

Oregon - Railroads

August 14, 1909

Hill to Col. C.E.S. Wood, Portland, Oregon

"I realize what you say in regard to the public knowing that stronger interests than Porter Brothers were behind the Des Chutes line...I note what you say in regard to the land grant. We have never been dealers in land, at the same time, I realize fully the advantage of having either agricultural lands or timber lands in the hands of good people, and I will be glad at any time to call attention of those who desire to make present use of such property to the land you represent."

JJH LetterBook, 3/14/C 37/ 10, p. 305

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Hill to John F. Stevens, Portland, Oregon

Sent telegram: "If you think best organize company as proposed by Wood." I see by the news papers that the Union Pacific people are making all the opposition in their power.... Of course you understand the question of grades is a very important one and that every waterpower company will hold you up wherever they can and as much as they can... I hope you have a good right of way man who will button up all trades as promptly as possible. The right of way experience on the North Bank Line was terrific because they did not act with sufficient promptness.. If the Malheur Canyon is a controlling point

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there will be great advantage in securing it in advance" but "Federal Canyon Act, " provides that two or more railroads can occupy the same canyon jointly.

JJH LetterBook, 3/14/08 - 3/17/10, p. 306

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Hill to John F. Stevens

Sends Col. Wood's letter (q.v.) to Stevens. Say nothing about any extensions west of Portland until we have secured the electric line. As regards the Des Chutes enterprise, so far I have done nothing with it in connection with either the North Bank Road or anyone else. So far it is my own enterprise and later I will dispose of it. I can understand how the public can readily make up their mind that any enterprise backed up only by Porter Brothers might be controlled in time by the Union Pacific interests." Refers to Col Wood as a good informant.

JJH LetterBook, 3/14/08 - 3/17/10, p. 306