TWO COUNTIES LET DREDGING CONTRACT

DECIDE TO PROVIDE OWN DREDGE.

SEP 1 0 1914

Reject All Bids of Companies With Equipment—Sell to Contractors When Through.

LEDGER

After considering the various propositions submitted, the commissioners of Pierce and King counties yesterday, by a vote of four to two, decided to award the dredging contract in the inter-county river improvement work to Cross & Rollins of Seattle. The counties are to furnish the dredge.

All bids of companies owning dredges were rejected, the lowest of these being 12 cents per cubic yard, involving over 2,500,000 cubic yards of dredging. Cross & Rollins submitted a bid of 7.3 cents per cubic yard for 2,150,000 cubic yards, provided the county furnish the dredge, and agreed to take the dredge off the hands of the counties after the work was completed at three-fourths the original cost of the dredge, giving bond to protect the counties.

The Murphy cut-off and the lower river cut-off involve five miles of dredging. There is 600,000 cubic yards in the Roeslie cut-off, involving 1½ miles of dredging, for which the Cross & Rollins bid is 10.95 cents per cubic yard. For this the estimate of J. B. C. Lockwood of Portland figured the cost likely to be 18 cents per cubic yard.

Reed Figures Saving.

Totaling the Cross & Rollins bid as against those former bids of 12 cents per cubic yard with the Roeslie cut-off at 18 cents per cubic yard, the result of letting the contract to Cross & Rollins with $18,000 deducted by their taking over the dredger at three-fourths its cost, means a saving of $126,000 over former bids, with the county paying 25 per cent of the cost of the dredge, according to Commissioner W. H. Reed.

Hamilton and Knuedsen of the King county board, and Reed and Leavitt, of the Pierce county board, voted in favor of awarding the contract to Cross & Rollins. McKenzie of King county and Smith of Pierce county voted against it.

Engineer Roberts of the inter-county river improvement work will now consider the plans and bids of firms offering to build dredgers, as well as others who wish to submit plans and bids on the dredger. He will take them up in detail and later, probably within 20 or 30 days, report his findings to the commissioners for discussion and the letting of a contract.

PRESERVATION PHOTOCOPY