AN IDEAL HOME COMMUNITY

Orchard Home, One of the Attractive Sections of Jackson County. A Sketch of One of Its Fruit Farms. The Valley is Full of Plenty of Them Just Like This One.

Jackson County contains many model fruit farms and the sketch given below will apply to them all, by merely changing the figures as to acreage and number of trees, all the other facts and figures being practically the same.

By invitation of Rev. J. Merley a representative of THE MAIL made a visit to his fruit farm, which is in the Orchard Home district, one mile southwest of Medford. Rev. Merley has forty-acres in his farm, most of the land being to fruit. Apple, pear, cherry and prune are the principal varieties grown by Mr. Merley. He also has a fine almond orchard that has proven quite profitable for the few years that it has been bearing. His apple, pear and prune trees, notwithstanding that he had put in over a month thinning out the fruit and had taken off more than half the crop, were yet so heavily loaded that their limbs were bending low under the weight of the fruit. When thinning he found one apple twig with ten perfect apples on one blossom stem, and on one cherry twig three and a half inches long forty-nine fine cherries grew to maturity. A person who has never seen a Rogue river valley cherry tree in full fruit can not believe the figures as to the quantity one tree will produce. From thirteen trees, but seven years old, Mr. Merley has this season sold over 1200 pounds of cherries. At five cents per pound, the price he was paid, would make an acre to such trees bring in $432 and the same orchard at maturity would bring in over $600 per acre. In proportion to the labor to be expended, apples and pears are equally as profitable as are cherries so it can be seen that there is money in a Jackson County orchard.

Rev. Merley's trees are all healthy and thrifty looking as young cottonwoods and his orchard is cultivated until it looks like a garden, but the big yields of fruit that he gathers fully repays him for his work.

Orchard Home, the district in which Mr. Merley is situated, is one of the most delightful spots in Jackson County. The land is as near level as it would be for perfect drainage, the soil a rich loam and the water supply abundant and of the purest quality. From there a view of panoramic beauty can be had, for Rogue river valley is spread before one, a panorama of rare beauty. To the north historic Table Rock shows up, with Medford in the nearby foreground. To the east the Cascade mountains with Mt. Pitt in its glistening white mantel of snow, and to the south Wagner butte in its rugged beauty can be seen. The people of that district are industrious, intellectual and neighborly to a degree seldom found in a farm community, and a person wishing to settle in a community where the highest order of American rural life prevails, no better place could be found than at Orchard Home.

Finds Way to Live Long.

The startling announcement of a Discovery that will surely lengthen life is made by Editor O. H. Downey, of Churubusco, Ind. "I wish to state," he writes, "that Dr. King's New Discovery for consumption is the most infallible remedy that I have ever known for coughs, colds and grip. It's invaluable to people with weak lungs. Having this wonderful medicine, no one need dread pneumonia or consumption. Its relief is instant and cure certain." Chas. Strang, the druggist, guarantees every 50c and $1.00 bottle, and gives trial bottles free.

TRACEY ESCAPES

GETS ACROSS PUGET SOUND IN A BOAT.

PURSUED BY REVENUE CUTTER, LAUNCHES AND TUGS.

Holds Up a Farmer and His Family and Obtains Clothing and Provisions and Then Borrows (?) a Japanese Fisherman and His Boat.—Is Making for Olympia and Chances for Final Escape Seem to Be Getting Better Rapidly.

Seattle, July 7.—Harry Tracey, the Oregon desperado, has crossed Puget sound. He held up a farmer and his family at Meadow Point, obtained clothing and provisions and then impressed a Japanese fisherman id his boat. The outlaw was landed near Port Madison and there forced food and clothing from another family. Then he compelled a hired man to take him away in a boat. It is believed that he will attempt to cross Hood's canal and reach the wild and almost unexplored Olympic mountains in Western Washington. Government boats and a dozen armed posses are in pursuit. If he is not captured before he reaches the Olympics it is improbable that he ever will be taken.

Seattle, Wash., July 7.—Harry Tracey has been heard from again. Since his escape from the officers of the law at Seattle he has committed no murders so far as known, but has been engaged in the comparatively mild occupation of holding up farmers for food and clothing and impressing boatmen. He has been unable to cross Puget sound and is in a fair way to make his escape into the almost impenetrable mountains of the Olympic range, where there would be no hope of his capture. The latest report is that he had landed near Port Blakeley, but it has not been verified.

This criminal of criminals is now pursued by United States revenue boats, by the officers of two states, the sheriffs of five counties and a small army of armed civilians. The state and county officials are being aided in their search by the United States revenue cutter Grant, the tug Sea Lion and the United States launch Scout of the revenue cutter service, and several smaller tugs.

Though hard pressed and hunted through the wood's back of Ballard and around Woodland Park, Fremont, Ravenna and Bothell by from 100 to 300 men, Tracey escaped their villiance and is now almost to a certainty in the heavily timbered country back of Port Madison.

Tracey held up the family of John Johnson Saturday night, and after spending more than six hours in the house made good his escape from the town in company with John Anderson, a hired man of the Johnson family, whom he had impressed into service. The outlaw again obtained a complete change of clothing, but took the articles of clothing he wore with him. Tracey used Johnston's boat, a white craft fourteen feet long. From the direction and the movements after he rowed away the Port Madison people believed the fugitive convict was headed for the Hood canal country. The cutter Grant and launch Scout were immediately sent out from Port Townsend. The two vessels took aboard a posse under Sheriff W. C. Hammond, composed of men who are especially selected for service in the woods. Sheriff Hammond is one of the most experienced woodsmen in this part of the country.

The government vessels proceeded to Seabeck to prevent Tracey's escape to the coast by Hood's canal and the Olympic mountains.

At a late hour Sunday retafonno. At a late hour Sunday afternoon a report was received from Ludlow to the effect that a small skiff was seen between Foulweather Bluff and Ludlow Head, crossing rapidly. The skiff was too far off to be distinctly seen. Still later the sheriff's force at Everett telegraphed that a white hulled launch was sighted off Compville at 5:30 o'clock this afternoon with only one man, supposed to be Anderson (with possibly Tracey lying on the bottom) in sight. The boat appeared to be heading for Deception pass. Deputies were dispatched, all heavily armed, on a small naptha launch for the pass, and a few minutes later the marshal at Anacortes started with a tug for the pass.

Under Sheriff Corcoran believes Tracey has accomplices in Seattle.

A message received from Walla Walla Sunday afternoon states that Guard Carson of the state penitentiary has left for Seattle with two bloodhounds and should arrive here at 9 o'clock today. One of these bloodhounds was in the pack that hunted Tracey in Oregon. The other is a female that has not been used on a man hunt, but is considered better than either of the dogs tried several weeks ago.

—The MAIL has the news.

MILLION GOES UP IN SMOKE.

Largest Packing Plant in the World is Destroyed.

Chicago, July 7.—Swift & Co.'s general offices, the largest of their kind in the world, and also their market building, situated in the center of 'Packingtown' at the stock yards, were totally destroyed by fire Saturday night between 9 and 12 o'clock. G. F. Swift estimates the loss at about one million dollars. The office building, while only a three-story structure, covers more than an acre of ground. It was on Exchange avenue. No lives were lost. About 300 cattle were burned in the market building.

Spectacular events in connection with the fire included the escape of fifteen clerks down a ladder, over the bodies of several of their number, and the narrow escape from death over a falling wall of Ira Nelson Morris, Charles H. Swift, Manager Edward Tilden, of McNeill & Libby, and Office Manager F. S. Hayward of Swift & Co.

William H. Squires a watchman in the building, is missing. The police believe that he may have lost his life in the building. He was last seen near G. F. Swift's private office on the northeast corner of the third floor, where the fire started.

About 300 cattle in the killing pens on the second story were also burned. Nearly as many were driven to safety by a gang of men. The rescued cattle added to the excitement by stampeding down the narrow streets of the yards.

Infant Charged With Murder.

Paducah, Ky., July 7.—Susie Fraser, 10 years old, the youngest person ever arraigned in the local courts for murder, was in the police court on that charge Saturday. It is alleged that she went to her home and found her uncle, George Jones, beating his wife. Going to a drawer she took out a pistol and shot Jones in the stomach. He died a short time afterward. Sentiment favors the child.

Southern Oregon Chautauqua.

The Southern Oregon Chautauqua Assembly, July 9th–18th, at Ashland, Oregon. Everything first-class—Lectures; schools; music; fun; pictures; good camping. Hon. Henry Watterson and Dr. Robert McIntyre are among the lecturers. Be sure to come. For particulars address

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