

We wish you all
A MERRY CHRISTMAS

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THE admission of New Mexico as a state may have the effect of bringing Jerry Simpson to the fore again. He is now the editor of a paper in the Pecos Valley, practices law and politics on the side, has become a full fledged Democrat, and presumably wears "hose."

CARACAS, the capital of Venezuela, is only seven miles distant from its seaport, La Guaira, now blockaded by the allied fleets, but it requires a railroad twenty-four miles long, winding in and out along the precipitous sides of the mountains, to accomplish the distance, and the city is 3000 feet above sea level. President Castro is comparatively safe from foreign attack in his capital, and the trouble has not been inaptly described as an ineffectual contest between two whales and a wild-cat.

HON. SOLOMON HIRSCH, who has been prominently identified with Oregon politics for many years, died at his home in Portland on December 15th. Mr. Hirsch served for twelve years continuously in the Oregon state senate, was president of that body in 1881, and came within one vote of being elected U. S. senator in 1885. In 1888 he was appointed minister to Turkey by President Harrison and served three years in that capacity. Hirsch was one of the leading business men of Portland, and one of the founders of the firm of Mayer & Co.

Measures to be considered by the next legislature are amendments to the constitution, which have already been approved by the legislature. They are: That the legislature shall provide for the election of a state printer and fix his compensation. For the incorporation of cities and towns under a home rule plan, without special

acts of the legislature. That general elections shall be held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November. Permitting a state insane asylum and the state educational institutions to be located away from the capitol. The abrogation of the anti-negro clause of the Constitution.

Useless Exaggeration.

Nathan Tuttle, a timber locator, more or less known in Southern Oregon, has written a letter to the Potter Enterprise, of Coudersport, Pa., in which he sings the praises of Southern Oregon in a manner calculated to give people an impression of this country, which is bound to create a disappointed feeling in the minds of those coming out here with the expectation of finding conditions as Mr. Tuttle depicts them. Mr. Tuttle's enthusiasm for Southern Oregon has evidently caused him to slightly exaggerate the many advantages of the country. Mr. Tuttle says that this is the land of plenty, the greatest fruit country in the world, this all true; but he further states that it is the greatest stock country in the world, which is not a fact, although stock of all kinds are successfully raised here, but we do not lay claim to having the greatest country in this line. Mr. Tuttle also says that fish are so plentiful that they are caught on ripples with pitchforks, loaded into wagons and fed to the hogs—this is not true of Southern Oregon for three reasons, first, because the fish commissioner wouldn't stand it; second, the fish are not so plentiful as that, and third, it is not policy to feed fish to hogs, because bacon or lard with the slightest taint of fish about it smells like an ancient fish market, and nobody can eat it. In Klamath County, where the climate is as different from that of Jackson County as it possibly can be, at certain seasons of the year a species of mullet run up Lost river from Tule lake in sufficient quantities so that they may be caught by the wagon load, but that is not in Jackson County. Mr. Tuttle speaks of seeing twelve deer hanging on one pole, killed by one man in one day. It is safe to say the game warden never saw that sight. In relation to the timber Mr. Tuttle informs his friends that there is not much of it left, but that he has a few claims upon which he is willing to locate his friends. He also mentions that he accidentally ran across the man who helped survey this country, and through him learned of the location of a number of good homestead claims in the timber belt.

As this country has been surveyed on the installment plan—so to speak—and a dozen or more different men have been in charge of the work, Mr. Tuttle has evidently been "deceived" by some unsophisticated Oregonian. Mr. Tuttle while here has been following the occupation of a timber locator, and has located a number of his Eastern friends on claims, not to their entire satisfaction in some cases.

Jackson County is all right. It is the land of fruit and flowers, big game, and bigger timber, but the newcomer must not expect to be able to find a sugar pine timber claim right on the line of the railroad, catch twenty-five-pound salmon with a pitchfork in every ripple on Rogue river, nor dig gold in his front yard.

—Wanted—Second girl in private family. Inquire at Mrs. E. J. DeHart's residence, Oakdale avenue.

County Clerks of Jackson County.

The Ashland Tidings of Thursday last has an interesting article on the early organization of Jackson County, and a list of the county clerks who have served the county since its organization, from March 4, 1853, to the present time. They were fifteen in number. Dr. C. E. Alexander was the first and served one month, March 4 to April 7, 1853; N. S. Drew succeeded him and served to July 1855. Wm. Hoffman held the office for the longest time, from July 1855 to July 1866—five full terms and one year. Afterward came W. H. S. Hyde, 1866 to 1870; S. J. Day, 1870 to 1872; P. Dunn, 1872 to 1874; E. D. Foudray, 1874 to 1878; E. B. Watson, 1878 to 1880; Henry Klippel, 1880 to 1884; W. H. Parker, 1884 to 1888; Max Muller, 1888 to 1894; N. A. Jacobs, 1894 to 1896; Geo. A. Jackson, 1896 to 1898; Gus Newbury, 1898 to 1902; John Orth, 1902 to —.

Since 1896 there have been five Democratic, four Republican and two Populist clerks. The election of Dunn in 1872 and Watson in 1878 was due not to a Republican majority, but to factional fights in the Democratic party coupled with the personal popularity of the men. The late Max Muller was elected three successive times as clerk for the same reason, although the county was overwhelmingly Democratic, and was the only Republican county officer, excepting from 1890 to 1892, when the late Jas. G. Birdsey was elected sheriff.

Fruit Trees for Sale.

We have a splendid stock of fruit trees for sale at our nursery, one-half mile west from Talent. The apple varieties are Newtown Pippins, Spitzenburgs and Jonathans—these for commercial orchards. We have other varieties for family orchards. We also have a variety of pear trees.
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Old Men of Southern Oregon.

Jacksonville is certainly entitled to the distinction of having the greatest number of old men in proportion to population of any town on the coast. Of about eight hundred inhabitants there are thirty men of the age of seventy and over. Most of these men have lived in Jacksonville or Jackson County for over forty years—were among the pioneer settlers of the country. Besides this there are but one or two of the list given below who are not at the present time engaged in active business life. Indeed, several of them are maintaining themselves and their families by means of daily wages earned by them in following their respective avocations. No more hale and hearty set of old men can be found anywhere than this aggregation of Southern Oregon pioneers, who came to the section when it was a wilderness, controlled by one of the fiercest and most treacherous Indian tribes known to history, and who now in the eventide of life can look back through the vista of years and mark the progress of the Rogue River valley from being the haunt of "savage beasts and still more savage men" to the region of peaceful, prosperous homes, a land full of everything that goes to make life worth living. We of a later date take off our hats to these venerable pioneers, whose ranks are thinning year by year, until now there is but a handful left of the sturdy band of men and women, who braved the terrors of the long and arduous journey across the trackless plains, and through their labors and sacrifices helped to make Southern Oregon what it is today.

The following is a list of the thirty old men before mentioned: Clarendon Morrison, 92; S. J. Day, 78; Peter Britt, 81; Judge Hanna, 73; John Schumpf, 74; Tim Dugan, 70; Joe Blatt, 78; — Hill, 71; John Ramsdale, 81; J. W. McLaren, 73; Tod Cameron, 73; Phil Gleave, 73; H. Weidemann, 71; Con Cane, 73; Jas. Elliott, 70; Pat Donegan, 73; Pat Ryan, 73; S. R. Taylor, 75; Wm. Robinson, 76; D. Cronemiller, 73; J. St. Luo De Roboam, 72; C. C. Beekman, 76; J. A. Wilson, 73; S. P. Jones, 73; Peter Boschey, 76; R. S. Dunlap, 75; O. Harbaugh, 77; D. Linn, 76; S. K. Reeves, 83; Chas. Schultz, 73.

Land Entries in Oregon.

The state of Oregon has been getting rather the worst of it in the newspapers in relation to the investigation by the Interior Department of land frauds in the state, and the impression has been that the officers of the various land offices are to be held to answer. The facts of the matter are these—most of the locations which have been made in Oregon during the past few months, either on timber or agricultural lands, have been made by parties from Eastern states. They have filed their applications either at the land office or with the various county clerks or U. S. commissioners in the state, swearing to the necessary affidavits, as provided for by the rules of the general land office. The officer before whom these affidavits are made has no means of ascertaining whether the matter sworn to is the truth or not and no authority to refuse the application, unless he is certain from his own knowledge that the statements of the applicant are false. The land offices and officers who receive filings are not under suspicion, but some filings are and will be thoroughly investigated. Another erroneous impression has gotten out, and that is that timber and homestead filings are not being received, such is not the case. The business of the land office goes on as before. If an applicant is in good faith in filing either on homestead or timber lands and the land sought actually comes under these heads, he

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H. G. Nicholson

Public School Notes.

The officers of the High School Literary Society for the next month are: Lucy Kent, president; Hans Hockenyoos, vice president; Bessie Earhart, secretary; Iris Cook, editor; Percy DeGroot, censor; Jay Bradbury, organist. The following by Miss Lottie Wiley is a part of the regular school work in composition:

WALT WHITMAN.

Whitman's style was clear and simple, and love is mingled through all of his writings.

He spent most of his time in studying nature, and his writings are confined mostly to the outside world.

His friends were mostly average men, and he cared nothing for distinction, but honored men for being simply men.

It has been said that those who could see nothing worthy in Whitman were ignorant of him, but to know him is to love him and once under the influence of his mind is to remain.

It may be said that he paints a whole scene in a single line of poetry, using words that blend as well as an artist's colors.

He always used words that harmonized and paid little attention to the grammatical structure of his lines.

His principal works are "Leaves of Grass," "By Blue Ontario's Shore" and "Song of the Open Road."

In "Leaves of Grass" doubt and despair are not found, but love and faith, giving strength to men and women to bear the burdens of life.

In "By Blue Ontario's Shore" we see that the piece is full of noble and elevating thoughts for mankind.

In his "Song of the Open Road" he teaches us not to take books for our source of power, but take all sides of a question and decide for ourselves.

At his funeral Col. Ingersoll said: "A great man, a great American, the most prominent citizen of this Republic lies dead before us."

Saved at Grave's Brink.

"I know I would long ago have been in my grave," writes Mrs. S. H. Newson, of Decatur, Ala., "if it had not been for Electric Bitters. For three years I suffered untold agony from the worst forms of indigestion, waterbrash, stomach and bowel dyspepsia. But this excellent medicine did me a world of good. Since using it I can eat heartily and have gained thirty-five pounds. For indigestion, loss of appetite, stomach, liver and kidney troubles Electric Bitters are a positive, guaranteed cure. Only 50c at Chas. Strang's drug store."

Notice.

Notice is hereby given that I have severed my connection with the Mexican Bananna Company, and that I will in no way be responsible hereafter for the acts of said company.
M. L. PRELITTE.
Dated at Talent, this 16th day of December, 1902.

Notice of Request for Liquor License.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will make application to the city council at its regular next meeting, January 6, 1903, for a license to sell spirituous, vinous and malt liquors in the city of Medford. Place of business will be in Nash Hotel, corner of Seventh and South D streets, Medford, Jackson County, Oregon.
C. C. RAGSDALE.

—The MAIL has the news.



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