

## THE NEW JACKSON CREEK ROAD

**Survey Made and Present Route to Be Legalized—Creek Channel to Be Made Straight and to Be At Least 12 Feet Deep—Work to Begin in May.**

The continued freshets in Jackson creek for the past two months has made it impossible to successfully and economically undertake the opening of the creek channel and of the improvement of the adjoining public road. A delay was had in securing a survey of the road, but on Monday of last week County Surveyor Carl T. Jones located the line of the old road survey, which he found was an extension north of Fifth street from Mr. Neuber's place to the line fence of J. N. T. Miller's land, the survey then turned north-east and followed down the creek until an intersection was made with the present traveled road north of the Fick place. Mr. Numan, of the Jacksonville board of trade road committee, was with Mr. Jones and after a full examination he and the other members of the committee decided it was best to have the road where it had been for the past 20 years or more and to that end they prepared a petition to have legalized that section of the road from the Neuber place to the Bybee place. The necessary signers have been secured, the notice posted and the petition will be presented at the May term of the county court for consideration. There will be no remonstrance for there are no rights for one, the present road having been used and public labor done upon it for more than 10 years, which covers the statute of limitation, and the adjoining property owners are favorable to the road.

So soon as the route of the road is definitely located the board of trade committee will arrange with the court, or to co-operate with the county, for the joint expenditure of the \$1280 contributed by individuals, the town of Jacksonville, and by the county court. It is expected to get County Commissioner Patterson to take charge of the work, or at least to superintend it, as the contributors all have confidence in his ability to see that the work is well done and in his energy to have the work done as economically as is consistent with thoroughness.

As to the plan for the improvement of the creek channel and of the road, it is proposed to grade up the roadbed just enough to give an even grade of a width of about 20 feet from the Fick place down to where Jackson creek enters the Kubli land on the Central Point road. As the road improvement would be a waste of effort if Jackson creek was not brought under control, it is the plan to provide a straight, deep channel of sufficient capacity to carry the water of the stream even during freshets. To accomplish this object it is proposed to dig out a channel about 16 feet wide to the depth of the tailings, the gravel to be used in building up the roadway. It is known to ditch and canal builders that where the requisite fall can be had that a ditch can be opened cheaper by ground slucing than by teams and scrapers. As Jackson creek has at no section a fall less than three inches to the rod and in most sections four to five inches to the rod there would be ample current to enable ground slucing to be carried on after the surface rocks had been removed and a slight channel made to start the water in. With the first rains of next fall put a man and team with a two-horse cultivator to plowing up and down the channel to loosen up the soil and follow up that work until the canal had been opened to a depth of at least 12 feet. At that depth, as the cultivator could not be made to cut perpendicular walls, the channel would be narrowed to a width of about five feet. Then the man would take one horse and a double-shovel plow and continue his ground slucing until the bed of the channel was down and to a width of two feet. The great difficulty in keeping open the channel of Jackson creek has been that the tailings have choked it up, and to prevent this disaster is the object in making the new channel so deep and so narrow at the bottom. It is a fact known to all miners that a stream two feet deep and 16 feet more or less in width with ordinary fall will carry no rocks, but with the same fall and the stream 16 feet deep and two feet wide the weight of the water will carry on any rock, even large ones, that may be in the channel. By having the channel narrow at the bottom no bar can be formed by the tailings that may get into the creek and they will be carried on down to Rogue river, if the lower sections of the creek channel are opened up.

The land owners along Jackson creek now realize that the creek must be given a straight, deep, narrow channel to carry off the tailings, of which there are immense quantities yet to come down from the mining districts, or their land

will be buried beneath an avalanche of boulders and gravel. Already no less than 50 acres of rich land worth from a \$100 to \$200 per acre has been covered and ruined by the tailings, and their destructive work is but begun, and if not checked some of the finest farms in this valley will within a few years be nothing but great gravel bars. Heretofore it has been the custom for the town people to use the creek channel as a dumping place for all their rubbish and farmers found it a convenient place to dump stumps, brush, rocks and other refuse. The channel of the creek was thus choked and rendered the more easy for the tailings to finish the job and to so obliterate the channel that the old settlers have difficulty in locating where the creek flowed in pioneer days when it was in its natural state and rippled along down the valley by banks covered with grass and lined with trees, and not in a desert of rocks as now. The Hanley Bros. have begun this past winter to clear out the willows and brush and blast out with powder the stumps and other obstructions in the creek channel through their land and there is every certainty that the owners along Jackson creek will straighten and deepen the channel, and when that is done the rock avalanche from Jackson creek will be a thing of the past for the stream will no more overflow its banks and will drive the rocks down the valley like a great hydraulic giant of some mine.

### Buncom Items.

A. S. Kleinhammer is laid up with a lame back.

W. Anderson was in this section Sunday.

B. L. Pool was a Jacksonville visitor Thursday.

Miss Josie Saltmarsh was a visitor at Miles Cantrall's last week.

A. B. Saltmarsh's family have all been quite sick with lagrippe.

Mrs. H. E. Ankeny of Eugene, has been visiting her daughter Mrs. J. F. Crump of this place.

Miss Osie Saltmarsh and brother Dean were visitors at Wm. Arthur's Sunday.

Arthur Kleinhammer drove his cattle up from the Swayne ranch Monday, and will soon drive to the mountains.

Miss Josie Saltmarsh has been suffering from an attack of swelling in her eyes and face.

William DeRoboam and wife have moved to the Shump ranch on upper Little Applegate where they will make their home for some time.

Miss Myrtle Bishop who has been staying with her aunt Mrs. A. S. Kleinhammer for some time, returned to the home of her grandparent B. Anderson of Big Stickey where she will attend school.

It seems as if we have had our share of storm for a while, such a late and wet spring has not for many years been known in this section. But it will be a good season for mining if nothing else.

Dennis Saltmarsh who has been here visiting relatives for the past three months returned to his home in Willamette Valley last week. He was accompanied by his aunt Mrs. Annie Cantrall who will spend some time in visiting relatives and friends in that vicinity.

### Found a Cure for Indigestion.

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As a part of the mining exhibit that the Sentinel is getting up, a rocker, pan shovel and pick are wanted. They should be veterans and should show the hard service of many a prospecting trip. These old relics will add much to the interest of the exhibit to Eastern people visiting Jacksonville, and the Sentinel will appreciate the favor if its mining friends can send in the old tools, the like of which has made both millionaires and paupers.

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