

### COOS BAY TIMES

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Address all communications to  
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Dedicated to the service of the people, that no good cause shall lack a champion, and that evil shall not thrive unopposed.

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The Coos Bay Times represents a consolidation of the Daily Coast Mail and The Coos Bay Advertiser. The Coast Mail was the first daily established on Coos Bay and The Coos Bay Times is its immediate successor.

**OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF MARSHFIELD.**

**Official Paper of Coos County.**

**ROADS, AND ROAD BUILDING.**

**T**HE COOS BAY TIMES takes high ground in the matter of roads and public highways. It believes there is no course of civic procedure so immensely profitable in a communal way as the rightful building of direct and arterial highways. Always, of course within the premise, of judicious outlay of the public monies and crucial over sight of the lines, methods and quality of the roads built.

For this premise it desires to state that some complaints have been made at this office of the wasteful methods of work among those engaged in the construction of the county roads, and if these strictures are susceptible of adequate proof; it all goes to the core of the question of methods used and the men employed.

The report of the office of public roads connected with the department of agriculture is usually interesting, and this year Director L. W. Page is able to announce great progress in the good roads movement. He says no subject is engaging the attention of the state legislators at the present time in greater degree than road improvement.

More than half the states have adopted the principle of state aid and state supervision over all or part of the roads, and the remaining states are all considering new road laws. Expenditures from state treasuries have reached a total of nearly \$60,000,000 annually, practically all of which is devoted to the building of hard roads.

The figures for county bond issues in the interest of modern thoroughfares are not available, but they must have reached an immense total in the last year. Los Angeles county in California alone appropriated \$3,000,000 for this purpose.

The growth of public sentiment in favor of good roads is felt by the government office through the increase in the volume of inquiries for information that come in. The government has long conducted demonstration work, and in the last few years has done much valuable experimenting with new materials and methods of construction.

The chief problem at present is to find a combination that will successfully withstand the destructive action of automobile tires. The efforts of the highway engineers are directed toward devising a preservative and binder that may be applied to the surface of any road, rendering it dustless and that will not be too expensive.

In this connection a report that has just come from an American consul in Germany might be mentioned. It is claimed that a new compound known as apokouin is proving more satisfactory than anything which has previously been tested. Its process of manufacture is secret, but coal-tar oils are evidently its main ingredients. Under pressure an iron-like formation is produced, which snow and rain can not penetrate. The composition is said to have everything in its favor from the sanitary point of view. It is a germicide and destroys all bacteria that lodge in the highway.

SEE THE SEA SHELLS at COOS BAY CASH STORE.

**EASTSIDE IS A WINNER.**

### HOUSE PLANTS IN WINTER.

How to Make Them Thrive by Observing Simple Rules.

The best exposure for house plants in the winter is, as a general thing, a southern one. The next best is an eastern one. Some plants can be grown in western windows, but they never do as well as in the other exposures, chiefly because of the intense heat of the afternoon sun. If care is taken, however, to shade the glass during the hottest part of the day it is possible to grow plants well under these conditions.

A few plants do well in a north window. The lack of sunshine prevents the production of flowers. But many foliage plants thrive. They require much less water because evaporation, due to absence of sunshine, takes place in such a location more slowly. Give only the amount of water needed to keep the soil moist. More will cause a souring of the soil, a condition seldom met with when plants are fully exposed to sunshine. In a northern location the soil around the roots should be turned over at least once a week to allow the sun to reach it and, as it were, purify it. Some plants, like the geraniums and carnations, can hardly get too much sunshine.

Another thing plants require is ventilation. A florist always has the finest system of ventilation in his houses. Of course it is hard to get things down to such fine points in a private house, but we can, by raising and lowering windows, frequently change the atmosphere to all life.

Another matter of importance in plant growing is watering. Showering is almost as necessary as root watering. The leaves of the plant are covered with pores, and the plant breathes through them. If these pores become clogged with dust and dirt the plant surely suffers. Showering, therefore, removes the dirt from the pores and, generally speaking, insures a healthy plant. Where a plant fails to get this moisture the leaves turn yellow and fall off, and the plant takes on a sickly appearance.

In the house during the winter it is a great benefit to plants to keep water evaporating on stoves, register or radiators in rooms where artificial heat is used. While sweeping or dusting the room indoors or the piazza outdoors it is well to cover plants with a light thin cloth. Another thing to remember is to remove all dying leaves as soon as they turn yellow; also cut off all flowers as soon as they commence to fade and never throw them down among the plants to decay. If a plant shows a tendency to grow tall and branchless cut it back at least one-third.

### TOOLED LEATHER WORK.

How to Make Useful and Inexpensive Articles From Calfskin.

Inexpensive and useful articles may be made from calfskin and tooled. A skin containing six square feet costs 30 cents a square foot. Music bags, table mats, cardcases, bill books, needlebooks, purses and glove cases can be made from it.

First make an exact copy on paper of the article you wish to make. Place leather on piece of marble or soapstone with pattern on top and trace all lines with a hard pencil. Then wet leather quite wet on wrong side with a sponge or soft cloth. Go over all lines on right side with a nut pick, pressing hard. Then with a nail set costing 10 cents and hammer bring out the design by tooling—merely placing nail set on leather and pounding with hammer. If initials are used tool all around, leaving letters plain. If leaves or flowers are used tool all around, leaving design plain, or vice versa. The veins in leaves may be put in with nut pick.

The articles may be stitched on sewing machine with burtonhole twist to match leather and leave edges raw.

**How to Wash a Plume.**

The advice given by one woman for washing a plume is as follows: Lay the plume in a suds made of good white soap and cold water and let it stand for two or three hours. Then put into hot water, where it should remain about twenty minutes. Then, with a piece of soft cloth or silk dipped in soapsuds, remove any dirt which may remain. Lay it on a clean towel and touch with a piece of cloth rolled up to restore the curl. When almost dry, shake until fluffy, place in tissue paper and put it in the warming oven of the stove to dry thoroughly. If necessary use the dull side of an ivory paper cutter in restoring the curl.

**How to Make Nice Clothes Hangers.**

Nice homemade clothes hangers can be made from ordinary wooden hoops cut any desired length. Cover them with a padding of cotton batting that has been sprinkled liberally with violet, orris root or any other sachet powder. The hanger should then be bound with narrow Dresden ribbon or slipped into a shirred ribbon case made to fit. They are excellent for gifts.

**How to Clean Cooking Vessels.**

Never use a knife to scrape the food-stuffs that may adhere to a cooking utensil. Fill the vessel with cold water, adding a little soda or washing powder, set on the stove until it comes to a boil and then empty. Now pour in fresh hot water and if scrubbing is necessary, use a brush kept specially for that purpose.

**How to Purify Air in a Sickroom.**

Put absorbent cotton in a pan and cover the cotton with sugar, then set the cotton on fire, and the smoke will be pleasant to the invalid and also leave a sweet odor in the room.

### FIGHT AT EMERYVILLE.

Great Racing Course Scene of Jeffries Johnson Fight.

**SAN FRANCISCO, Mar. 14.**— Within a day or two architects will begin laying plans for the great arena to be constructed on the Emeryville race track, where after three months of uncertainty and some snarling, Promoters Gleason and Rickard have decided to stage the Jeffries-Johnson fight.

Immediately after the racing season closes construction work will be begun and be continued practically up to the day of the fight.

No definite seating capacity has been decided upon, but the plans will be so drawn that arrangements for accommodating 50,000 spectators will be made.

It is designed to build back from the ring as the demand for seats comes in, thus avoiding the danger of over-building. Sections will be built from day to day, additions being made much on the order of the sectional bookcase, giving the builders an opportunity, even up to the last day of providing more room, if the demand for seats necessitates it.

### NEWPORT MAY RESUME RUN.

Plan Is to Develop Coal Resources of Coquille.

**PORTLAND, Ore., March 11.**— If the plans announced by A. Dunham, owner of the steamer Newport, when he was in this city recently, are carried out, that vessel will resume her run between this city and Coquille River, about May 1. The steamer is now at Eureka, where she was laid up during the winter.

The Newport was put into service in the early part of the winter, but her owners saw fit to take her off the run, owing, it was reported, to a slack demand for Coquille coal.

Mr. Dunham's recent announcement that he would have a new vessel constructed that would specially suit the work on the route from this place to points on the Coquille created much interest among the people of that place, who believe their coal and other products are entitled to good transportation service, and that if this is supplied, the country will undergo a period of rapid development.

Most of the coal interests as well as nearly all the transportation facilities on the Coquille River are controlled by Mr. Dunham.

### JOKE IN A NEEDLE'S POINT.

Some years ago an American firm sent to a Chinese house in Canton the smallest and finest kind of needle as a sample of our skill in delicate handicraft. It was returned to the firm with a hole through the point, which could be seen only with a microscope.

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