

If you want to Mine, Saw Lumber, Raise Fruit, Grow Stock or do most anything else you will find your opportunity here THE MAIL tells about it

FARMERS MEET IN MEDFORD.

A great many of the representative farmers of Rogue river valley were in Medford Saturday to attend the first Farmers' Institute held in Jackson county. At the morning session, which opened at 10:30, Hon. H. Von der Hellen was chosen as chairman. The first number of the program was the address of welcome to the visiting agriculturists, delivered by Hon. W. I. Vawter. Mr. Vawter, in the course of the remarks, took occasion to mention some of the many and varied resources of Rogue river valley. Its mines, timber, fruit, grain and forage products came in for favorable mention.

Dr. Jas. Withycombe, of Corvallis, responded, congratulating the city of Medford in particular and the Rogue river valley in general upon the program made. He stated that the purpose of holding these farmers' institutes was to help the tillers of the soil in their work, by giving them the benefit of scientific researches being constantly made by the agricultural colleges. This combined with the practical knowledge derived from living close to the soil, would prove extremely advantageous to the farmer. "Frequently," said the speaker, "one hears a man who has risen somewhat in financial, professional or literary circles, declare, in a patronizing way to a humble tiller of the soil, that he, (the successful one) had come from a farm, giving the impression that he had risen in the world. I cannot believe in the rise. No stream rises higher than its source. And the man who lives close to nature, whose occupation is to garner from nature's storehouse the products without which the wheels of industry must cease to move, is the blood and sinew of the country, the power which makes possible the progress of nations, and furnishes when needs be the brains to direct as well as the muscle to perform great undertakings."

Prof. A. L. Knisely spoke for a few minutes upon soil texture. In mentioning a sample of the "black sticky" he said that this analysis of the sample he had received showed that the soil was practically without organic matter and that the percentage of albitate was very low—two very important elements needed to make fertile soil. The subject was discussed at some length by Messrs. Peil, Von der Hellen and Prof. Withycombe. It was developed in the discussion that stony land worked at the proper time would produce fine crops. To increase the proportion of organic matter in the soil Prof. Withycombe advised the planting of vetch. He claimed for this plant a superiority of quality over alfalfa as a forage plant, and that instead of reducing the strength of the soil it increased it.

Prof. A. B. Cordley then spoke of "Sprays and Spraying." The professor frankly admitted that the fruit growers of Rogue river valley likely knew as much, if not more, about the subject than he did. However, he proceeded to give a short description of some of the latest discoveries in spraying formulae. Several samples of new diseases of trees were submitted by Prof. Cordley. One, known as the powdery mildew, he did not regard as serious. It came from forcing the growth of trees and could be kept down by checking the growth in the fall. Also the spray used for codlin moth would be effective. A knotty fungus growth upon the roots of trees the professor regarded as being a great deal more serious. This disease is known as the "root gall," and no method of killing it has yet been discovered. Its effect upon a tree is to make the fruit smaller, the growth less, and finally to kill the tree by absorbing nutrition which should go into the tree. Prof. Cordley recommended that when trees were found to be affected by this disease, that they should be dug up and burned and the soil about the tree be saturated with copper sulphate. He also advised that all trees purchased be examined carefully and if any symptoms of the disease were apparent that the trees infected be immediately destroyed. There was no one fooling with that disease.

Prof. T. L. Kent's address on modern dairying was one of the most interesting features of the program. He outlined the many improvements made in dairying during the past fifty years, from the hap-hazard methods of the olden times, when cream "raised" of its own volition, to modern methods of separating. Prof. Kent's conclusions showed the value of keeping the "best" stock. The "general purpose" cow has been eliminated from the herds of modern dairymen. This is an age of specialities and stock-breeders are not behind the times. The half-breed test has been a great feature in the progress of dairying. By this test the owner can determine just what his cows are doing in the way of producing butter-fat and weed out the poor

ones. Prof. Withycombe's talk on "Intensive Agriculture" was very interesting. The speaker wanted to stress that he believed in "intensive" not "extensive" farming. The soil and the capabilities of Rogue river valley are such that it should support a dense population, and within the lifetime of many of us that point will be reached when twenty or forty acres will be a good-sized farm and under a system of intensified scientific culture will produce more than three times that number of acres produce with ordinary methods. Rogue river valley will become an agricultural paradise with intelligent methods of cultivation.

H. E. Lounsbury made a short address upon the subject of transportation, showing how the railroads were as deeply interested in the development of the country as the people themselves, and how the building of railroads had made possible the opening of the region settled by Daniel Webster to be "fit only for the abode of savage men and such as are savage beasts." Now railroad trains are moving hotels. Every sort of delicacy produced in the world may be found in the dining cars, but none of them could equal Mr. Lounsbury's "home made" dinner he had enjoyed at the Page warehouse that day. Viands prepared by Southern Oregon housewives from articles produced by the native soil.

At the evening sessions there were short addresses by Hon. J. D. Olwell on "Fruit Growing," "Leguminous Crops," by Prof. A. L. Knisely, an address by Hon. E. L. Smith on farming in general; "Culture," by Prof. N. L. Narregan and an illustrated address on "The Agricultural College and its Work," by Prof. F. L. Kent, which were enjoyed by a large and interested audience. During the sessions excellent music was furnished by the ladies of the Lewis and Clark club, which was greatly appreciated by those in attendance.

The institute was a successful one and is but the beginning of other gatherings of the kind. The farmers in attendance showed their interest by the pointed questions they asked each speaker concerning the subject under discussion. Much valuable information was elicited by the answers to these and the results of the gathering may be regarded as worth the time and trouble involved in getting to the institute.

The basket dinner at Page's warehouse was one of the features of the day, which was greatly enjoyed by those present. The housewives of Southern Oregon have an enviable reputation for the preparation of toothsome viands, and in this case they in no way belied their reputation. The tables were loaded with an abundance of things good to eat, and the way they disappeared showed the way the diners appreciated.

Judge Charles B. Bellinger.

Quietly and without ostentation, simply yet most impressively, the last tributes of respect were paid the remains of Judge Charles B. Bellinger, Sunday afternoon, at the Portland crematorium. The floral tributes were many and beautiful. After Dr. T. L. Elliot had pronounced a short discourse, the members of the Masonic Fraternity took charge and conducted the impressive Masonic burial service.

Charles B. Bellinger was born in Knor county, Ill., November 21, 1839, and came to Oregon when eight years of age. After spending two years at Willamette University he commenced the study of law in the office of B. F. Bonham. He was admitted to the bar in 1863, and first practiced law in Salem. Judge Bellinger served in the early Indian wars, has engaged in various classes of business and has long been regarded as one of the most learned lawyers of the United States. In company with W. W. Cotton he compiled Bellinger & Cotton's Annotated code of the laws of Oregon.

In April, 1895, he was appointed U. S. district judge, to fill the vacancy by the death of the late Matthew P. Deady, and has filled the position with honor and distinction. For several months Judge Bellinger has devoted much time and attention to the land fraud cases, and to overwork in looking into the matters carefully and conscientiously, as well as mental worry in being compelled to decide upon questions involving life-long friends, the physicians attribute much of the conditions which made him a prey to the fatal disease.

All of Judge Bellinger's family, consisting of his wife, three sons and two daughters, were present at his bedside when the end came.

Southern Pacific Reduced Rates.

On account of the Lewis and Clark fair at Portland the Southern Pacific Company will sell tickets to Portland and return, daily, from May 25th to October 15th, 1905, as follows: Individual tickets, limited to 30 days, for one and a third fare—\$13.25. Party tickets, ten or more, must travel together both ways; one fare for the round trip—\$9.00; limited to ten days.

Parties of 100 or more, moving on same date; individual tickets at one fare for round trip—\$9.00; limited to ten days. —Plenty 25c beds at Hotel Medford.

THE STERLING MINE SOLD.

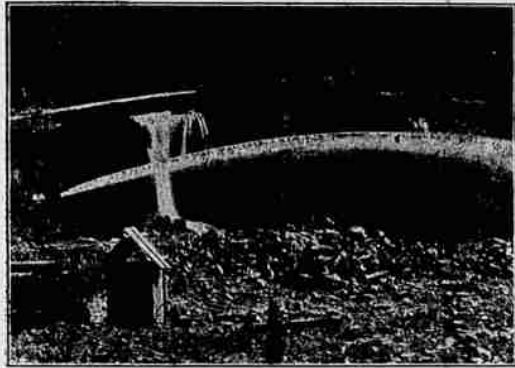
One of the Historic mines of Southern Oregon—Brief Sketch of its Discovery and Development.

The following from the Portland Telegram gives intelligence of one of the most important mining deals which have taken place in Southern Oregon for many years. It indicates the sale of the Sterling mine, famous all over the coast as a great and steady producer.

"Sale of the famous Sterling mine in Jackson county was completed today by the owners, H. E. Ankeny and Vint Cook, to Fred J. Blakely and a syndicate of local and Eastern capitalists. The mine was rated as being worth \$300,000, but the actual price paid for it is not known. The new company, which will be known as the Sterling Mine Company, expects to expend \$500,000 in improving the property and enlarging it during the ensuing year. J. D. Heard will be manager of the mine.

"The Sterling mine is one of the largest placer mines in the United

States, and made more extensive examination of the ground, finally deciding that it was very rich. In leaving they agreed to mention the find to no one until they returned and could stake out their claims. The persuasion of a friend, however, caused one of the party to divulge the secret; too much red liquor loosened another's tongue and the news spread all over the camp, causing a stampede at the new diggings. For a time it was a flourishing camp and many thousand dollars were taken out by the primitive methods then in use. The ground was deep, however, and soon became so that it could not be worked by ground sluicing. The miners wandered away to more easily worked fields and their claims were gradually bought up by Hon. Theo. Cameron



THE STERLING MINE.

States, all of the work being done by the hydraulic process. It is rated as a large producer, and the reasons assigned by the owners for its sale is that they want to retire from business. Mr. Ankeny also states that he thinks he is too old to continue actively in business.

"The new management expects to put in ditches and use much of the water flowing from the mine after it has been used for mining purposes in irrigation of orchards in the vicinity and for other purposes. This water will be sold to owners of farms and fruit ranches."

"The history of the Sterling mine, taken from an article from the pen of the late W. J. Pymale and published in The Mail of November 27, 1903, is briefly as follows: "In 1894, Aaron Davis and James Stealing, while on a prospecting trip, found gold on Sterling creek. Fear of Indians, which were restless in those days, caused them to return to the main camp at Jacksonville. In company with George Rockefeller, John Boone and J. P. Burns, they returned to the place a few weeks later

and U. S. Hayden, who were induced to do so by the knowledge of a deep channel which ran through the ground. In after years they sold their interests to D. P. Thompson, Burnell and others of Portland who commenced the extensive improvements that have since been made. A ditch twenty-eight miles in length brings water from the headwaters of the Applegate and the Sterling finally became the greatest hydraulic mine in the world. The cost of the mine and plant when completed was in the neighborhood of \$100,000, but the results have fully justified the expenditure. Since the acquisition of the mine by Messrs. Ankeny, Cook and their associates, scientific mining and modern business methods has put the property on a valuable paying basis, and at least four million dollars in gold have been taken from Sterling creek since gold was first discovered there and it is not worked out by any means yet."

Burglars in Medford.

Medford merchants were the victims of burglars' operations Saturday and Sunday nights. On Saturday night the hardware establishment of Roberts & Garnett was entered through a rear window in the tinshop and by this means entrance was made to the store, where they took some \$250 worth of fine knives and razors. For some weeks reports of similar depredation have been coming from Northern California towns, and two days before Chief of Police Angle was warned that the robbers could be expected to arrive. Saturday evening he warned the merchants to leave a light burning in their stores, in order that they might be able to see the interior. Roberts & Garnett failed to comply and suffered in consequence.

Two men were arrested at Grants Pass on suspicion, but nothing could be proved against them and they were released. Sunday night J. T. Eads' second-hand store, west of the railroad track, was entered and several revolvers and other articles taken, and it is evident that both robberies were the work of the same men. A fairly good description has been secured of two fellows who were seen looking about the store Sunday, and who have since disappeared. The theory of Chief Angle is that the operators travel as hobos, pick into the next outgoing train to coincide, so that it is possible to deliver the stolen goods to the gentlemanly passenger in the Pullman car, while the real operators go out of town on blind baggage or grab on a convenient freight train. The tourists, of course, are surprised when they are arrested, but the goods are not found on them, and in the meantime the gentleman in the Pullman is disposing of a lot of high-class cutlery 300 or 400 miles away.

To Protect Oregon Merchants.

Oregon merchants will have a very good remedy against many of their bad debtors after May 15th, when the act of the last legislature regarding the exemption of wages will go into effect. This act amends the law by making one-half the earnings of the debtor subject to execution proceedings, if the debt be for family expenses. Prior to 1903 all the earnings of a debtor for thirty days next preceding the service of an attachment, execution or garnishment were exempt if the earnings were needed for the support of a family. Under that law men with considerable monthly incomes would escape the payment of their debts. The legislature of 1903 amended the law by limiting the amount of earnings exempt to \$75, but leaving the law otherwise the same. As there are comparatively few men working for wages who receive over \$75 a month, this law still enabled men to avoid their debts which they should be compelled to pay, and the legislature of 1905 amended the section still further by adding this clause: "Except when the debt is incurred for family expenses furnished within six months of the date of service of such attachment, execution or garnishment, 50 per cent of such earnings shall be subject to such attachment, execution or garnishment."

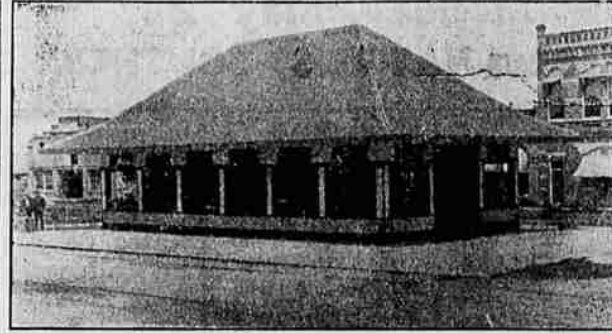
Lewis and Clark Exposition.

During the Lewis and Clark Exposition the Southern Pacific Company will sell round trip tickets to Portland, limited thirty days, at one and one-third fare for the round trip. For parties of ten or more traveling on one ticket, one fare for the round trip. For organized parties of one hundred or more, individual tickets, at one fare for the round trip. Stopover of ten days will be given at Portland on all one way tickets reading through that point during the Exposition. Tickets must be deposited with Joint Agent at Portland and charge of fifty cents will be made for extension of time.

For Rent.

A nice, newly fitted up rooming house of twenty rooms. Close in. Good water and sewer connections. Enquire of F. M. STEWART.

MEDFORD'S EXHIBIT BUILDING.



The formal opening of the Medford exhibit building took place Saturday, in conjunction with the farmers' institute. The interior of the building was literally a mass of roses, contributed by the ladies of Medford, and not the least attractive feature of the exhibit were the ladies themselves, rivaling in sweetness and beauty the roses which they were arranging with such deft hands. Mineral specimens of various kinds, samples of grains and other agricultural products, photographs of Southern Oregon scenes tastefully arranged made a pleasing ensemble and brought forth many expressions of admiration, not only from the citizens of the town, but from persons passing through on the trains, which now stops ten minutes to give passengers an opportunity to view the exhibit. Among the exhibits which attracted more than ordinary attention were

some figs, nearly full grown, some half ripened cherries and well developed apples from the Leever place, near Central Point, some fine specimens of copper ore from the Blue Lodge and pure quicksilver and cinabar ore from the Meadows cinnabar mines. The exhibit will be added to as the season advances, until Medford will have one of the handsomest exhibits along the line.

The lighting of the building is one of its best features. A continuous line of lights, numbering nearly 200, runs around the outer edge of the porch and inside the lights are in equal profusion.

Credit is due, and whole lot of it, to the gentlemen who inaugurated the enterprise and especially to Hon. John D. Olwell, who gave his personal time and attention from its beginning to its completion.

W. C. T. U. Items.

The Union opened on time to an extra attendance with scripture reading by the president, prayer by Mrs. Hubbard, singing by a. l. All the time was taken in completing arrangements for our national conference, which will be held in Medford May 17th to 18th, at the Presbyterian church. Mrs. Lillian Stevens, a world-wide worker, and Anna Gordon, who was private secretary for Francis Willard for twenty years, will be present. Mrs. Addison, the state president of Oregon, also will be here. Such speakers only happen once in a lifetime in the same place. Come and hear them. The Union listened a few minutes to Prof. Fertig's talk and then was dismissed by Mrs. Lorz to meet at the Christian church May 25th. Mrs. L. H. T. Addison, state president of the W. C. T. U., of Oregon, filled the pulpit of the Baptist church, both morning and evening, May 14th, by special request of Rev. Carstens. A very full house greeted the speaker, who held the audience from start to finish with the closest attention. Mrs. Addison is a refined, cultured woman, pleasing in manners, forcible and logical in argument, apt in illustration. Mrs. Addison is especially interesting in her address, as she does not stay in the old ruts of temperance controversy; but is a student, up-to-date, progressive, in fact, an educator of the best type. Her personal magnetism and refinement of manner at once wins her audience. Anyone who was not fortunate enough to hear this gifted speaker lost an intellectual treat.

AMONG THE CHURCHES.

BAPTIST CHURCH. Services will be held at the Baptist church Sunday morning at the usual hour. In the evening the pastor will deliver the Baccalaureate sermon at Central Point.

FREDERICK W. CARSTENS. EPISCOPAL CHURCH. Services will be held at St. Mark's Episcopal church, Monday, May 22d, Rev. Williams, of Grants Pass, officiating. The repairs being made to the church will have been completed by that time.

CATHOLIC CHURCH. Services will be held at the Catholic church in Medford, Sunday, May 21st, at 8:30 a. m. Father Lane will officiate and preach at this service.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH. Preaching next Sunday at eleven o'clock; subject—"Christ for Our Hearts." Sunday school at ten o'clock; Endeavor at the usual hour. ELDER JONES.

Wants to Know about Assessments.

TO MEDFORD MAIL.—I have read what our assessor, Mr. Applegate, had to say in a recent issue of your paper about assessing at full value of our property and if what he says is true (and I am of the opinion it is) we will not be prejudiced by an assessment of our property at 100 cents on the dollar, as it appears to make absolutely no difference what valuation is placed, the dollars at par will be the same and each and all will have no more than his proportion to pay. The great question in my judgment is, will the assessor find values and assess all at the same calculation? Will he assess the railroad line at the same per cent of value and other incorporations as well? From the best information I can obtain the S. P. railway line cost

about \$5,000 per mile. That is, the company claims it did and their statements to the interstate commerce commission show they are worth \$40,000 per mile as an investment. Now will our assessor take our property at all it is worth and assess the railroad at its real value, at \$40,000 per mile, or will he permit himself to be influenced by the wily railway men, take railway property at a small per cent of its value and the rest of us at a large per cent of value?

It is true we have in the past been assessed at less than full value, but many of us have been assessed at 50 per cent and upwards while the railroad has been assessed at about 15 per cent or less than one-third the per cent of value placed upon the humble peoples' property. It is clearly evident that we have been paying somewhere from three to five times as much taxes in proportion to value of our holdings as the railroads have been paying. Will our assessor correct this abuse?

Other corporations of our county, organized ten to fifteen years ago or any time in the past, may be worth five or ten times as much as they were originally capitalized at; will he find out their value and assess them at their real value as well as us? True the amount at which the incorporation first put into the business as stocks has not grown as represented in figures, but the value of stock may have grown immensely. Can we have a "no make"? Respectfully, F. W. GAINES.

The Seedless Apples.

W. E. Hudley says in the Oregon Booster: The Oregon apple is king in Oregon and the king has vanquished his enemy, the codling moth. A seedless variety has been propagated which, aside from the fact that it is much more valuable because it saves the waste of the core, is immune from the attacks of the codling moth, the pest which annually costs American orchardists more than \$10,000,000. The assertion made a short time ago by John F. Spencer, of Grand Junction, Colo., that he had propagated a seedless apple attracted a great deal of attention, because horticulturists who had studied the codling moth and its methods asserted that the introduction of the seedless apple meant extermination of the pest, since the seedless apple has no eye, and the moth therefore has no means of ingress. Simple, isn't it? Yet the assertion that this is the case has not been denied.

Reduced Rate to Visiting Easterners.

The Southern Pacific Co. will make a rate of one fare for the round trip from Portland to all points in Oregon, Ashland and north for visitors from the east to the Exposition at Portland, to enable them to look over Western Oregon with the view of settling or investing. These tickets will be good for 15 days limit with stop over at all intermediate points, and will be sold to holders of the Exposition round trip tickets from points east of the Rocky mountains. This will afford the various counties and communities that will maintain exhibits and advertise in other ways at the Exposition, every inducement to have Eastern people visit their section.

Commercial Club Meeting.

There will be a called meeting of the directors of the Medford Commercial club held at the clubrooms on Monday evening, May 22d. There are a number of important matters to be considered at this meeting and it is desired that there be a full attendance. Please do not forget the date. C. I. HUTCHISON, President.

STREET ECHOES

Opinions of Some of Our Citizens—Serious and Otherwise.

Cashier G. L. Davis:—"I wish you would say that the membership list of the Medford Commercial club has been placed in my hands, at the Medford bank, and all members may pay their dues to me and I will receipt for the same, for the club."

W. A. Vaughan, of Trail, by letter to a friend:—"I want to tell you that the roads in the Trail creek country are in the best condition they have been for years, and compare favorably with thoroughfares in any part of the county. Harvey Richardson, our road supervisor, has been doing some hard, conscientious and efficient work on them."

Cal Pence:—"I wish you would say a good word for our road supervisor, Harvey Richardson. He is doing a great amount of good work on the roads and I have always thought that it didn't do any harm to tell a person about it when he does a deserving act—especially if he is doing public work. His district extends from Prospect to, I think, the Bybee bridge, but the distance doesn't cut so much of a figure if he will fix up the bad places—and that's what Harvey is doing."

Capt. T. J. West:—"Oh, nothing doing that is especially new—except the crops and there's something doing there. Say, you ought to see how things do grow. But, candidly, I never in my life saw crops look better than they do right now. This ought to be a bumper year for the Rogue river valley. That Medford & Crater Lake railroad is going to be a grand thing for us farmers up Butte creek way; but, say, do you know, there are some people out with their little hammer—knocking the project."

J. H. Cochran:—"Have you seen those fruit and almond specimens in C. W. Palm's real estate office? Take a look at them. There are some of the finest ever seen in the Rogue river valley. I visited the Clay-Meador orchards, just south of town, last week and secured these beautiful specimens of growing fruits and nuts. It is well worth one's while to visit this, the finest orchard in the Rogue river valley. Mr. Mender takes great pleasure in showing the orchard, the packing and store houses, the almond huskers and prune dryers to persons who visit his place—provided, of course, you catch him when he is not too busy."

J. W. Olwell:—"You should have seen those conductor excursionists flock into the exhibit building Wednesday morning, while the train they were traveling on was standing at the depot. There was a full train load of them and they were from all parts of the Eastern and Southern states. I believe I could have sold five dollars' worth of souvenirs if I had had any to sell. They admired everything in the building and wanted a piece of the entire exhibit to take home with them. When it was time for the train to move they just naturally would not break loose from those exhibits. This shows the interest strangers are going to take in our building and the exhibits we have in it."

J. T. Eads:—"No, I am unable to state just what my loss was in the burglary of my store Sunday night. So far I have missed a couple of revolvers, cartridges for them and the thieves pried the cash drawer off the counter. A couple of pairs of shoes were missing from the shoe shop, but we found one pair. Evidently they didn't fit and were thrown away. Also a cheap watch that was taken from the shoe case. E. P. Winkler was in the store Sunday afternoon, when a couple of strangers came along and their conversation outside the door was such as to lead him to suspect an intention to rob the store. As soon as they detected his presence they left. His suspicions were so strong that he took the best revolver out of the show case and hid it, then notified the police. Events proved that his suspicions were correct, but I wish he had mentioned them to me. I would have waited in the store that night and would certainly have caught the robbers."

Farm for Sale.

167 acres—sixty acres of fine sub-irrigated bottom land under fence and cultivation. A million feet of fine timber. Hundreds of cords of hard wood. Near town, and all down grade and a fine road. Good, two-story dwelling with 12 well of splendid water at the door. Lots of fruit and berries of all kinds. County road and daily mail at the door. A splendid place for health and a pleasant home. Address Box 117, Woodville, Oregon.

Secure Rooms Now.

To the people of Medford and vicinity: If you should want rooms during the Lewis and Clark fair call on Mrs. L. T. Pierce, formerly of Medford. Terms, \$1.00 and \$1.50 per day; residence 204 East Oak street, corner 10th, Portland, Oregon. 30-t