from outside this community, although this will not be done until it becomes necessary.

Another gratifying feature of the increased activities in the lumber industry is the fact that the camps from which the timber will come lie within a short distance of the mills and Coquille will benefit from them almost as much as she will from the mills themselves. Aasen Bros., camp on Beaver slough, which is furnishing logs for the Johnson mill, has about 30 men at work and expects to increase that number soon. The Boutin tract, which will be logged by the Crane company, also lies in the vicinity of Beaver slough.

Not for a number of years have the people of Coquille regarded the prospects for the immediate future prosperity of the city as bright as they are at the present time.

In One Man's Lifetime

William Abernethy, a former resident of Dora, died Saturday last at his home in Forest Grove of pneumonia, aged 85 years. The end was not unexpected and his son, Edward, who resides at Dora, had been summoned to his bedside.

Deceased came around the horn and landed in the Oregon country in 1843. He was the only son of the first territorial governor of Oregon. His wife, whose maiden name was Gray, daughter of W. H. Gray, author of Gray's History of Oregon, and who crossed the plains with the Dr. Marcus Whitman party, with the following children survive him: Mrs. A. T. Hahn, Seattle, Wash.; Mrs. A. T. Hahn, Multnomah, Ore.; Mrs. V. E. Waterman, Welches, Ore.; Mrs. W. Star, Tacoma, Wash.; Mrs. M. C. Miller, McKinley; Mrs. Bennett Swanton, Marshfield; Mrs. C. A. Hahn, Forest Grove; Miss Camilla Abernethy, Brown College; Edwin Abernethy, Sitkum; Wm. Abernethy, Tacoma, Wash.

BAY PAPERS GET WRONG REPORTS

Actions of County Court Are Erroneously Reported to Harbor and Record

OFFICIALS DENY STATEMENTS

Records Show That Stories Are Misleading

During the past week several erroneous statements have appeared in certain of the Bay papers in regard to the actions of the county court; but in none of them is the identity of the informant revealed. There seems to be, however, a lingering suspicion in the minds of some of the county officials as to the source of information.

Under a date line of January 5, the Coos Bay Harbor makes the following statements, most of which appeared in the Evening Record of an earlier date and in different wording:

The County Court has agreed to adopt a new plan for purchasing supplies for county use, which if placed in operation will, the members of the County Court believe, save the taxpayers many dollars every month.

The plan agreed on is to have two purchasing agents to handle the buying and for the county. It has been ordered that the Coos County Clerk will be one and will have the buying for the court house in charge. The roadmaster may be the other and will have charge of the outside buying.

All supplies purchased are to be issued on requisition only and the persons receiving same will be held in strict accountability.

The plan as adopted is to do away with making purchases by piece meal, and to buy in quantities and from the lowest responsible bidder. All purchases for goods amounting to over \$25 to be submitted to bids. Supplies for the poor farm are to be bought in large quantities.

The court passed an order requiring all road supervisors to make an inventory of all county property in the shape of road working material on hands. The plan is to require each supervisor to sign a receipt for the material and hold him responsible for the same.

In this new plan all members of the Court concurred and it will be worked out soon.

Oregon Metal Mine Production in 1916

Preliminary estimates of the production of metals from Oregon mines in 1916, by the United States Geological Survey, Department of the Interior, show increases over 1915 for gold, silver and copper, and a decrease for lead. The output of gold in 1915 was \$1,861,796 and the estimated output for 1916 is \$1,900,000, an increase of \$38,204. The output of silver in 1915 was 117,947 ounces, and the estimated output in 1916 227,500 ounces, or 109,553 ounces more. The output of copper in 1915 was 451,172 pounds, and the estimated output in 1916 is 2,527,000 pounds, an increase for 1916 of 2,075,828 pounds, and the output of lead in 1915 was 62,957 pounds, as compared with 22,000 pounds in 1916, or 41,000 pounds less. These preliminary figures are compiled by Charles G. Yale, of the San Francisco office of the Geological Survey.

The increase in gold is merely nominal, but that of silver has about doubled. The most notable increase is in the quantity of copper, an increase caused by the incentive offered by high prices.

There are less than a hundred productive metal mines in Oregon, and the number of placers is about double that of the deep mines. However, two-thirds of the gold output and virtually all that of the other metals, is derived from deep mines. No very productive new properties have been opened during the year. The entire output of the deep mines is derived from less than 160,000 tons of ore, having an average value of about \$9 a ton. Baker is still the most productive county in the state, yielding annually nearly 90 per cent of all the gold. The Cornucopia and the Baker mines, in the Cornucopia district, Baker county, are the most productive deep mines in Oregon. Other large deep mines in Baker county are those of the Commercial Mining Co. (Rainbow mine), at Rye Valley, in the Morrison Basin district; of the Columbia Gold Mines Co. at Sumpter, Cracker Creek district; and of the Homestead-Iron Dyke property, at Copperfield, Iron Dyke district.

The Powder River dredge Co., operating two dredges near Sumpter, Cracker Creek district, is the most productive placer mining enterprise in the State. In 1916 a new dredge was under construction in the John Day Valley, Grant county.

The most productive hydraulic mine in Oregon is that on the property of the Columbia Mines Co. in Placer district, Josephine county, and the Sterling, in Forest Creek district, Jackson county. The gold won by dredging far exceeds that obtained by all other forms of placer mining combined.

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County Agent Work

Through development of improved organization and the growth of a more definite project system the Office of Extension Work in the North and West carried its demonstration activities into closer relation to the practical needs of the farmers of the region during the past year, according to the annual report of the States Relations Service of the department. Local associations of farmers took a greater part in the work and more attention was devoted to studies of local economic facts upon which to develop demonstrations of permanent value. Extension work in the special interests of farm women was undertaken in the territory under the office, and a number of women agents were placed in the field.

Among the specific results from the county agent work of the Office of Extension Work in the North and West during the year were:

Yields of corn in fields managed as demonstrations under supervision of the county agents increased on an average 12.8 bushels per acre over the average yields for the region.

Yields of wheat in fields managed as demonstrations increased 11.7 bushels per acre.

LAWMAKERS IN SESSION

State Legislature Meets at Salem—Stanfield Gets Speakership

FARMERS SHOULD BE ON ALERT

If They Would Safeguard Hard-Earned Achievements

The twenty-ninth session of the Oregon legislature opened yesterday. Sunday night at ten o'clock, L. E. Bean, of Eugene, withdrew from the Speakership contest, leaving Robert N. Stanfield, of Umatilla county to be elected without opposition. Gus Moser was elected president of the Senate also without opposition. It was expected that the governor's message would be delivered early today.

In discussing the present session of the legislature and its importance to the farmers of the State, A. Slaughter, president of the Oregon Butter and Cheesemakers' Association, in an address at the Oregon Agricultural College to the Dairymen's Association, last Saturday said:

"You will have to scrutinize every bill that is introduced into this legislature if you want to safeguard the achievements that you have worked so hard to bring about. The interests of the dairyman and the farmer will be assailed by all the subtleties of the politician's art. Those opposed to your interests are already devising schemes to undermine the few successes you have achieved in your struggle for a fair share of the products of your labor. This institution, the Oregon Agricultural College, will be assailed in the same way, by the entrenched interests that are not willing to see you escape from their control, if by hook or crook they can prevent it. Bills that on their face have no show of hostility to you or to the college may be the very ones that have in them the concealed force to cut you off from a chance to be independent. My advice to you is to keep your eyes peeled against traps laid for the unwary."

Mr. Slaughter, who is president of the Oregon Butter and Cheesemakers' Association, and chairman of its legislative committee, presented a number of resolutions to the Dairymen's Association which, in spite of the late hour of the session of the Association, were vigorously discussed and unanimously endorsed. Among them was one urging that the legislature combine the Office of Weights and Measures with that of the Dairy and Food Commissioner, and another urging that because of the careless and unsanitary handling of borrowed milk cans by the patrons of creameries, the loaning of milk cans by creameries be prohibited.

In discussing the Oregon Cooperative Dairy Exchange furthered by the College, Mr. Slaughter said that the Capital City Creamery of which he is manager, has already through its directors, voted to join the Exchange, and that it is only awaiting the annual meeting in order to get together a sufficient number of stockholders to take the necessary action under the cooperative law. He knew, he said, of at least two other large cooperative creameries whose action in the direction of joining the Exchange had reached the same stage.

Mr. Church was formerly employed at Porter mill in North Bend and about six months ago went to San Francisco to have an operation performed at the clinic. When he returned he tried work again but was too weak to do even odd jobs for himself. About five months ago he went to the county poor farm for care and he is now in the best health he has known for many years. He left the farm last Friday.

He says that he always received good treatment, doing what he could for himself but always receiving ready help from Mrs. McLeod, concerning whose uniform kindness he speaks in high terms. Three meals a day or a late breakfast, a late dinner and a lunch and good food every time, he claims were always provided and he tells of an elderly lady who for the third winter has been an inmate of the Farm and who declares she does not know how she could get along without Mrs. McLeod.—Times.

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Prohibition Helps

There are only sixteen inmates at the county infirmary, which is the lowest number in the history of the institution, and according to County Judge Watson prohibition is the reason for it. Heretofore, Judge Watson states, there have been numerous cases where the county has been compelled to take charge of people who could lay the blame of their positions to booze alone, and at times there has been as high as 40 inmates at the infirmary. Since prohibition went into effect in Oregon a year ago the number has been steadily decreasing and the number of booze cases has been reduced to a minimum. Judge Watson says that the introduction of prohibition has also had a marked effect on the number of people who find their way into the county jail.

It was with some surprise that we read the paragraph in the above article regarding the order of the court requiring the road supervisors to make a monthly report and inventory of the material on hand. Upon going to the Roadmaster's office we saw several reports from road supervisors from different parts of the county lying on a table. Each report gave a list of the material and tools in the possession of the Supervisor at the time the report was made. Upon inquiry it developed that these reports had been coming in regularly every month for a long time.

According to Judge Watson the order requiring these reports was not made by the present County Court. The last statement in the above report of the Court's action is, perhaps, the most erroneous of all, in the light of the statements made by Judge Watson. He says that there was no agreement of the Court on any new plan, and that it is possible that part of it, aside from that which is already in operation may be adopted.

Taken as a whole the article is decidedly misleading, while parts of it are entirely false, and the same is the case with the article printed by the Record. The latter paper gave Archie Philip, newly elected commissioner, credit for the installation of the requisition system of buying and for the order requiring an inventory of county property. Both were ordered by the court and were in effect before Mr. Philip went into office.

Higher Wages in Camp

Wages in lumber camps in the Lake Superior region started in at least \$10 a month ahead of last year. The wages are: General workers, including sawyers, road makers, road cutters and swamper, \$35 a month for transients, and \$40 a month for men who stay on the job a month or more; teamsters and canthook men, from \$40 to \$45 per month; top loaders, \$50 to \$55 per month. These wages include board, and there is no chance to spend money in camp.

CRADING TO BE RESUMED

In About Two Months

Ed Perham, the contractor who is doing the improvement work on the county road between Marshfield and the Summit, was in town Wednesday to confer with the county court on some matters connected with the changing of grades on the project on which he is working. Mr. Perham says that the work of grading is being held up on account of unfavorable weather conditions and that it will be two months or more before the work can be resumed. In the meantime, he is going ahead with the work of clearing the right of way and of finishing the construction of some bridges. He expects to have the clearing completed by the end of this month.

Ed Perham intends to bid on the job of grading the road from the Summit and says he expects to get it. The fact that he has his machinery on the road puts him in a better position to handle the job than the contractor who has to move his machinery from a distance.

Given Good Care

"I want to say something good for Mrs. McLeod. She was mighty good to me and I want her to get what she deserves," said W. H. Church, a former occupant of the county poor farm in speaking of Mrs. Allen McLeod, wife of the county superintendent.

Mr. Church was formerly employed at Porter mill in North Bend and about six months ago went to San Francisco to have an operation performed at the clinic. When he returned he tried work again but was too weak to do even odd jobs for himself. About five months ago he went to the county poor farm for care and he is now in the best health he has known for many years. He left the farm last Friday.

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SYNOPSIS OF MANY EVENTS

News of County, State and National Interest Told in Brief Concise Form

SEVEN PIONEERS OF COOS DIE

"A Hog for Every Cow in Oregon," Says Potter

Oregon elections for 1915-1916 cost a total of \$476,961. Department of Weights and Measures are to be merged with the Dairy department.

North Inlet, the cranberry-producing area of Coos county, has only 25 per cent of its normal crop this season. Ashland has recently shipped two cars of Newton apples for Manchester England, and is loading one for Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

A brocoli grower near Roseburg received a \$3400 check for a 17 acre crop. Douglas county will ship 150 carloads this coming season.

Oregon's prune crop is the largest and finest in the state's history. It amounts to 40,000,000 pounds and will net the growers \$3,000,000.

The Southern Pacific company has called for bids for 1000 freight cars to be built of wood throughout both under frame and super structure.

The gasoline schooner Roamer, Captain Olsen, from Coos Bay, went ashore at the mouth of Rogue River. She is in no immediate danger, being high on the beach. She is being unloaded.