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LOCAL NEWS.

D. M. Thomas, of Anchor, is spending a few days in Roseburg attending to business interests.

Norman Throne, of Ashland, spent Sunday in Roseburg visiting with his brother, John Throne.

Assistant S. P. Superintendent May returned here yesterday after a couple of days spent at Portland.

Mrs. G. G. Hicks left for Rogue River yesterday where she will spend a week or ten days visiting with relatives.

Miss Clara Smith went to Ruckles yesterday where she will spend a week or ten days visiting with friends.

O. C. Sether, of Glendale, returned home last evening after a couple of days spent in Roseburg attending to business matters.

Mrs. Rena Scott returned here Saturday night after spending the summer at Portland and other Northern Oregon cities.

Dale Osburn, of Brownsville, arrived in Roseburg Saturday evening to join his parents who reside in this

city. Mr. Osburn will make his permanent home in this locality.

Mrs. O. D. McAllister left here Saturday evening for Grants Pass where she will spend a few days visiting with her parents.

George Kohlhaugen left here yesterday for Riddle and Canyonville where he will purchase a corral of hogs.

Mrs. Jackson and son, Virgil, returned here last evening after spending sometime at Heaverton where Mrs. Jackson attended her mother who is quite ill.

E. L. Cannon and wife, of Deer Creek, returned here last evening after a week spent at Salem attending the State Fair.

Loren Harvey and wife, of Eugene, are spending a few days in Edenbowyer visiting at the home of the former's brother.

The "G. A. R." special, consisting of ten Pullman cars, two baggage cars and propelled by one of the Southern Pacific Company's most modern locomotives, passed through Roseburg late Saturday night bound for San Francisco where this year's annual convention will be held. The train was made up in Portland.

Mrs. W. H. Kerr arrived here last evening after spending sometime at Corvallis, Newport and other coast resorts.

Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Harness, of North Roseburg, returned here late Saturday night after a few days spent at Portland, Salem and other northern cities.

D. W. Riedle, owner of the cement properties South of Roseburg, spent Sunday in town. Mr. Riedle resides at Portland and makes frequent visits to this city.

Mrs. Earle McCurdy and son left for Portland this morning where they will join their husband and father. Mr. McCurdy is a Southern Pacific brakeman and was recently transferred to Portland from this city.

Mr. and Mrs. Schwartz and little son, formerly of the Grand Hotel, are spending a few days at Englewood Ranch. They are the guests of J. W. Eagles, owner of the ranch and one of Oakland's best known boosters.

Supervisor Hartum is shipping to Portland today a carload of mules and horses, thoroughly equipped, for a pack train, which will operate from Portland east into the Oregon National Forest, to supply about 125 men who are engaged in planting 3,000 acres of denuded Forest lands to the commercial species of conifers, etc.

William Powell, James Clark and Howard Church left here yesterday morning for points above Tiller where they will spend the next week or ten days hunting. The boys are well armed and carry enough ammunition to meet any emergency that may arise. That deer will be a scarce article in the Tiller vicinity following their expedition is the belief of their many friends.

Igniting through some unknown source, fire early Sunday morning destroyed the residence of J. F. Gorthy, in West Roseburg. The residence was valued at about \$1500 and was well insured. When discovered by neighbors shortly after one o'clock the house was a mass of flames, indicating that the fire had been burning for some little time. The fire department responded promptly and after a difficult battle with the flames succeeded in saving the adjoining property. At the time of the fire Mr. Gorthy and family were out of town.

Willard E. Bosserman and wife arrived here Saturday evening from Cottage Grove where they were married on Friday. Mr. Bosserman is a popular clerk in the Southern Pacific freight offices, while his estimable bride was formerly employed as operator in the Cottage Grove telephone exchange. The "newlyweds" were met at the depot by a large crowd of friends, including the members of the "Hungry Seven" band. They had hardly alighted from the train when they were treated to several pounds of rice to the amusement of the on-lookers. After congratulations were extended the couple was escorted to their home in this city. The "Hungry Seven" band headed the procession, and as usual furnished some "delightful" music.

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A Homely Courtship

By SUSAN YOUNG PORTER

It was more than half a century ago that stories of the towpath were current. That was when the canal boat was the chief means of transportation in America. At one time they were used as passenger boats. Then, under competition with the railroads, they sank into freighting only, and now they have almost entirely passed away.

In those freighting days a man named Shock drove a mule on the towpath which pulled a boat. Shock was as homely as his name. He had never had a sweetheart, and there was little hope of his ever having one, for whenever a woman looked at him she was appalled.

There was, some three or four hundred yards from the canal, at about the center of Shock's route, a tumble down house in a small lot, in one corner of which was a pipsty. One day, when Shock was trudging along behind his mule, he saw at an open window in the dilapidated trap a female figure. She was too far off for him to see what she looked like, but she waved something white, which Enoch took to be a tablecloth. Whether she was trying to flirt with him or was shaking the crumbs out of the cloth he could not be sure. Taking a handanna from his pocket he returned the wave.

Now, Enoch was cognizant of the fact that he was not beautiful. His hair was a fiery red, his nose was a pug the color of his hair, his teeth were mostly gone. Had it not been for this he might have made bold on his return trip to give his mule a rest and gone to the house awooing. As it was, and since this was the only chance he had ever met, he was wary. He thought it better to make some headway in lovelmaking before risking showing the lady his homely person at close proximity. So, instead of stopping when he passed again, having provided himself with a boy's blow gun, he fired a wad of paper at her, which being unrolled revealed the following note:

I seen you at yure winder yistaday and I wood like verry much to mak yure acquaintance.

The lady was watching for the boat on its return trip, and when Enoch fired his note at her she saw it fall near her house and, going out, picked it up and read it. But by this time Enoch had gone on his way.

When Enoch passed the house again he saw large letters chalked against the house, which, though it had been originally white, not having been painted in twenty years, was now a dull brown. The letters were plainly visible from the canal, and Enoch read:

I can't see what you look like from yere, but you may be a decent lookin' feller, and if you ar you kin come and see me.

This reply was rather a setback to one who knew full well that he was homely as a hedgehog. The communication was brief, and it contained exactly what Enoch would have preferred that it should not contain. The lady evidently was looking for a handsome man. The message convinced him that he was right in not permitting her to see him close by before he had stirred up some sentiment which might lead her to overlook in a measure his homeliness.

Enoch's next love letter was written in lampblack on several boards nailed together and set up on the deck of his canalboat facing the house of his inamorata. It read:

If you ar a purty woman I wood be happy to stop over. Ham't got no use for ugly wimmen.

When Enoch passed the house the next time the blinds were all closed and no living thing was to be seen except a few chickens scratching the dirt in the yard. Enoch was disappointed. It was plain to him that this was intended for a snub. On his next trip he wrote on his boards, "What's up?" To which was chalked the reply, "Nothin'."

Enoch reasoned that his lady love had been miffed at his previous communication, thinking that he had accused her of being homely, but, having thought the matter over, she had seen his note in another light. He began to think that "faint heart never won fair lady" and he might as well face the music one time as another. So he wiped the lampblack off his boards and wrote again:

He stop over nex' trip.

When he passed again he was arrayed to a store suit that had cost him \$4. His hair had been greased with a slice of fat, and his boots had been blacked. Stopping his mule—and the boat when it had lost its momentum—he proceeded to the house of his lady love. She had been watching him from a window and opened the door for him.

"Laws a marsy!" was her exclamation.

"By gum!" was Enoch's. The woman had lost most of the hair on her head, which seemed to have gone to her face. Her nose had developed abnormally under the effect of some skin disease. She was alabasted and angular.

She slammed the door in Enoch's face, who turned and, with a melancholy step, went back to his boat and started on in his interminable journey back and forth. The woman heard nothing from him for several months, nor did he hear from her. Then they fell into a new correspondence which led them on and on till they forgot each other's homeliness and were married.

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