

# 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.

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

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The Sentinel and the Weekly Oregonian will be sent to one address for \$2 a year. The Sentinel gives the Jackson county news and the Oregonian gives the state, national and world news, thus a reader is able to cover the entire news field at about the price of but one paper.

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Friday, October 2, 1903

### RAILROAD NEWS AND RUMORS.

There is a likelihood of there being considerable going on in railroad building and improvements in this valley within the next year or two. The Southern Pacific having made Medford the distributing point for Rogue River Valley for refrigerator cars will be quite certain to put in an additional siding at that place next spring. Fruit shipments have increased to such an extent that more yard room is needed both for storage of cars as well as for switching trains. It is also given out that the Company will put in a switch next summer at the point where the wagon road from the Voorhies and Lewis orchards crosses the railroad track midway between Medford and Phoenix. There will be about 175 car loads of fruit shipped from that locality this season and with the immense acreage that is being planted to fruit in that section it will be but a few years until there will be shipped from 800 to 1,000 cars of fruit each year. This switch would save a wagon haul of from two to four miles to these fruit men.

Railroad rumors of changes and new railroads to be built are out in plenty of late. There is a probability that the Jacksonville-Medford road will discontinue steam power and put on electric cars next year, at which time an increased train service will be put on. As the Medford-Butte Creek-Mt. Pitt railroad scheme appears to have been let drop for the time being there is a rumor that powerful interests are at work on a plan to change the line of the Jacksonville railroad from Medford to Central Point and to extend it to Eagle Point and up to the big timber district on Butte creek. A big sawmill and box factory would be built at Central Point and the logs be hauled there to be cut into lumber. The Butte creek section is one of the best fruit and dairy districts of Jackson county and the traffic from that source alone would soon make the road a profitable investment.

There is every certainty that next year will witness the beginning of work on a railroad up Rogue river from Gold Ray, where the big power plant is now being installed on Rogue river at the point where that river intersects the Southern Pacific. There are several powerful factors that are backing this project. The Condor Power & Water Company want the railroad to bring the sugar and yellow pine and fir timber, of which there is on the Upper Rogue river one of the finest bodies on the Coast, to their mills and factories at Gold Ray. It has been demonstrated that the Upper Rogue river valley is a remarkably fine fruit district and already fruit growers, attracted by the cheap land and the certainty of railroad transportation, are settling there and planning out orchards, some of them of a hundred acres in extent. The Southern Pacific is interested in this Rogue river railroad for in addi-

tion to a great quantity of freight traffic that it would bring to the Company, the Crater Lake tourist traffic is an item that within a few years will be close to that of the Yellowstone and Yosemite in the railroad revenue that it would yield. When Crater Lake becomes as well known and is as accessible as Yellowstone and Yosemite it will be visited by thousands of tourists each season. Portland will be back of this Rogue river railroad for without this railroad that city will lose every dollar of trade that it now has with Klamath, Lake and the other counties of South-eastern Oregon. The railroads now building into that section from Lairds over in California is already diverting the greater part of the Portland traffic that went by way of Medford and Ashland to San Francisco. As Lairds is on the California division of the Southern Pacific freight and passenger rates are cheaper to that place from San Francisco than from Portland. With a railroad from Gold Ray up Rogue river and on into Klamath county, for which there is a natural route through the Cascade mountains, and thence on through Lake county with a terminus at Burns or some other town in South-eastern Oregon Portland would have the trade advantage over San Francisco in that region for Gold Ray is on the Oregon division of the Southern Pacific with lower freight rates than to San Francisco. Portland will have to move soon in securing the building of this Rogue river railroad or that city will lose for all time to come their trade of a section of Oregon double the size of the Willamette Valley and a section that will yield quite as much trade as that famous valley. With all these varied interests back of it it is quite certain that the Rogue river railroad will be built within the very near future.

Another railroad that is not so many years off is an Electric line from Gold Ray along the foothills on the west side of the Valley through Jacksonville and to Wagner creek and possibly on to Ashland. At the rate that fruit trees are being planted on the hill land it will be but a few years until the foothills about Jacksonville will be one great orchard, that will yield hundreds of carloads of fruit each season. To haul this fruit from four to twelve miles by wagon to the Southern Pacific main line is too expensive and then it is injurious to the fruit, it bruising it considerably. This railroad would develop many other sources of traffic, one of which would be the granite industry at the great quarries of that rock in the hills to the north of Jacksonville.

An electric line to Applegate is also sure to come and it will go in by way of Jacksonville as the Applegate river in the great bend that it makes winds to within nine miles of Jacksonville and the route is through the lowest pass that that there is in that divide. Should the copper claim holders and smelter companies adjust their differences in prices and the Applegate copper district be developed this railroad would go through with a rush. There will be big things in railroad building in the Rogue River Valley in the next five years.

### MUNCHAUSEN OUTDONE.

Dennis, he of the lurid imagination and whose cognomen is Stovall, of Grants Pass, has gotten himself into serious complications with the papers of Ashland, Medford, Roseburg and all along the line by his latest break in exaggeration by asserting in the Portland papers that Grants Pass has more than twice as many scholars enrolled in its schools as has either Ashland, Medford or Roseburg and has more school children than any town south of Salem, except Eugene, which it equals. The figures given by the other papers prove Stovall to have padded his totals by about 50 percent. This Stovall has done so much "rain bow" work that persons here in Southern

Oregon when they see a news article in a Portland paper bearing a Grants Pass date line set it down as a padded statement not to be relied upon. Stovall's misleading statements are really a detriment to Southern Oregon for strangers brought here by his glowing reports become disgusted and discouraged and on leaving give the country a bad name.

It is in mining news that Stovall especially shines and a three-color prospect hole under his fertile imagination will become a veritable Golconda mine. His facile pen has caused many a sucker's dollar to be dropped in Southern Oregon mining stock, the dividends of which are yet to be declared. As a boomer for Grants Pass he has the gall of a Kansas lightning rod peddler for every improvement, transaction or event that transpires within 200 miles of Grants Pass is so written up as to appear in the immediate vicinity of that place. Instances without number can be given of this style of misleading news. The Opp mines, two miles from Jacksonville, has been written up correctly and incorrectly, more often rankly incorrectly, a dozen times by this Sinbad and each time it is located "just south of Grants Pass." The copper mines on the Applegate south of Jacksonville have been drawn up by his telescopic pen from 75 miles to within a dozen miles of "the mining center of Southern Oregon", the town that has less mines in its immediate vicinity than has Gold Hill or Jacksonville. The big dam at Gold Ray has been by him placed so near Grants Pass that it is no longer a Jackson County industrial enterprise.

As a space writer in the Portland Telegram Stovall works it for all it is worth and his string amounts to a good sized salary each month. It matters little to him whether the news are stale or fresh or what is the source of his information, it all goes. A new event a month old and of some insignificant affair will be by him revamped and enlarged until it will fill half a column in the Telegram. Idle rumors are made into facts and realities perverted by this frothy space writer until no one here in Southern Oregon believes anything he states and Dennis Stovall has become the jest of the public and a handicap to the best interests of the Rogue River Valley.

### COPPER DISTRICT OUTLOOK.

Events in the Applegate copper district are now down to a hum-drum level and the various claim holders and investors appear to be waiting to see what moves will be next made by either party. All deals are off for the present, but interest in the district has not waned a bit by claim holders or investors, and there is liable to be some new deals proposed at any time. In the efforts to control the famous Blue

Ledge Dr. J. F. Reddy and his associates appear to have gained a point that will enable them to secure that string of claims. Their purchase of the interest of one of the six owners of the Blue Ledge practically blocks the sale or the development of that property by those parties. Should these owners undertake to develop or work the claims against the wish of the Reddy people they would have to pay all the expenses themselves and then to share any profit that there might be with the other parties. Should they desire to incorporate they could take in but their five-sixths interest, which would handicap that venture. This division of ownership would be sure to work against a sale of the claims to outside parties, for no company planning to put in a smelter would take up the proposition unless full control could be had. Dr. Reddy is one of the most astute mining men on this Coast and he is working early and late to bring about the development of the Applegate district and present events indicate that he will eventually succeed. There are nearly 300 other claims in the district and the holders are keeping up their assessment work and have every expectation of yet realizing a good price for them. There is every likelihood that when the present flurry is over in the Eastern money market that the Applegate copper district will become one of the chief industrial centers of Southern Oregon.

Ashland and Grants Pass each have a library containing several hundred volumes and now Medford has organized a library association. The Medford association starts off with a membership of 60 and has ordered 100 books as a beginning which for the present will be kept in Haskins' drug store with Leon Haskins as librarian. The directors are, Dr. E. B. Pickel, Judge W. S. Crowell and F. E. Payne. Jacksonville could support a library and should have one. Most of the popular books of the day are of little value after they have been read and to buy them only to be laid aside is quite a tax on an individual. The library association would enable the members to have access to all popular books at little expense. Jacksonville is getting to the front in other lines and the town should have a library.

### Broke Into His House.

S. Le Quinn of Cavendish, Vt., was robbed of his customary health by invasion of Chronic Constipation. When Dr. King's New Life Pills broke into his house, his trouble was arrested and now he's entirely cured. They're guaranteed to cure. 25c at City Drug Store.

Calling cards, the latest in style and printed so neatly as to resemble copperplate work at the Sentinel office.

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