

Rogue River Courier.

VOL. XXII.

GRANTS PASS, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1906.

No. 37.

ANNUAL REPORT SHOWS DEPARTMENT'S ACTIVITY

**Policy of Administration Will
Not Be Changed by Retirement
of Secretary.**

The secretary of the interior Tuesday made his annual report. It is a voluminous document consisting of 885 pages of printed matter. Concerning land fraud prosecutions, Secretary Hitchcock says:

"The unusual activity in the public land service referred to in my last annual report has not abated. The prosecution of all persons conspiring to defraud the government of its public lands is being continued with vigor, as is shown by the fact that 40 persons have been indicted in the various land states and territories for the violation of the public land laws, 39 have been convicted, and indictments are still pending against 401. The zeal with which the officers of this department and the department of justice are looking into these matters is constantly uncovering new cases that are startling in character, but it is the policy of the administration to continue these investigations and prosecutions until a proper respect for the property rights of the government, and a regard for the law are established throughout those sections of the country in which such laws apply.

"It is to be regretted, however, that the efforts made to release the public domain from the grip of its despoilers have been met by every embarrassment that human ingenuity could devise; powerful influences have been concerned, and have not hesitated to aggressively exert every agency that could be commanded to weaken the hand of the law; even local land office officials have been subservient to such influences, and the punishment imposed by the courts has in many cases, been so conspicuously inadequate as to encourage rather than deter violations of the law. Whether this official stagnation is due in any degree to local political influences to which these officials are more or less indebted for their commissions and the retention of their positions, is not important to discuss at this time, it being sufficient to state that it is a deplorable fact that such action, or rather inaction, is bringing reproach upon the public service, besides enhancing the difficulties which beset the administration in any efforts that it may make to rescue the public domain from serious peril.

"In the discharge of my duty under the law I have proceeded without the slightest prejudice for or against any person or persons interested. In such efforts as have been made to protect the service under my supervision from the ravages of inordinate greed, I have not considered either the station or the power of the guilty. Apparently they are all on the same footing; in my judgment, however, the higher the offender the greater the crime against society and law, because of the force and influence of the higher example.

"It is not possible for persons and

corporations of great influence and power to maintain inclosures of the public land in open disregard of a criminal statute, without thereby encouraging others to do likewise; and here it may be properly noted that reports on file in the department indicate that approximately 500,000 acres and more of the public domain in certain states and territories are by unlawful means appropriated to the exclusive use of private interests for private gain."

The secretary renews recommendations for the repeal of the timber and stone act and the desert land act as the cause of the frauds.

"The gigantic land frauds in the state of Oregon, mentioned in my last several annual reports, are being pursued with relentless vigor. New cases, as well as ramifications of the old ones, are carefully and thoroughly investigated and indictments are being pressed to convictions as rapidly as possible."

Then follows a list of the indictments returned and the history of each case tried. He concludes:

"The annual reports of the special agents of the general land office show action in 68 cases of unlawful fencing in the state of Oregon, affecting 31,169 acres.

"My official influence in this matter will soon terminate, but I shall have the comfort of retiring from public service of a well-founded conviction that the action of the president relative to this class of lawlessness will be so rigorous as to enable my successor to successfully administer the law."

REPORTS ON FIRE INSURANCE SETTLEMENTS

**Special Committee of San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
Reports 80 Per Cent Paid**

The report of the special committee of the board of trustees of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce on insurance settlements after the big fire says:

"The total area burned was about 3000 acres, or about 4.7 square miles, containing 520 blocks and about 35,000 buildings, one-half of which were residences.

"The amount of insurance covering property in the burned district was approximately \$25,000,000 (estimated). All had been written by companies authorized to do business in the state, except \$5,000,000, which had been placed outside the state in some 100 companies.

"Value of buildings and contents destroyed in the fire must have been about \$350,000,000, being an estimate upon the insurance liability that carried no insurance.

"An immense sum of insurance has been paid into this city, a far larger sum than companies have ever been called upon to pay at one time before. In spite of the earthquake, in spite of the nearness in time of the Baltimore and Toronto conflagrations, the companies will finally have paid undoubtedly in the neighborhood of 80 per cent of the insurance involved. At Chicago there was 50 per cent paid, and at Baltimore 90 per cent."

BISHOP SCADDING TALKS OF DIOCESE CONDITIONS

**Church in Oregon Needs More of
the Right Kind of
Clergymen.**

The Rt. Rev. Charles Scadding, D. D., Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal church in Oregon, visited Grants Pass last Thursday and Sunday. On Thursday he met the vestry and many members and at night was tendered a reception. On Sunday night he preached to a large congregation and expressed his appreciation of the kindness and assurances of support he had received.

Speaking of the strong tendency in Oregon to centralize most of the religious, social and industrial energy of the state in Portland, Bishop Scadding said he knows only the diocese of Oregon and his efforts will be devoted to all parts of the great state alike. While his headquarters will necessarily be located in Portland, yet he hopes to work personally with churches in every nook and corner of the state and no remote section will be so far away as not to receive every attention from the head of the church.

He has come to Oregon to join in the development and upbuilding of the state and as churchman and citizen will be found fighting her battles and telling the wondrous story of the west.

Bishop Scadding said he was deeply impressed by the vastness of the diocese and the magnificent opportunities for work for God which the rapidly increasing population in some places presented.

The great need of the Episcopal church in Oregon is for clergymen of the right kind—optimistic, constructive, zealous, tactful men—and for means with which to pay them fair living stipends. Many people expect to get in the ministry what they never look for in business, namely, a \$5000 man for less than \$6000 per year. The services of a Christian minister, however, could not be measured by dollars and cents, and he knew there were many clergymen making great personal sacrifices for the cause.

The bishop expressed his regret at finding so many weak or closed missions in the diocese, and intends at the earliest opportunity to strengthen these, just so soon as they show readiness to be strengthened and bear their share of a missionary's support.

Without formulating any definite plan, he desired to be considered as much the bishop of Eastern Oregon as of Southern and Western Oregon and is pleased with the loyalty and spirit of the people of Grants Pass and believes in a splendid future for Southern Oregon and that the church people will keep pace with its material prosperity by supporting the preachers and missions with which they are connected.

Oregon is no longer a missionary jurisdiction of the Episcopal church but a regularly constituted diocese, and as such must become more and more self-supporting. He believes it would be a conservation of energy, and proper, to combine some of the missions and serve them from some strong center; and his present policy is to "strengthen the stakes before lengthening the cords."

The Bishop intends returning in the early Spring for a longer visitation in all the missions and will be accompanied by Mrs. Scadding.

THE SPLIT-LOG DRAG PROVES A SUCCESS

**Marion County Professional Man
Becomes "Drag" Enthusiast
After Riding Over Road.**

Good roads can be made without great expense and with little labor if the work is undertaken in the right way. Eternal vigilance is said to be the price of liberty, and it applies as well to the making of good roads. The split-log drag will accomplish wonders in the making of good roads if it is only properly used.

The following from the Salem Statesman shows that some of the farmers in Marion county have made good use of the drag:

"Several pieces of road in different sections of Marion county, which have been treated with the split-log drag method, are causing much favorable comment. The roads dragged

are said to be in splendid condition, despite the recent heavy rains. Wherever the drag has been properly used, it is said the road has a solid foundation and a smooth surface.

"Dr. W. B. Morse of this city made a professional visit to Silverton on Saturday and upon his return was loud in his praises of a stretch of road which has been treated to a thorough dragging and over which he had occasion to travel during the trip. The stretch referred to begins a short distance from the end of the government object lesson road, recently constructed, and is about three miles in length. Dr. Morse declares the "drag" road furnishes a better surface for travel than the macadam and believes if the dragging is kept up, that particular stretch will, within a few years, become the finest piece of road in the county.

"County Judge Scott is making every effort to interest the farmers throughout Marion county in the split-log drag roads. He has also instructed the supervisors to use the drag as much as possible and he is confident the simple, inexpensive device will do all that is claimed for it."

ATTORNEY HOGUE IS HELD IN JAIL Time Spent in Hospital Does Not Count on His Sentence of Four Months.

M. G. Hogue, ex-city attorney of Medford, who is serving four months in the Multnomah county jail, is clamoring for his freedom. Hogue, with others, was convicted of land frauds by a federal jury last July. He was sentenced to four months in jail and to pay a fine of \$500. At the time of the trial, and even before the trial, Hogue complained of being ill and made an effort to have the trial postponed. The report which was received by United States Attorney Bristol and Francis J. Heney, who were the prosecutors, did not bear out Hogue's claim of illness and he was brought to Portland. Hogue played the part of a sick man well, and one morning during the trial failed to appear in court. After waiting an hour, Heney and Bristol learned that Hogue was supposed to be in a comatose condition at his lodgings. A doctor was summoned and went to where Hogue was living. Dr. K. A. J. MacKenzie was the physician called. When, in company with Mr. Bristol, he arrived at Hogue's rooms, he found Hogue staring wide-eyed at the ceiling. The subject certainly looked bad, but when Dr. MacKenzie gave him the usual test, the sick man came to with a yell.

This made the officials believe that Hogue was playing a part. It did not help him to stave off conviction, but his ill health helped him to secure a light sentence.

After sentence was passed on Hogue, he was sent to the jail, but convinced the authorities that he was really ill and was later sent to St. Vincent Hospital. He was there for some time, but was returned to the jail, having been pronounced in good health by the physicians who examined him. In spite of this, however, he managed to work his way back to the hospital several times. In all, it is estimated that since sentence was passed upon him, he has spent almost a month outside of the jail. Hogue started to serve his sentence July 28, and the way he has figured it out, his sentence expired November 28. When that date rolled around, Hogue, in a letter addressed to United States Marshal Reed, demanded his release. But Hogue is still in jail and from all accounts he is liable to remain there until he has served his full four months.

The statute under which the Medford attorney was convicted says that the time must be served in jail. There is a proviso that for good behavior five days can be taken off each month. Nothing has been allowed Hogue for good behavior, for the authorities are fully convinced that his illness was sham. Neither do they intend that he shall have credit for having served the time in the county jail he spent on a cot at the hospital.

The present rain, following a period of exceptionally beautiful and pleasant weather, is the first real, efficacious and undeniable rainy time of the winter thus far. Snow has fallen to a considerable depth in the higher mountains and the result of the storm will be to start hitherto idle hydraulic plants all over the county.

REVIVAL MEETINGS TO CLOSE SUNDAY NIGHT

**Much Interest Still Being Taken
and Many Are Coming
Forward.**

The interest in the revival meetings led by Honeywell and Bilhorn have suffered no diminution in this, the last week of the meetings. Every evening the tabernacle is filled with a crowd of eager listeners. The intensity and zeal of the preacher do not flag as the end of the series of meetings approaches; on the contrary, some of the most masterly and effective of his appeals seem to have been reserved for the final week. Few who heard his wonderful word picture on Tuesday evening of the feast of Belshazzar at Babylon will fail to remember it for years for its remarkably vivid and impressive character. The extremely forcible plainness and directness of Mr. Honeywell's discourses spares no offender and while the great majority of his listeners take their medicine manfully, there is now and then an individual who cannot philosophically swallow the doses so generously ladled out. So among an extremely small proportion of those who have attended some animosity has been aroused which has manifested itself in utterances on the streets and in a number of anonymous communications addressed to Mr. Honeywell.

These last do not bring much satisfaction to the senders however, in view of Mr. Honeywell's announcement of his habit of burning such missives unread. But there is only now and then a case of this character. Nearly every one recognizes the sincerity and weight of Mr. Honeywell's remarks and respects him all the more for his fearless directness.

A second meeting for men only was held in the tabernacle on Sunday afternoon and was attended by about 600 men. It was a very successful meeting and 33 responded at the close of the service to the invitation to come forward. On Monday evening a meeting was held for women and was attended by about 700 women and one man. The one lone male in the sea of women held his fearsome position with admirable courage and declined to take his departure until a vote had to be taken on the momentous question as to whether or not he should be permitted to remain. The sentiment expressed being nearly unanimous in disfavor of masculine presence, he was finally induced to retreat which he did in good order and without panic.

Converts are being received each night in numbers varying from five to 25 at a time. The total results of the meeting will be very gratifying to the Christian people. Besides these visible results an incalculable good is being done among people who have hitherto spent little thought on their way of life and many are being induced to lead cleaner, straighter and squarer lives, though they do not accept the Christian faith.

Mr. Bilhorn's singing continues to be a powerful attraction and his solos on each evening are heard with much appreciative pleasure. An especially enjoyable musical feature was the

duet on Wednesday evening by Mr. Bilhorn and Mrs. W. L. Ireland.

The meetings will close with the Sunday evening service. On Sunday morning the meeting will be held in the tabernacle at 10:45 and in the afternoon at 2:45 another meeting will be held for men only.

BRIGGS MINE BEING STEADILY DEVELOPED

**Scene of the Rich Strike of 1904 a
Busy Place—Good Ore Being
Taken Out.**

The Briggs mine at the head of Sucker creek, the scene of the phenomenal gold find of 1904, is making a grand showing under development. Ever since Mansager Staples of the Briggs Bar Gold Mining Co., has been in charge of the property, a force of men have been steadily and quietly carrying on development work and the present showing of the property is one that is extremely gratifying to the management. A. J. Fulk, one of the original locators of the property and who has been employed as foreman during the progress of the development work, was in Grants Pass this week and speaks in the highest terms of the present appearance and prospects of the mine.

Altogether, the development work thus far aggregates about 1900 feet. Three separate ledges are shown, running on a nearly parallel course. The first of these, the one on which the original discovery was made, is about eight inches in width and carries varying values, running up in some places to \$1000 per ton. The second ledge is large, about 20 feet in width and carries steady values of about \$5 per ton in free gold besides more or less in sulphides. The third ledge was discovered in crosscutting what was originally thought to be one of the ledge walls. This crosscut has been driven a distance of 70 feet and is still in ore. Mr. Fulk says the course of the tunnel may not be directly across the course of the ledge but it is safe to say that the width is not less than 60 feet. This ore carries values of about \$20 per ton, but is "base," the values occurring in sulphides and little free gold being found.

The projected wagon road, should it be built, would greatly expedite the development and equipment of this property as the remoteness of the place and the great difficulty of transportation of machinery greatly impedes the progress of the work. In the winter time it is impracticable to bring in even supplies for more than a small force of men. A wagon road is badly needed that the property may be equipped efficiently as it requires a quartz mill of large capacity to handle the ore which is shown in so great extent. Other quartz mines of Sucker creek are showing up well. The company which has taken a bond on the Platts property near the mouth of Boland creek are preparing for extensive development work. The "Little Gem" owned by Barnett & Sutherland is being worked and is presenting a fine appearance. The Cobb ledge, owned by Grimmer, Hell & Mathews is being operated on a small scale and is yielding high grade ore in gratifying quantity.

This Space Belongs to Thomas and O'Neill

NOTICE!

Owing to the unprecedented call for advertising space in this paper during the holiday season we have temporarily been compelled to transfer our advertisement to the 3rd page—Read it and note the prices, then call and see for yourself, it will pay you.

Thomas & O'Neill,
Headquarters for Christmas Gifts.

I Sell Real Estate

**SURETY BONDS.
FIRE INSURANCE
AND
RENT HOUSES.**

**W. L. IRELAND,
The Real Estate Man.**

General Floor, Courier Building, Grants Pass, Ore.

SHORT TIME BARGAINS

- \$300 A large barn on two choice lots close in. Barn alone is worth the price. 7/4
- \$500 3-room cottage, 1 1/2 lots, good well. House is well painted and in good condition. Nice shade tree in yard. Place close in. It rented for \$5.50 per month.
- \$5000 280 acres, 10 miles from Grants Pass, 100 acres hay ground, balance pasture and timber. Water to irrigate all land in cultivation. Fine out-range for stock.
- \$10,000 150 acres of choice river bottom fruit land close to town. Well improved. Good building.