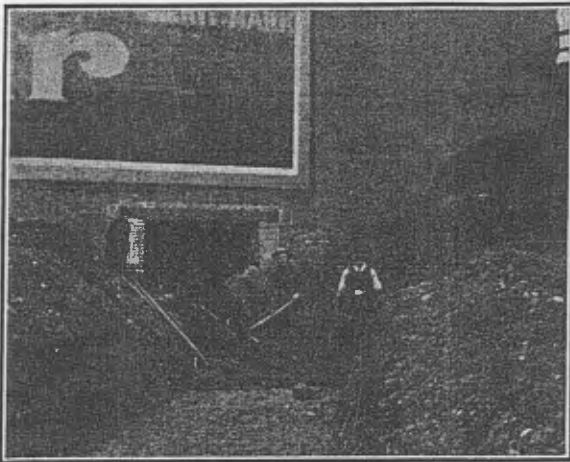


# Happenings in and About Tacoma

## WORK STARTED ON TACOMA O. & W. TUNNEL.

The preliminary work on the new Oregon & Washington tunnel at Tacoma was completed last week and from now it will be a case of make the dirt fly until the tunnel is completed. J. D. Twohy, of the firm of Twohy Brothers, contractors, who have the contract for building the tunnel, arrived in Tacoma last week and will make his headquarters here until the work is finished.

On the north portal of the tunnel the start is made through the side and into the basement of a three-story brick building. From this point a pipe line will lead down into the gulch at Delin Street, where the earth and water taken from the tunnel will be used as a fill. It is esti-



BIG BUILDING DOESN'T STOP THIS TUNNEL.

mated that nearly 300,000 cubic feet of dirt will have to be removed from the tunnel, which is 8,650 feet in length.

There will be a shaft sunk at Center and Chandler Streets, at Jefferson Avenue and "E" Street, from which dirt will be taken and handled by wagons. There is still to be a great deal of machinery placed here to handle the dirt. How many men will be employed in this work it is still too early to state, but as the contractors only have one year in which to complete the work, it is safe to say that a great many laboring men will be given employment.

## IMPORTANT CONTRACTS SOON TO BE LET.

Several big contracts are to be let by the Chicago, Milwaukee & Puget Sound, at Tacoma, within a few days, according to officials of that company. Among these are contracts for the building of the Balfour-Guthrie warehouse, the ocean dock, and the line along Front Street.

The work on the foundation of the Balfour-Guthrie dock is already under way and is being rushed through as rapidly as piles can be driven. While the work on this road on the tide lands does not as yet show to any great extent from the city, the warehouses will give an idea, when they are in frame, of the immense amount of work the company will do here, and the work of filling in that the dredgers have already done.

On Front Street, which is a street practically in the water from the Old Tacoma Mill to the smelter, a great deal of piling will be used. This is a distance of approximately three miles. Between the smelter and the Tacoma mill, about half way, the ferry slip will be located for this part of the company's work on this side of the harbor. The

contract for the ferry barges have been let to the Hall Brothers Marine Railway Company.

In connection with this work the company will operate tugs for handling the barges. It is undecided as yet whether tugs will be built for this work or purchased. It is very probable that some announcement will soon be made if tugs are to be built.

## McDOWELL MARINE WAYS TO BE BUILT.

One of the new enterprises for Gig Harbor and also of help to Tacoma steamer operators is the building of a set of marine ways at the Harbor by Captain Matthew McDowell.

These ways will be able to handle a vessel of 200 tons, and as the site is excellent a great deal of work should go there. Captain McDowell is at a big expense every year for the docking of his steamers, and he has realized the necessity for some time of a marine way at or near Tacoma.

## M. T. CO., OF TACOMA, PURCHASE STEAMER DOVE.

By the purchase of the steamer Dove from Matthew McDowell, the Merchants' Transportation Company, of Tacoma, have added another vessel to their list of steamers plying out of this port, in the local trade.

The Dove, which is one of the most economical small steamers on the Sound, and operates on a little better than a shovel full of coal per day, will be placed on the Bremerton route, out of Tacoma, via the West Pass. There will be some changes in the boat's cabin before she is placed in service, besides other changes. On the route the Dove will stop at Charleston, Port Orchard, Manette, Lisabeula, Ollalla and Cove. She will leave Tacoma at 2:45 p. m. and arrive in Tacoma in the morning at 9:30 o'clock. The Sunday schedule is arranged so the Dove will leave Tacoma at 10 a. m. and return in the evening. The Merchants' Transportation Company now operate the steamers A. W. Starrett, Sentinel and T. W. Lake.

## NEW DOCKS TO BE BUILT AT TACOMA.

Probably nothing has been so much appreciated by the business concerns of Tacoma as the work of the Northern Pacific railway in opening up a great deal of their waterfront property to those who want to secure locations on the front for a term of years. A number of firms have made arrangements to build and several others have plans under way for building.

Among the new docks to go up will be one between the Eleventh Street bridge and the Northern Pacific bridge. This will be about 600 feet in length. It will be occupied by the Pacific Fruit & Produce Company, F. T. Crowe and others. Work will be started on this dock at an early date.

## TACOMA'S SHIPPING FOR JANUARY.

In the report of Harbormaster Clift, of Tacoma, for the month of January, the total foreign receipts were valued at \$994,006, while the total coastwise receipts were valued at \$700,000. Among the larger shipments were 412,723 bushels of wheat and 5,306,074 feet of lumber.

The deep sea arrivals for the month numbered 62 vessels, against 78 for the same month of the preceding year. The departures were 61, as against 74 for 1908.