

# JACKSONVILLE SENTINEL

ISSUED ON

FRIDAY OF EACH WEEK.

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Entered in the postoffice of Jacksonville, Jackson County, Oregon, as second-class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES	
One year	\$1.50
Six months	.75
Three months	.40

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Friday, August 14, 1903.

## A BIG INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKING

The possibilities that may come of the water power of Rogue river by the Condor Water & Power Company are likely to prove far reaching in their effects on the industrial and commercial development of the Rogue River Valley. While no definite announcement as to the plans of the Company has been made by Dr. C. R. Ray, the resident manager, yet enough has been given out to make it certain that Golden Ray, the name of the proposed town at the dam, will be one of the greatest industrial centers in Oregon. Now that the dam and the race are practically completed, work will be begun on a big electric power station that will develop over 8000 horse power. This power will be carried to various parts of the Valley to operate mills, railroad and mines.

Of the other industrial enterprises that are said to be projected by this Company or by companies that are to be organized for the purpose, is that of an electric railroad up Rogue River. A big saw mill, a pulp mill, a paper mill, furniture factory and other smaller industries at Golden Ray. An electrically operated ore furnace at the iron mine three miles north-east of Golden Ray.

Of these enterprises the electric railroad would be one of the most profitable and one that would have a far reaching effect on the trade conditions of Southern Oregon. This road would bring into market one of the finest and largest bodies of timber in Southern Oregon. Extended on to Crater Lake it would be the scenic route of the West for no prettier bits of scenery are to be found in Oregon than along the Rogue river. And Crater Lake, a wonder that has no equal in all the world, is an attraction that would bring an immense tourist traffic to the road. This road extended on in Eastern Oregon would divert from San Francisco and bring to Oregon and to Portland the trade of a now almost undeveloped region that is rich in natural resources, and is but awaiting transportation facilities to make it one of the wealthy sections of Oregon. Locally this railroad would make a very great change in the trade centers in Jackson county for it would prove an advantage to some towns and serious obstacle to other towns. The railroad together with the various factories that would be erected at its terminus would build up a town at Golden Ray that would be a serious competitor to Gold Hill and to Medford, for the big payroll would bring large stores, professional people and others that would draw trade and business from the adjoining towns to their loss and to the gain of the new town. Skilled workmen are always large buyers and the farmers of the county would soon find the factory town their most profitable market. Then the Upper Rogue river trade would all be cut off from the other towns and taken to the new town. It would be no improbability for a town of 5000 inhabitants to build up at Golden Ray within the next six or eight years,

The timber resources would make the building, at Golden Ray, of a big saw mill employing 150 to 200 men, a profitable venture. The waste from the mill would afford a large quantity of cheap fuel that would be a large factor in drawing other factories to that place. As a location for pulp and paper mills there is none better in Oregon for there can be had at a low cost, immense quantities of the best of pulp wood and the Rogue river would supply all the pure water required in making a high grade of paper. The iron deposits in the vicinity of Golden Ray are among the largest and the richest on the coast and their development would mean employment of a large number of men. Within easy transportation distance of the new town are large veins of a good quality of coal that would afford a cheap fuel. Almost within sight of the town are great ledges of lime rock and marble that are now being developed in a small way. But the most important of the mineral wealth that is tributary to this new factory center is the gold mines. Worked now in a limited way, with the cheap electric power that will be available from the big power plant these mines will become great wealth producers and the means of employment for hundreds of men.

That the Condor Power & Water Company is preparing to carry out all these great undertakings is further proven by their quietly acquiring during the past two years an immense holding of land along Rogue river and especially in the vicinity of their proposed town where they hold the ownership of all the land, thus giving them full control of their townsite. \* There is a strong probability that now that their dam is practically completed that the Company will take up their other enterprises and push them to completion. The report is that 500 or more men will be given employment this winter by the Company, for during that season of the year there are plenty of idle men to be had in the North where the rainy season shuts down much of outdoor work.

As to the effect on Jacksonville of the building up of another large town in the county, the new town will be a help rather than a hindrance to this place. It will bring into the county a very large amount of taxable property and increase the home market for farm products and the employment for labor. Jacksonville has only the best of wishes for the prosperity of the new town of Golden Ray as it has for all the other towns in Jackson county.

## THE FRUITGROWERS CONVENTION.

On Saturday, Sept. 5, a Fruitgrowers convention will be held in Jacksonville under the joint auspices of the Rogue River Fruitgrowers Union and the Board of Trade of Jacksonville. Among the prominent men of the state who are to be present and take part in the exercise will be Hon. E. L. Smith, of Hood River, president of the State Board of Horticulture and president of the Hood River Fruitgrowers Union, Prof. A. B. Cordley, entomologist, and Prof. T. R. Lake, botanist and horticulturist, at the State Agricultural College at Corvallis, Hon. A. H. Carson, of Grants Pass, Oregon State Board of Horticulture commissioner for the Third district, W. E. Coman, general passenger and freight agent, and H. E. Lounsbury, traveling freight agent for the Southern Pacific.

The convention will be held in the Court House park, which will make an ideal place for the meeting for the big old trees make it a delightfully cool place. The Jacksonville Board of Trade will attend to see that there is ample seats, a speakers stand and all other conveniences that may be required to make the meeting a success and a credit to the public spirit of Jacksonville. The fruitmen are to bring their wives and their

lunch baskets and make the day one of rest and sociability as well as instruction in their vocation.

There is every assurance that the attendance will be the largest ever had at a fruitgrowers meeting in Southern Oregon for the members of the Rogue River Fruitgrowers Union as well as the orchardists of this Valley are taking an active interest in the convention and each will be a committee of one to help in securing the attendance of every person in this section of the state who is interested in the fruit industry.

Portland is to have a new steel fire-boat to cost about \$75,000 and the contract to build it has been let to a Seattle ship-yard. Portland has no ship-yard, while Seattle has one and it is equipped, second on this Coast, to the great Union Iron works of San Francisco and in addition to building all classes of merchant vessels the Seattle yard is now at work on one of the largest cruisers for the government to cost over \$4,000,000. Portland has a few small boat yards able to build wooden river steamers, but no yard able to contract a steel vessel. In the years past several attempts have been made to establish a large ship building plant in that city, one firm getting so far along as to build some torpedo boats for the government, but it as well as the other companies failed, and their failure was largely due to the lack of support and cooperation from the citizens of Portland. On the other hand Seattle stood loyally by their little boat yard and liberally aided it with their money and their influence whenever the necessity arose, even going so far as to give the company a bonus of \$100,000 in cash last year in order to enable it to equip for the building of a big warship. The result of this progressive policy is that Seattle's payroll is increased by over 2,000 men and now Portlands money is to help pay these men. It will

be a cheerful spectacle to Seattleites when they visit the "Metropolis of the Northwest" to see Portland's big steel fire-boat, bearing the builder's name, "Moran Bros Company, Seattle," on every part of it from anchor to engine, as it steams about the harbor.

In another column of the Sentinel appears the advertisement of the County Court asking for bids on the construction of a new road on the east bank of the Upper Applegate river. This road is now an imperative necessity and it is destined in the near future to be one of the leading highways of Jackson county. It is needed as a road to reach the copper district, the development of which will add 25 per cent to the taxable property of the county. It will also make accessible a region that is sure to be found to be rich in gold and other minerals. There is also a large area of fine timber to be reached by this road and one of the best grazing districts in the county. While there will be some heavy rock work to be done to carry the road along one bank of the river this work will not be so expensive as to build the four big bridges that would be required to have the road to cross and recross the river to avoid the two bluffs on the route. As to an outlet for the settlers on the west side of the river it is the plan of the County court to bridge the Applegate in the vicinity of Uniontown at the earliest date the financial condition of the county will permit, probably next year.

Until within the past year the condensed milk used in Oregon was imported from California or the East. This is to be changed and soon Oregon will be exporting canned milk. The big factory that the Forest Grove board of trade got located in that town last winter is now shipping milk by the car load. The neighboring town of Hillsboro not to be out done has secured a large condenser which will soon be in operation and now the Tillamook board of trade has offered such encouragement that a company has been formed and a large condenser will be put in at that place.

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