

Rogue River Courier.

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HAYES HILL TO BE TUNNELLED

PUSHING SURVEY OF RAILROAD TO THE ILLINOIS VALLEY

THE POINT OF DEPARTURE

Residents of Lower Country Jubilant Over the Prospects of the New Railroad to the Coast

The Courier has endeavored to keep its readers informed regarding the railroad situation, always avoiding wild rumors which do not bear the impress of reliability. There is certainly much railroad talk from Grants Pass all the way down to the Illinois valley. This, for the most part, has related to the so-called Grants Pass & Crescent City line. The people who are conversant with what is going on fully believe that construction on this road will be commenced within the next few months. There is great activity along the first half of the route, the surveyors being active at several points. At one time there was much talk about the purchase of the Draper right of way by the Southern Pacific and the fact that the survey made by this company parallels the Draper line looks as if the Southern Pacific refuses to pay the sum demanded and are trying to bring down the price. The Draper right of way was secured to sell and just why it has not found a purchaser before this is not definitely known to the public. The surveyors are making things lively, even around Grants Pass. At the present time there is a camp of eight engineers on what is known as the bridge road, near the old county home, nearly two miles west of town. These surveyors have run numerous lines and finally settled on a route to leave the main line at a point near the California box factory; thence skirting along the hill west to the old race track, where it makes southwest towards the river, passing near the Dimick school house; then crossing the river near the lower White Rocks. From that point the road will run in a southern direction and as far as possible avoiding steep grades. In leaving Grants Pass by the route spoken of a full mile is saved as compared to the Draper survey.

The survey camp which has so long been located at Love Station will, we are informed, be moved in a few days to Waldo. There has been no little difficulty encountered by the engineers near Slate creek, there being no less than three surveys up the stream named and they all converge at Hayes hill. A tunnel will be driven through the hill and its length will be from half to three-quarters of a mile. The line of the tunnel will be under the present wagon road. A talk Wednesday night by phone with R. C. Churchill, the merchant at Selma, shows that the people down that way have confidence that the Southern Pacific company is in earnest and will build the road without unnecessary delay. He said that it would be a great help to that country in the way of developing the agricultural and mining interests of that section. He thought the rich valley down there would be able to supply a large and constantly increasing tonnage for a railroad and it was his opinion that there were few more promising countries through which to build a road. The people, he said, were watching with deep interest every move by the railroad men and if good wishes count in such an enterprise there can be no failure.

From what has been learned in Portland, The Courier believes that the Grants Pass and Crescent City road will be the subject of discussion at a meeting in New York in the very near future. It has not as yet been decided to build the line, but it is thought by those on the inside that the chances are favorable for its construction the coming season. We are

CRIMINALLY CARELESS WITH FIREARMS HERE

What came near being a very serious accident occurred yesterday when a member of a party of gentlemen who were strolling along the river across from the foot of Fourth street had his eyelashes singed by a spent bullet fired by some miscreant across the river somewhere between Fourth and Sixth street. Had the bullet not been so far spent as to be visible to the naked eye, thus giving him time to throw back his head, the gentleman would have undoubtedly been struck in the temple with force enough to have killed him outright. This promiscuous shooting within the city limits has been the cause of complaint in the past and at least one man has been struck by stray bullets in the last few months and unless radical measures are taken to stop the practice it will be the means of bringing sorrow to more than one home, if not prison stripes for the offender himself.

MAIL RUSH HEAVY

When under ordinary conditions the eleven men employed in the Grants Pass post office handle about fifty bags of mail per day, including incoming and outgoing mails, one can get some idea of what the holiday season means for the servants of the United States when letters, post cards and packages come in by the thousands and the mail bags increase from 50 to 80 per day.

Throughout the week the mails have been unusually heavy and it is estimated that the entire business of the week will exceed that of the corresponding week of last year by 35 per cent.

IRRIGATION THE GREAT NEED, SAYS OLD TIMER

F. A. Wilber, an old time resident of Grants Pass, had some interesting impressions to give to a Courier reporter who called on him.

Mr. Wilber, who left Grants Pass five years ago, was surprised at the growth and improvements—especially the paving of the streets. "I came to Grants Pass," he said, "when the village was in its infancy and I have seen it grow gradually. In all that time I failed to see any artificial boom. It was a steady growth.

"The residents of this town need not envy the seemingly booming condition of the neighboring towns. Such inflated prosperity is not lasting."

When asked what he regarded as Grants Pass' greatest need, he answered in one word—"Irrigation." "Irrigation will help produce wealth, and the wealth producers, not the speculators, will benefit the community."

Mr. Wilber left last night with his family for his home in Marcus, 100 miles north of Spokane. It is on the Columbia river in the Colville Indian reservation.

Mr. Wilber engaged in various activities when in Grants Pass. He ran a mill at Murphy. Later he bought the Bannard furniture store. But finally left for Spokane, where he has made a success of the lumber business.

RUSSIAN LION AETER FRANK GOTCH'S SCALP

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—George Hackenschmidt, the "Russian Lion," today picked up the gauntlet thrown down by "Farmer" Burns in behalf of Frank Gotch, the retired wrestling champion. Through Jack Curley, his manager, Hackenschmidt posted a forfeit with a Chicago sporting editor and wired Bob Edgren, sporting editor of the New York World, that he would accept the side bet of \$20,000 imposed as a condition of the match by Gotch.

told that a decision to build or not to build will be arrived at the latter part of January or the first part of February. This subject is highly important to Grants Pass as well as the Illinois valley. Should work commence the coming spring there will be great activity in all lines of business in this city and we can expect a rush to this country, and, consequently, an increased demand for real estate.

PENDLETON GETS INSANE ASYLUM; MANY PROTEST

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 28.—Protests poured into the capital today from Baker and Union because of the action of the state board in selecting Pendleton as the site of the eastern Oregon branch insane asylum. According to reports reaching here the citizens of Baker were particularly disappointed and they hint at injunction proceedings and intimate that politics had much to do with the board's action.

There is a feeling of smug satisfaction in Umatilla county, however, as Pendleton succeeded in landing the asylum site and Dr. J. D. Plamondon, of Athena, was appointed to the superintendency of the institution. Dr. Plamondon will undertake his new work at once, it is believed, as the work of preparing the estimates and gathering data as to the cost of maintaining the asylum will fall on his shoulders.

The asylum site, consisting of 33 acres, is located on the west border of Pendleton.

Dr. Plamondon says he thinks the new building should be ready in from eight months to one year. He is unable to estimate at this time how much additional the legislature will be asked to appropriate to complete the institution.

GOODS ROADS IS SUBJECT OF CITIZEN'S LETTER

In the matter of good roads movement, while we may not say anything new, we will try to jot down a few reminders as they may appear to us. It is a notorious fact that we are sadly behind other portions of the country in the matter of road making. This condition is not so much due to the lack of interest as the absence of opportunity, financial privilege, and technical knowledge and adaptability.

In any new country like Josephine county large outlays carefully expended are imperative before even a passably good thoroughfare can be had, and to this must be added the usual upkeep, which with our unorganized, crude methods of dispensing labor, totals a sum of enormous proportions.

Strangely as it may seem, the supervisor goes about his work as no other line of work would be considered, accepting Bill Jones and Smith from squirrel ranches to undertake the skillful labor of building a great highway for which the public are expected to pay, and do pay an enormous sum annually, to see the same wasted year after year, all through a lack of system which requires years of learning and actual experience to properly administer.

County Superintendent of Roads.

This important office should be filled by a competent man who will be clothed with power to enforce labor orders at the time and in the manner ordered. And he should be a man whose duty it is to live upon every road within his district, and further, he should be paid by the year, and a salary befitting the task, and he should be a man who can pass a good examination upon every phase of work required, and not, as is the case at the present time, one selected as the most handy one out of a job, but one who must first have passed a thorough examination before a competent board, before he is allowed to undertake the work. The season to repair roads is continuous, and while there are proper seasons for certain kinds of work, at all times of the year good, earnest, conscientious labor is required, and a good man can find it, and in plenty. He should have the power of policing each road in his district, and stop this eight hours pay for four hours work, as is common today.

With such an office properly filled it is easy to foresee one hundred per cent improvement in road conditions everywhere.

The Split Log Drag.

There is much to be said in its favor. One good team of 1400 pound horses driven by a thoroughly competent man, and no other should be considered, can properly dress a great many miles of road through the season, eliminate all of the ruts and heavy sags, one of the greatest enemies to good roads, with the advent of rains.

(Continued on Page Five.)

ATTEMPTED HOLDUP IN SOUTHEAST PART CITY

On Sunday evening about 9 o'clock there was an attempted hold-up at a house in the red light district which caused quite a commotion in that quarter of the town. A man appeared wearing a mask, a red handkerchief over his face, with a revolver in his right hand. This gun he aimed at the man nearest him and demanded his money. There was another visitor at the place at the time who stood very near the holdup and he grabbed the fellow's arm and pushed the gun away. The robber pulled the trigger, but the hammer failed to explode the cartridge and so somebody's life was possibly saved. In the scrimmage the mask came down from the robber's face and hung around his neck. Then it was that he was recognized as "Pickle" Davis, who some years ago resided in this city and returned to town a few days ago. The bystander, who had interfered and took away the gun from Davis fired that individual's own gun at him as the hold-up fled through the front gate. Who it was that interfered the police either do not know or do not care to tell, nor can they give the name of the woman who runs the house in the Red Light quarters.

As soon as the robber was gone the police were notified and arrived promptly. After finding out who the fellow was they started in pursuit. The sheriff and several other persons also joined the search, but so far the hold-up has not been captured.

WILL PLANT REDWOOD SEED FOR BIG TREES

Four pounds of seed of the big tree have been received by Supervisor Fromme from Hot Springs. This tree has the northern limit of its range of distribution in central California and the redwood, which is closely related to this tree, is found in Oregon only along the coast in southwestern Curry county, with its northern limit on the south slope of the Chetco river.

It is the intention of the supervisor to sow this seed on a favorable site in the redwood belt to see if it is not possible to extend the range of the big tree so that it can be successfully grow over a larger area. The five pounds of seed will be sufficient to sow about five acres.

During the past year the forest service has grown about 50,000 trees in a small nursery establishment near Waldo. About 4000 of these are eastern hardwoods, and include the black walnut, red oak, shagbark hickory and a tree native of China known as the Chinese pitache. The remaining 46,000 consist of the common fir, spruce and three European species known as the Austria, Scotch and maritime pines, and also a cedar of Asia that is said to be particularly suited to dry, rocky slopes having severe exposure.

These evergreen species are now being transplanted in rows and spaced so that they can make a bushy growth and after another year will be transplanted in the hills to restock some burn.

The hardwood species will be transplanted this winter on the Winchuck river in southwestern Curry county. Conditions in that locality seem especially favorable, as on an acre of eastern hardwood planted there last spring most of the trees have made a thrifty growth and appear well suited to the locality.

The Pacific slope is poorly supplied in native hardwood trees that are well suited for wagon work, furniture or agricultural implements and should eastern species do well here the natural shortage of this class of material can be averted.

FOUNDER OF BREMERTON DEAD

SEATTLE, Dec. 29.—William Bremer, found of the town of Bremerton, where the Puget Sound navy yard is now located, is dead at his home in this city of a protracted illness. Bremer was 69 years old and had lived in this vicinity for 23 years.

WERE MANY MARRIAGES DURING CHRISTMAS WEEK

Cadra-Hays

At the residence of the bride's parents near Kerby, at 1:30 p. m. on Christmas day, by Rev. Cady, Miss Bertha Hays and Laurence Cadra, of Crescent City, Cal. The bride is a popular young lady of the Illinois valley and the groom is a prominent dairy man of Del Norte county, Cal. Mr. Clyde Hays and Miss Della Hays, brother and sister of the bride, acted as bridesmaid and best man. It was a quiet wedding, only relatives of the bride and groom being present. The bride was dressed in a white serge princess skirt and white silk waist, and she looked very charming. The room was elaborately decorated with evergreens and holly. After the ceremony all partook of a bountiful dinner. Their many friends wish them a happy and prosperous wedded life.

Harmon-Hanscam

Miss Della Harmon and Albert Hanscam were joined in the holy bond of matrimony at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Harmon, of Dryden, on Sunday, December 25, 1910. Immediate relatives and friends only were present to witness the pretty ceremony, after which a sumptuous Christmas dinner was served. The bride is an admirable young lady with a host of friends to wish her happiness with the man of her choice. The groom is a well known young man, respected by all who know him. The young people will reside at Dryden for the present.

Messinger-Letteken

Miss Nellie Messinger and Samuel Letteken, both of Fruitdale, were united in marriage at the Arlington hotel parlors Tuesday, December 27, 1910. The ceremony was performed by Rev. F. M. Canfield in the presence of a few relatives and friends. Both these young people are well and favorably known in the locality where they reside, the groom being in the hop raising business. Many friends wish them happiness and prosperity in their wedded life.

Heyer-Breitmayer

Miss Amy B. Heyer and Florenz Breitmayer were united in marriage at half noon Wednesday, December 28, 1910, at the St. Luke's Episcopal rectory, Rev. Mr. Hamilton officiating. The wedding was a very quiet affair, only the immediate relatives of the contracting parties being present. Both bride and groom are residents of Fruitdale, where they are well and favorably known. The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Emma Heyer, and is a young lady of charming personality, possessing womanly qualities and refinement. The groom is a young man of fine character, capable and courteous in all matters. Mr. and Mrs. Breitmayer will reside at "Forest Home," Fruitdale, where they are followed by the hearty good wishes and congratulations from a host of friends.

Robert B. Reed and Florence V. Cook were united in marriage on Saturday, December 24, by Rev. F. C. Lovett at the Lovett residence, 661 North Second street.

SUCCESSFUL MASQUERADE

The masquerade ball given at the Coliseum rink on Monday evening was a big success, both socially and financially. The ball has been greatly improved and modernized since changing hands and this, together with the artistic decorations, made the affair all the more enjoyable. There were between 40 and 50 masked couples. Mrs. Will Riggs, as a Scotch lassie, received the lady's prize, and Rodney Calvert, as a Dutchman, carried off first honors for the gentleman. The Demaree orchestra furnished the music, and the floor was in good condition every one was in a merry mood. After the masks were laid aside programs were given out and many who did not mask joined the dancers and the wee sma' hours were numbering three before the last of the dancers departed for home. Thall was crowded to its utmost capacity with spectators.

NEBRASKA MAN VISITS THE PASS

HIGHLY PLEASSED WITH GRANTS PASS AND SURROUNDINGS

GIVES US ELOQUENT PRAISE

City Schools, Streets, Cluster Lights, the Rogue River and Green Hills Appeal to Visitor

J. Young, of central Nebraska, was a Grants Pass visitor yesterday and it can be said for him that he was well pleased with what he saw here. He dropped in at The Courier office just as he was ready to take the afternoon train south, being on his way to visit friends in San Francisco. Mr. Young is a farmer of experience and it is his intention to select a home for himself and family on the coast in order that they may enjoy a mild climate and pleasant conditions generally. He was thoroughly in love with this city and the country immediately surrounding it and talked interestingly of the things he had seen while here. He said his visit was purely by chance, as he had no idea of stopping in the Rogue River valley and when he started it did not occur to him that he would even pass through this famous country. "You see," said Mr. Young, "on my way west I visited friends in Ohio and it chanced that they were subscribers to the Rogue River Courier. I was shown the paper and had an opportunity to examine several copies of it and became interested at once. My friends told me considerable about Grants Pass, things they had learned from the paper and they gave me to understand that they were expecting to pay a visit here early in the spring. I told them I would stop over as I passed through and that is how I came to visit you today.

I can truly say that this is the most delightful location I have ever seen, your beautiful city situated among the green hills which entirely surround it is like no other place I have passed through on the road here. Your climate just suits me; I am tired of the everlasting wind which sweeps the prairie states and the deep snows which make life almost unendurable. I have seen all of your school houses and I can pronounce them equal to those of the best towns in the country. Your Sixth street with its bitulthic pavement and beautiful cluster lights would be a credit to any large city in the country. I have just been down to the steel bridge at the foot of Sixth street and was charmed with the bright waters of the Rogue running between green banks and through picturesque scenery. When I compare that river with the Platte in my state I forget my loyalty, which I have maintained for so many years, to my own commonwealth. They tell me that you have good fishing in the river and good hunting in your forests, both of which I long to enjoy.

"There is much more I could tell you, but my train will soon be here and so I must start for the depot."

Mr. Young hurried down the street but lingered long enough to say that he intended to make arrangements to meet his Ohio friends here in the spring and if he could find an investment to suit him he would locate not far from Grants Pass.

CAPTAIN'S AMBITION CAUSE OF SHIPWRECK

VICTORIA, Dec. 29.—That the steamer St. Denis, which is reported to have foundered on her way from Vancouver to South America, was the victim of a young captain's ambition to make a record for carrying a large cargo, is the opinion of well informed marine men of this port.

Captain Davis of the St. Denis was a young man and had informed many of his friends that he was going to load his ship to the guards. Many of them advised him against this and were not surprised to hear of the disaster.