

Rogue River Courier

WEEKLY EDITION

VOL. XXVIII GRANTS PASS JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON. FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 1913. NO. 40.

J. G. RIGGS BUYS G.P. R.R. RAILWAY

TO BE MERGED WITH NEW INCORPORATION.

NEW COMPANY IN FIELD

Portland, San Francisco and Coast Railroad Organized With Capital Stock of \$2,000,000.

That the finances are already provided for the building of the Portland, San Francisco and Coast Railway is the statement of J. G. Riggs, who has returned from Portland, where the incorporation papers of the new project were filed Monday.

The purpose of the new company, which is capitalized at \$2,000,000, divided into 20,000 shares of a par value of \$100 each, is to build a line from Marshfield, Ore., to Trinidad, California, with connecting lines to Grants Pass, the Illinois valley and the copper fields of southern Oregon, the incorporators being E. N. Chester, Portland, representing eastern interests; H. N. Tinker, president First Trust company, Portland; J. G. Riggs, Grants Pass, Oregon; Henry A. Davie, attorney, First Trust company, Portland.

Mr. Riggs says that the incorporation is the outgrowth of plans that have been under development for the past two years, and include the main line down the coast and the connections into this territory, with arrangements already made for the operation under agreement with the S. P. Co. The coast line, according to the articles of incorporation, will cross the Rogue river some distance up from the mouth, near the Illinois river. A branch will then be run up the Illinois to Kerby, and on to Grants Pass, building on the old Southern Pacific survey. A line to the Blue Ledge mining district runs from Grants Pass to Seattle Bar.

As a part of the general scheme, deeds have today been filed with the county clerk conveying to S. H. Riggs all the rights-of-way, trackage and other property of the Grants Pass and Rogue River Railroad company, which it is understood will become part of the new corporation, the deeds being made from the receiver of the defunct company to Mr. Riggs Tuesday Mr. Riggs had men on the ground protecting the temporary railroad bridge built across the Rogue from high water, cables being run from the bridge to anchors on shore.

Mr. Riggs said that the building of the road was being undertaken independent of any of the other railway corporations, though traffic arrangements had been entered into with the S. P. Co., which company owns the lines with which connection will be made north and south. He says that construction will commence in the spring, and that rails for spring delivery are already ordered.

Mr. Riggs says that the men who are backing the new company are men of recognized standing in the financial world, and while he did not feel at liberty to say who they were, he added that the announcement of their names would give ample assurance that the newly incorporated road was sure to come to a successful issue.

ELECTROCUTION FOR VIRGINIA BANDITS.

RICHMOND, Va., Jan. 15.—The supreme court of Virginia this afternoon denied a new trial to Claude and Floyd Allen, members of the notorious Allen clan of bandits, convicted of first degree murder for the part they played in the shooting up of the Hillsville county court house. Unless the governor interferes the two men will be electrocuted here Friday morning.

P.-I. CAMP NO. 1 MOVED ACROSS ALLEN CREEK.

Clearing the right-of-way on the Pacific-Interior railway is progressing rapidly, and camp No. 1 has been moved across Allen creek and the men are now working to the west of that stream.

The engineer and those in charge have been considering the advisability of letting a contract to local parties for the clearing of a three-mile stretch of the right-of-way, and bids were asked for that work. Saturday afternoon twelve separate bids had been filed with the engineer's office, all from local people. The clearing covered in this contract will be that extending to Jerome prairie, a point 6 1-2 miles from this city. To Allen creek the right-of-way has been cleared the full one hundred feet in width, but from there on the clearing will be only of such width as will be necessary to the making of the grades and the moving of dirt in the cuts and fills.

From the city out across Jerome prairie very little grading will be necessary, there being no cuts of depth. The engineering department is therefore contemplating the letting of a great number of individual contracts, each of a few hundred feet only, to individuals at a stated price per yard of earth moved. Much of this grading is shovel work, and by taking a contract in this way men can work as hard as they please and know that they are being paid according to the effort they put forth. By this method more men could be put on the job at once.

The newly appointed Public Utilities commission has met and organized, Jos. Moss being named as vice chairman to act in the absence of the mayor, who is permanent chairman of the body. Saturday the board of directors of the Pacific-Interior met with the commission, and plans were discussed for the turning over to the city of the property now held by the directors. This includes the Draper-Gunn terminals and the right-of-way and the notes, documents, etc., that go with it.

The city is now advertising the \$200,000 bond issue for sale, and asks that the bids cover all or any part of the issue. Transcripts have been prepared to go to each bidder and he must base his bid upon this, putting up one-eighth of the amount of the bid as a guarantee that he will complete the purchase within five days after the acceptance of the bid by the council. This precaution is taken to prevent the delay that was occasioned by the methods employed at the time of the sale of bonds a year ago, and is to make the bond money available at the earliest possible moment.

Hospital Busy—

Mrs. J. Christie, who was operated on by Drs. Loughridge and Stricker at the South Pacific hospital on the 4th of January, is making satisfactory recovery. Mrs. Christie was operated on in Portland for the same trouble two years ago but the operation had to be repeated. On Sunday a heavy operation was performed on Mrs. C. H. Gilman; and on Monday Mrs. Lem Trask was operated on for tumor; and on Tuesday, Dr. Findley operated on C. A. Learned, of Medford, for diverging strabismus. On Thursday Miss Winnie Osborne of Murphy was operated on for appendicitis. All the patients are making satisfactory recovery.

Inland Excursionists Here—

A special train bearing 220 excursionists from the Inland Empire to southern California points passed through the city Thursday noon. A short stop was made here, and representatives of the commercial club were at the depot to present the northerners with a couple of boxes of Rogue River Newtown apples. There were also a number of one-time residents of eastern Washington at the depot to greet friends who were among the excursionists.

S. J. Wayment and J. W. Reed, who have been working a rich claim near Galice for the past several years are stopping at the Josephine. Messrs. Wayment and Reed bring some fine ore with them and are enthusiastic over the mining future of this country.

HAMMOND C. KINNEY, PIONEER OF GRANTS PASS, DIED TUESDAY, JAN. 14

Passing of One of the Foremost Citizens of Southern Oregon Is Mourned by the Entire Community.

Hammond C. Kinney, for 28 years the foremost citizen of Grants Pass, its leader in enterprise and in commercial activity, kind of heart, gentle of disposition, beloved of all our people, has passed away.

That word passed on the street just before noon on Tuesday, January 14th, has caused an entire city to bow its head in mourning, regret in the loss of a citizen, sorrow in the final departure of the true friend, philanthropist and Christian gentleman.

Early in December it was announced that Mr. Kinney was stricken with disease. In the hope that change of climate would prove beneficial he went to California, but neither the climatic change nor the best of medical attention was availing, and he returned to Grants Pass almost immediately, arriving here on January

pany, erecting the plant for that institution in the fall of 1885.

The following year the box factory was built. At the same time they started a general merchandise business at the corner of Sixth and F streets. In 1889 and again in 1902, disaster visited the firm, fire destroying the mill, but it was at once rebuilt in each instance, Mr. Kinney having been as undaunted in his courage as he was stable in his judgment.

In 1890 the Sugar Pine store building was erected at the corner of Sixth and F streets, Mr. Kinney being the president of the company at that time. A year later the store was purchased by Messrs. Kinney and Truax, in whose proprietorship it remained till the time of Mr. Kinney's death.

The factory in this city of which Mr. Kinney was in management became the leading industry of the lo-



HAMMOND C. KINNEY.

Born in Quebec, Ontario, February 26, 1850. Died at Grants Pass, Ore., January 14, 1913.

2nd, since which date he had failed daily in strength. Specialists were called in, and while it seemed to be agreed that the liver was the seat of the ailment, no definite diagnosis was announced, and the strength of the patient was waning too fast for the contemplated operation.

The public was warned that nature could likely not rally, and while we were in a measure prepared for the announcement that has now come, it has nevertheless proved a shock to all.

Hammond C. Kinney was a native of Quebec, Ontario, where he was born February 26th, 1850, though as a child he removed with his parents to Orleans county, Vermont, and his earliest recollections were of farm life in the Green Mountain state. His father, Hammond Kinney Sr., was a native of Vermont, and had lived in the state except for a brief time spent in Potten, Quebec, during which period the son was born. As a boy, young Kinney followed the uneventful life of the county boy, attending the district school, and when old enough to go for himself was employed by the Fairbanks Scale Co. of St. Johnsbury, Vermont, with which firm he remained for twelve years.

On removing to the west, Mr. Kinney located at Rathdrum, Idaho, where he gained his first experience in the saw mill industry, coming to Grants Pass in March, 1885, and becoming interested at once in the lumbering and milling enterprise of this locality. He became associated here with H. B. Miller, and organized the Sugar Pine Door & Lumber com-

munity, filling a large place in the commercial life of southern Oregon, and at one time it consumed the product of three mills built by the company in Josephine, as well as the product of other mills within the plant. Mr. Kinney was also at one time associated with lumbering interests at Hill, Cal.

He was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Southern Oregon, and continued a director of that institution to the time of his death.

If Mr. Kinney was a leader in the business affairs of the growing community, so also was he a leader in the social and the political life as well. He assisted in the organization of the Bethany Presbyterian church in 1887, and was the secretary of the first Sunday school organized by that society. In 1888 he united with the church in the organization of which he had taken part, and during all the remainder of these years he was foremost in the work of the church and in advancing the cause of humanity. A member of the church choir, and for over 20 years its director, was also prominent in musical circles throughout the city, and held the position of president of the local Music Club during the past year.

Three terms he had served upon the city council, and in 1908 he was mayor of the city. He had also done his full duty as a member of the school board, in the commercial club, and in all other civic organizations that had for their object the promo-

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WM. F. PETTITT HELD FOR CRIME OF INCEST.

Wm. F. Pettitt, a citizen of Merlin, languishes in the county jail in this city with one of the most heinous crimes in the calendar hanging over his head, his daughter Julia, a miss of seventeen years, being the one against whom an incestuous father is alleged to have sinned.

Pettitt's wife is an invalid, helpless from an attack of paralysis and from other diseases which she says were superinduced by neglect and abuse heaped upon her by the man who had promised to "love, honor and protect" till death should sever the bond.

Conditions became so bad for this wife, and for the daughter who was the issue of the marriage, that three months ago the county authorities took notice, and the suffering woman was sent to the County Home in Grants Pass, the daughter coming with her to assist in her care. The daughter had been neglected through her unfortunate life surroundings, and in her backward mentality can not be held responsible for all the wickedness that the father is said to have visited upon her.

The day before Christmas when all the world is supposed to be filled with the spirit of love and of kindness and of good will toward men, Pettitt, the husband and father, came to the county court and asked that he be permitted to go to the County Home and spend the one day that is hallowed above all other days by a Christian people, in the company of his family. Of course his request was granted. It was natural and it was right, and the court could not read the inner man.

At the Home the Pettitts, mother and daughter, occupied a room on the upper floor, the daughter occupying one bed and the helpless mother the other. Here Pettitt remained over Christmas, both Christmas eve and Christmas night being passed there, and during this time it is charged that the crime of incest was committed.

The superintendent of the Home became suspicious that all was not right, and investigation resulted in complaint being made, and Pettitt was placed under arrest Friday evening and lodged in the county jail. The bedridden mother admits knowledge of the father's unnatural crime, and the girl says that it had continued during the residence at Merlin, but that both the mother and the daughter feared the father's wrath if they made the situation public.

Prosecuting Attorney Kelly will come here Monday, and will at once make a thorough investigation and take necessary proceedings. Meantime Pettitt is being held in the county jail.

Pettitt is a man about 50 years of age, and has worked off and on at day labor in the Merlin neighborhood. Under the Oregon statutes the crime with which he stands charged is punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary for from one to three years, or in the county jail from three months to one year, and a fine of from \$200 to \$1000.

The juvenile court will probably at once consider the case of the unfortunate girl.

PROSECUTOR EDDY RESIGNS.

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 16.—The resignation of City Prosecutor Guy Eddy, recently acquitted of a charge of contributing to the delinquency of Mrs. Alice Phelps, a minor, is in the hands of Mayor Alexander today. Necessity of recouping his resources, which were dissipated during his trial, is given as a reason for resigning. Eddy was suspended by the mayor pending the result of his trial.

A. HYDE AGAIN

FACES MURDER TRIAL.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 15.—The third trial of Dr. B. C. Hyde for the alleged murder of Col. Thomas Swope, millionaire uncle of Mrs. Hyde, started here today. The defense attorneys tried hard to secure a postponement, but failed. It is understood that Senator Reed will join the prosecution Saturday.

CHIEF OF POLICE WANTS REWARD

CLAIMS PRIZE MONEY IN P. O. BURGLAR CAPTURE.

600 DOLLARS FOR CATCH

Torgerson, Alias Allison, Confesses to Robberies, and is Wanted in California for Murder.

Some \$600 of rewards will follow the capture of the burglar who raided the postoffices of the Rogue River valley, and Chief McLane of this city has made claim for the prize money. It was through the activity of Chief McLane that the robber was first located in this city where he was registered as J. Allison at the Josephine hotel. McLane then followed the case, and becoming satisfied that he had the hunted man spotted, he notified the officers at Roseburg when Allison and his supposed family went to that city, and it was through this trip that the man was finally arrested.

Notwithstanding that Grants Pass and the Rogue valley were filled with railroad and postoffice detectives, none had suspected the right party till McLane saw the woman exchanging the 775 pennies at the Josephine County Bank. Following this clue he obtained the evidence that finally led to the capture.

At Roseburg Allison, or Torgerson, as the man's right name is now known to be, has confessed the robberies charged against him, including also the robbery of the Tracy jewelry store in this city. The most of the plunder from the latter place was found in the room which he occupied in the hotel at Roseburg, though he admits having thrown away the three watch cases that were found here in the east part of the city. The woman and the two children who were supposed to be Torgerson's family are the wife and children of Archie Dietz of Vina, Cal., at which place Torgerson is wanted for the crime of murder.

The Roseburg Review has the following details following the arrest of Torgerson in that city:

"Torgerson was arraigned before City Recorder Carl Wimberly Monday night and waived examination. He was held to the federal grand jury on a charge of postoffice burglary under bonds of \$10,000. It is expected, however, that the federal authorities will ultimately turn Torgerson over to the civil authorities at Red Bluff to face the charge that may send him to the gallows.

"In his cell at the city jail Torgerson talked freely of his Oregon crimes to Marshal Fenton, Postal Inspector S. H. Morse and Detective P. E. Kelly, the three men responsible for his capture. Then he was taken to the studio of a photographer and "mugged." Incidentally, he was given a searching physical examination and found to correspond to the last detail to the description of the man wanted in California for murder, the subject of the California crime was not broached to the prisoner, who remarked glibly that his actual career of crime began with his robbery of the Medford postoffice on December 27, 1912. Torgerson declared that all of his jobs in Oregon yielded him not more than enough money to pay the traveling expenses of his "wife," as he referred to her and "his two children," as he further prevaricated.

Record a Bad One.

"The circular sent from the sheriff's office at Red Bluff recites that Torgerson, under the alias of St. Clair, served 28 months in the penitentiary at Folsom for burglary. Previously he was employed as a sheep herder. After his release from prison, Torgerson got employment in a fish camp at Vina, and there fell in

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