The Medford Mail.

VOL. XVII. MEDFORD, JACKSON COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 1905 NO. 32.

A Son Of A Gun to Fight.

The moldy bones of John P. Jones
Are coming home in glory,
And how they are found in Paris ground
Takes a most romantic story.
I'm not, I owns, well read on Jones,
I may not size him right,
But this J. P. J. I rise to say,
Was a son of a gun to fight.

His first command from this here land
Was the little sloop, the Ranger,
In which, hell-bent, he up and went
Slap into the midst of da ger,
And there's no dispute the first salute
To the starry banner bright
Was fired to own the colors flown
By this son of a gun to fight.

And later he put out to sea
The English coast to harry;
The folks he scared, and their castles bared
Of all his ship could carry.
The folks, dismayed, called "Renegade!"
And "Pirate" in their spite,
But they said with groans this J. P. Jones
Was a son of a gun to fight.

Again at grips with royal ships
He cut the proper caper.
Though friends stood by to see him die
Grappling the big Sea Raper
He never flinched but closer clinched,
Although in sinking plight,
And when they hailed as if he'd quailed,
Said, "I haven't begun to fight."

So he took the prize and opened eyes
To Yankee skill and daring,
And now the way with J. P. J.
A Yankee fleet is farting;
And the moldy bones the nation owns
We welcome with delight,
And cheers galore, for the Commodore
Was a son of a gun to fight.

PROGRESS OF HALF A CENTURY.

Visitors—even old residents—sometimes remark that Southern Oregon's resources are not so fully developed as they should be after a settlement of over fifty years. Perhaps they are not; but it should be remembered on the other hand that during at least half of that time this country was practically isolated. It had no communication with the outside world save by the lumbering stage coach or the crawling freight wagon.

Nearly fifty-five years ago the first gold was discovered in Southern Oregon and a rush of gold seekers commenced. These men, for the most part, regarded the Pacific coast, now the garden spot of the world, as a place where fortunes might be made in a day, to be carried back to eastern homes and enjoyed. They did not come for the purpose of making homes, but to acquire wealth. Two years afterward the first real band of homeseekers unyoked their cattle on the banks of Wagner creek and started the permanent settlement of Jackson county. Still it was a country practically unknown, only to be reached by braving dangers and enduring hardships without a parallel in the history of the onward progress of the Anglo-Saxon race, save the sufferings of those pioneers who clung to a narrow strip along the Atlantic coast until by sheer force of character and indominatible will they carved a commonwealth from the wilderness. It was the descendants of these men who led the march of six months across the trackless plains, climbed rugged, snowclad mountains, forded deep and dangerous rivers, carrying with them the love of freedom and dauntless spirit of the race and finally planted the stars and stripes upon the shores of the Pacific, added an empire to the nation's territory and many stars to its flag.

The conditions the pioneers of Southern Oregon lived under cannot be imagined by us today. The country was almost completely isolated. To the south lay the mighty barrier of the Siskiyous, in the fastness of which lurked a savage foe. To the east rose the Cascades, beyond which upon the sage plains and about the lakes of what is now Klamath county, the fierce Modoc took bloody toll from passing trains. Northward the Rogue River Indians held the narrow passes of the mountains and many a lonely prospector or venturesome emigrant gave up his life in the dark defiles of those mountains whose fate was never known. It is less than twenty-five years since the snort of the iron horse was first heard in the Rogue river valley. Less than twenty years since the last spike was driven which linked Portland and San Francisco together with bands of steel. Twenty-five years since Rogue river valley was connected with the outside world with modern means of transportation. And what has been done in that time? Nothing much; only this.

Ashland has grown from a straggling village built on each side of the serpentine course of the old O. & C. stage road to a city of churches, of homes and of schools. From a chaparral patch, where in early days the aboriginal residents hunted the succulent jackrabbit or the wary quail, has been evolved the city of Medford. A city full of hustling, enterprising business men, a business city, a progressive city, a city with a future, second to none in Oregon.

Towns of lesser size have sprung up all over the country. Farms and orchards now flourish on what was waste ground. Twenty-five years ago the Rogue river valley was unknown, now there isn't a spot in the civilized world where the fruit raised here has not penetrated and is known to be Southern Oregon fruit.

In the last few years wonderful strides have been made in the development of the mining industry and the crash of falling stumps is heard in many parts of the county.

Steps are being taken to develop the vast timber resources of the county and it will not be long before trainload after trainload of fine lumber will be shipped from this valley.

At the present time there is one of the largest and most complete electric plants in the state in active operation, furnishing electric power and light to mines, farms and cities in this and Josephine counties.

Haven't we progressed in fifty years? If old Chief John, the doughty chief of the Rogue Rivers, could stand on the brink of Table Rock some night and see the myriads of electric lights shining through the valley and listen to the roar of the heavily laden trains, carrying passengers and goods from all parts of the world, he could tell a different story and perhaps admit that the "Boston man's medicine" was too strong for him. No progress? Look about you and see.

THE DIP OF DEATH.

A THRILLING SENSATION IN THE GREAT BARNUM & BAILEY SHOW.

It has been definitely announced that the Barnum & Bailey Greatest Show on earth will exhibit in Medford, on August 26. One performance only. No night performance. The tremendous success of the circus in New York, where the season was opened early in March, has been duly heralded and the thousands of people who visited the show at Madison Square Garden have been loud in their praise of the mammoth aggregation and the same show replete with its many features of sensational greatness, combined with its peerless presentaion of the world's most marvelous exhibitions, will be exhibited in its entirety wherever it is advertised to appear this season. The three rings, two stages and immense hippodrome will serve to inroduce a conclave startling and stupendous acts, and the zoological display of the rarest wild beats will add to the magnitude of the attraction. The Dunbar at Dehli, an exact presentation of the historical jubilee at India, costumed in the most gorgeous styles, the congress of curosities and the startling feat, "The Dip of Death"—an act where a daring woman leaps the gap in an automobile, makes the show, beyond doubt, the unapproachable success of the season. The Brothers Ancillotti, two young French men attired in faultless evening dress, perform the thrilling feat of simultaneously looping and leaping the quadruple chasms—an act conceded by all to be the highest acme of nerve and fearlessness. The Lecusson Troupe in coach acrobatic work, and the imperial Viennese act of ten aerial trapeze performers are with this remarkable tented aggregation this season.

A very remarkable exhibition of the most meritorious nature, without an equal in the world for thrilling and daring, will be given free on the circus ground before the big shows opens. This is an entirely new idea with the "Greatest Show on Earth."

Death of Mrs. R. E. Collins.

Friday evening, August 4th, Mrs. Maude Collins, wife of R. E. Collins, died of puerperal fever; aged twenty-seven years, one month and fourteen days.

Mrs. Collins leaves a husband and four small children, including the baby recently born. The remains were shipped Sunday to Toledo, Oregon, where the funeral took place on Tuesday. The sympathy of the entire community is with Mr. Collins and his motherless little ones in their bereavement. The motherless child is always entitled to the sympathy of those fortunate enough to still have their mother spared to them. How many rough places in life are smoothed away by the tender hands of "mother" and what strength to do great deeds is given through her wise counsels, the average son or daughter does not realize until those tender hands have been folded in their last rest and the loving voice is silent for all time. No grief is more poingnant, no loss greater than that brought about by the death of the mother of a young family and Mr. Collins has our deepest heartfelt sympathy in his great trouble.

"Coals to Newcastle."

California is the widest advertised state on the Pacific coast and has claimed and has heretofore been entitled to the championship for new and effective advertising, but Medford has the distinction of inaugurating a scheme which commands the admiration and attention even of California advertisers and that is the permanent exhibit building. This week a letter was received from a prominent fruit man of Watsonville, Calif., asking for plans and photographs of the building, saying that Californians traveling to and from the Portland fair were struck by the beauty and usefulness of the display as an advertisement and that the Watsonville board of trade proposed putting up a similar building. This is the first time on record that California has ever asked suggestions from Oregon and shows that at last we are "getting on the map."

Massage Parlors in Medford.

Miss Sabrey Booker has opened Massage Parlors at the home of Mrs. E. A. Wortman, on Oakdale avenue where she is prepared to give steam electric and salt glow baths, face and scalp massage and fine magnetic treatment. Will go to any part of the city and give private treatment Women and children only. 9 a. m. to 10 p m. Phone 73. 20-3m

JACKSON COUNTY.

Water in Big Klamath lake is reported to be three feet lower than it has been for many years.

The Gold Hill fire company is flourishing. It recently added three new members and proposes to have regular drills from now on.

Lieut. T. W. Hammond, of Ashland, who graduated from West Point in June, has been assigned to duty at Angel Island, San Francisco.

Lewis Walters was found dead in the wagon road near Spencer creek, Klamath county, Sunday morning. The coroner's jury decided that he had come to his death through heart disease.

Mrs. Mary V. Densmore, seventy-two years of age, living in Ashland, fell down the steps at her home in the Granite City, one day last week and fractured her wrist, besides sustaining other injuries.

Two guests at Pelican bay ran across a grizzly bear near that resort last week. They didn't have any fire arms so did not seek a close acquaintance with bruin. The bear was described as being a very large one.

C. C. Chappell, one of the prominent citizens of Ashland, died at his home there last week, of heart disease, aged fifty-six years. Mr. Chappell leaves a wife and three children, a brother and three sisters.

Squire Griffin, one of the pioneers of Southern Oregon, died at his home in Sams Valley July 27th, in the seventy-fifth year of his age. Mr. Griffin came across the plains in 1853 and settled upon the farm where he died.

D. B. Provost, of Ashland, was severely injured last week by falling from the wood work of the traveling crane in the Ashland Iron Works His fall was fortunately broken by some belting with which he came in contact during his descent.

During last week the city recorder collected $53 in fines for minor offenses. In any other but a "dry" town the cause of the misdeameanors would be traced to the consumption of too much spiritus fumenti; but that couldn't possibly be in Ashland.

Mrs. Marie Andrews-Dill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. O. Andrews, formerly of Ashland, died at Greenwood, B. C., July 25th. Mrs. Dill was a graduate of the Ashland Normal and taught successfully before her marriage in various schools in Oregon and California. She was married to Mr. Dill in 1899.

Homer Barron killed a big rattlesnake on Emigrant creek hill, last week, which had ten rattles. It was an ususually big snake and had evidently lost some of its rattles. The other day Senator Carter killed one with thirteen rattles on Frog creek hill, above Henry Applegate's place, on the Dead Indian road. Yesterday Claude Freeman killed a large rattler, near the corner of Wollen and Church streets, on the side of the hill. A rattlesnake is rarely seen on the Siskiyou side of the valley up this way. A few years ago they were numerous on the Cascade side of the valley.—Tidings.

Yellow Jacket Showing Up.

Mears & Shaffer are doing extensive development work on their Yellow Jacket group of quartz claims, on Forest creek. The group consists of four claims and has an ample supply of water and timber, with a good wagon road leading to the works. The owners have 500 feet of shaft and tunnel work completed and one hundred and sixty feet of cross cut tunnel, which taps the ledge at a depth of about one hundred feet.

From the end of the cross cut, where it taps the ledge, a tunnel running at right angles with it and following the ledge is run for a distance of 280 feet. This tunnel is connected to the surface by an up-raise and a shaft, which furnishes a good supply of fresh air. The ledge varies in thickness, from twelve inches at the surface to seven feet at the lower level. The ore at the lower level, which shows below oxidization, is all free milling.

Some years ago ore from the shaft, near the surface was milled and yielded $30 per ton. There are at present upward of one hundred tons on the dump which give assay returns of from $5 to $200 per ton

Forest Fires in Josephine.

From Grants Pass Courier.

Forest fires in the vicinity of Jump-off-Joe and Louse creeks have been continuing for two weeks past and have filled the valley with smoke. The first fire burned about three miles of fencing on the Flanagan place and spread over considerable territory, ruining some timber and endangering ranch property. This fire started on Sunday afternoon by two boys, so it is reported, who were squirrel hunting and not being able to dislodge their game from a hollow tree set fire to its base. Everything was as dry as tinder and the fire spread rapidly. In a few moments it was beyond control and swept up the hillside. The fire was confined after several days' work by the ranches and it finally died down. On Wednesday another fire was started in the same locality, this one is said to have been deliberately set on fire. During the afternoon and evening the fire raged on both sides of the county road and for a number of hours all travel was suspended. For a time both sides of the road was a roaring furnace with a wall of flames reaching as high as the tree tops. Telephone and telegraph poles were burned down and wire communication with the north except by the W. U. was cut off until Thursday.

Few people realize the danger of forest fires, notwithstanding so much has been published and laws with heavy penalties for violation have been passed.

Pears Looking Fine.

The first packing of Bartlett pears will commence next week and the Rogue River Valley Fruit Growers' Union will probably load the first car of the season during the next seven days.

Manager Perry, of the Union, stated to a Mail reporter that with very few exceptions, the pear orchards will yield bountifully. In a few localities the crop is light, from one cause or another; but in the main the crop will be a heavy one. Beside this the quality is strictly first-class. Mr. Perry said: "I saw the finest crop of pears this (Wednesday) morning I have ever seen any where—two crops of them in fact. They were in the Clay & Meader and the Hover orchards. Bartletts, Winter Nellis, Boosc and Comice pears, of great size, hung as thick as they could grow upon the branches. From the present outlook for prices and the appearance of the crop, Clay & Meader will come out even and more from their losses of last year, caused by the hail. Everywhere the pear crop is looking fine, but these two orchards are exceptionally good."

In this connection a word of caution to people handling fruit may not be out of place. In the California pear district orchards are being killed by "pear blight" for which disease no known remedy has yet been found, and horticulturists are undecided as to how or when the infection is spread. Nearly every fruit pest with which this valley is inflicted has come from the shipping in of fruit or trees from infected districts, and owing to our equalable climate, the fruit pests flourish here, as they do nowhere else, once they have obtained a foothold. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," said a great American, and eternal vigilance will be the price of keeping our orchards uncontaminated with fruit pests brought from other sections Last week a box of California pears was shipped to Medford and placed on sale. Before any had been sold, however, a prominent fruit man purchased the box and immediately burned the whole thing. The fruit had come from the district infected by pear blight in California, and while there might not have been any great danger of the disease obtaining a foothold from this one box of pears, still the fruit grower did not feel justified in taking chances. A rigid inspection of all fruits shipped into the valley should be established, not only to protect ourselevs but also to protect the consumers of Rogue river valley fruit.

Bertha Mine is Looking Well.

H. B. Nye was in town from the Bertha mine in Foots creek district Monday. He has been engaged for the past six weeks in running a tunnel to pierce the ledge on a lower level and now has reached a depth of 100 feet. At about seventy feet in the ledge was struck and at seventy-five feet pay ore was found. The ledge runs from two and one-half to six feet in width and the walls are well defined, giving every indication of a permanent body of ore. Mr. Nye is now engaged in making an upraise from the end of the tunnel to the surface in order to secure air and ventilation. When this is finished, active work on the ledge in the way of getting out ore will be commenced. Mr. Nye was reticent as to what the value of the ore per ton might be, as there had been no milling done yet, but the satisfied expression of his countenance indicated that the tests already made were not so bad in their results. The ore shows quite a percentage in free gold. The first run through the mill will commence about the middle of the month.

Attention, Peach Growers.

We want your consignments. We will get you the highest market prices and send returns weekly, or oftener. Will advise you daily market conditions. Send for shipping stamp.

McEWEN & KOSKEY,
129 Front St. Commission Merchants,
31-4t Portland, Oregon.

Card of Thanks.

I wish to express my appreciation of the aid and sympathy so freely tendered me by the citizens of Medford, during the illness and death of my beloved wife. Words cannot express my feelings in this and I can only hope that none of my friends may ever be placed in my position.

R. E. COLLINS.

—W. E. Phipps, attorney at law. Offices in Medford Bank building. 28-tf

STREET ECHOES

Opinions of Some of Our Citizens—Serious and Otherwise.

A. C. Allen:—"There is a place on the Medford-Jacksonville road, just opposite my home, which is likely to be the cause of trouble. The road has been thrown up in the center here and a culvert put in to let the surplus water through. The culvert does not project beyond the grade and at either end is a ditch at least two and a half feet deep. The point is this. Should some one not acquainted with the road accidentally drive off the grade some dark night, either in passing some other team or from some other cause, there would be a serious accident, resulting in either the crippling of a team or the occupants of the vehicle, or both. The place is not safe and anyone injured would have cause of action against the county for damages. Besides this the culvert is not filled up level with the grade and the depression causes a jolt which might cause a broken king bolt in a rapidly driving vehicle, a second source of danger.

H. F. Meader:—"Jackson county is 'It' with a big 'I' at the fair. At first we didn't show up very well, but now the Rogue river valley is all the candy. We beat them all in every variety of horticultural and agricultural products, while at the same time fruits and vegetables on the market right here in Medford are as good or better than those on exhibition. We have not sent our best, yet what we did send is better than that which other counties display. From this on we will do better. Pears and apples will commence to come in now and by the time the fair closes the Jackson county booth will be so much better than the rest that nobody will undertake to make a comparison. Had we commenced collecting an exhibit last fall, as many of the counties did, this section would have taken the rank it is entitled to in the first place. However, in spite of starting late and the numerous difficulties the persons in charge of the exhibit have had to contend with the Jackson county exhibit is coming to the front. Another thing in connection with the matter is that everything in the Jackson county exhibit is of this year's growth—there is nothing stale about it. Other exhibits are carried over from last year—cold storage stuff and they don't compare with ours. Rogue river valley will be 'on the map' when the fair closes. Don't forget that."

W. C. T. U. Items.

The Union opened on time to a good attendance, with scripture reading by Mrs. Dodge, prayer by Mrs. Fielder, singing by all. Minutes of last meeting read and approved. One hour was devoted to business. A letter was read by Mrs. Buck from Mrs Hyde inviting the Medford Union to unite in a picnic to be held at Phoenix the first of September. It being the annual election of officers, ballots were passed and all voted. Mrs. Hopkins was chosen president, Mrs. C. P. Buck, recording secretary, Mrs. Hammond, corresponding secretary, Mrs. Fielder, treasurer. The different vice-presidents from each church, also vice-president at large, and the departments of work for the next year will be chosen next Thursday, August 10th. The members partook of ice cream and cake, then adjourned, to meet at the Christian church, Thursday, August 10th.

PRESS SUPT.

A Disastrous Fire.

Monday night the sawmill plant of A. J. Shearer, on Poormans creek, was entirely destroyed by fire. When the mill shut down in the evening there was no sign of fire about the premises, but about midnight the crackling of flames awakened the mill crew in the bunk house and it was found that the mill building was ablaze. In spite of strenuous efforts to save them, two wagons standing by the mill platform in readiness to be loaded in the morning were burned with the mill. The fire spread with incredible rapidity and it seemed but a few minutes until the building was in ruins. The fire is supposed to have originated in the saw dust below the saw by a spark either from the saw or from some other source, had smoldered until a passing breeze had fanned into life. The loss is principally confined to the mill, as there was very little lumber in the yard at the time.

Insurance $1,000; loss about $2,500.

To Raise Sunken Ship.

A. G. Midford, C. E., of Hamilton, Ont., has booked passage by the Empress of Japan when she sails outward from Victoria, B. C., on August 14th. He has been given a contract by the Japanese government which will mean a fortune to him and another and larger one to the government of the Mikado, if he is successful—that of raising no fewer than seventy-two sunken war crafts, representing a value of $26,000,000. The majority, of course, were sent to the bottom by the Japanese during the current war. Midford is first of all to repor as to the probable cost of raising each vessel—the majority are Russian—and the profit to be anticipated as a commercial undertaking. He expects to raise all craft in water 150 feet deep or less.

Opp Mine Sold.

A deal was consummated this week which will probably result in the Opp mine changing hands and some extensive development work being inaugurated in the near future. A. C. Hough, of Grants Pass, acting for eastern parties, supposed to be connected with the New York & Western Co., which is operating the Oregon Belle mine, on Forest creek, has secured an option upon J. W. Opp's interest in the Opp mine. This interest amounts to 70 per cent of the capital stock of the company and the price agreed upon in case the option is taken up at the end of the time specified therein, which we understand is ninety days, is $125,000, the first payment upon which has already been made.

Should the mine turn out to be what the investors expect, the balance of the money will be forthcoming and development work will be commenced on a much larger scale than heretofore. The mill will be increased from its present battery of 10 stamps to fifty stamps and mining will be done on a scale commensurate with the size of the property.

Teachers' Examination.

Teachers' examination began at Jacksonville Wednesday morning with the following applicants for certificates. Supt. P. H. Daily is assisted by Prof. G. R. Carlock, of Ashland, and Prof. A. O. Freel, of Gold Hil.

State Applicants—Chalmers Strange, R. H. Jonas, H. C. Anderson, Frances McWilliams, Ethelyn Hurley, Thora Smith, Clara Richardson, Alma Gillham, Donna Bell, Lora Allen, Ella Anderson, Cordelia Grant, Stella Campbell, Nora Beebe, Jesse Wilson, Miss McIntire and Echo Nason.

County Applicants—J. G. Walker, Lulu McMillian, Maude O'Brien, Bertha L. Peachey, Nora Newton, Helen Wait, Romona Bissell, S. P. Robbins, B. M. Collins, Mae Nealon, Elizbaeth Earhart, Dott E. Mott, M. Van Vleit, Anna Keegan, Clara Elmer, Nettie Crook, Ethel Stratton, Jesse Darby, Inez Metzger, T. G. Goodpasture, May Smith, Nellie Crocker, Ruth Swinney.

Store Building Collapses.

ALBANY, N. Y., Aug. 8.—Over one hundred persons, a large majority of them girls, were buried beneath a smother of brick, wood and plaster this morning, when the central portion of the large department store of the John G. Meyers Company collapsed from roof to cellar. The wrecked portion includes nearly one-half of the store.

Scores of rescuers among the ruins up to 1:30 had brought out only twenty-five injured. Three of these died after reaching the hospitals. At that time one hundred and ten were unaccounted for, and it is certain that at least half of these are still beneath the mound of debris.

About four hundred persons are on the firm's pay roll, but some fifty of these are on their vacations.

Passing of a Pioneer.

Mrs. Matilda Gorden, one of the pioneer residents of Southern Oregon, died at the home of Lee Burch, in East Medford, on Tuesday, August 8th; aged ninety-four years, six months and twenty days. Mrs. Gorden, with her husband the late Alfred Gorden, settled on Griffin creek in the early fifties. The original house built on this homestead is still standing. It was framed in the east, shipped around Cape Horn in a sailing vessel and was freighted by wagon to the Rogue river valley, where it was set up and still stands. The funeral took place Thursday, August 10th, Rev. H. C. Hoxie officiating. Interment was made in Odd Fellows cemetery.

Tracklaying to Commence.

Wednesday morning the Medford & Crater Lake railroad commmenced stringing out ties in the terminal yards, preparatory to laying track. President Davis returned from Portland Tuesday, where he had been making arrangements for tools, etc., needed in the construction. As soon as the necessary tracks in the yard are laid the work will be actively pushed. Next week will probably see Superintendent of Construction Kelly in charge of a gang of men laying the steel for the road which will open up the Rogue river timber belt.

To the Public.

After August 10th mails for the night trains will be closed promptly at 7:45 p. m., instead of 9 p. m., as has been being done for the past two months.

The outside doors of the postoffice building will be closed promptly at 8 p. m.

A. M. WOODFORD,
Postmaster.

GREAT CROPS IN UNITED STATES.

American farms will produce bigger and better crops and return many more millions in revenue to the farming interests this year than ever before in the history of the country. All kinds of crops—wheat, corn, oats, hay and smaller grain and produce staples—have progressed to the stage where this prediction may be made with scarcely the slightest chance that the final official figures will disprove its correctness.

Railroad officials and statistics of agricultural departments in the various states of the government grain-producing regions give their personal an dofficial guarantee that the year 1905 is to be the banner year in farm prosperity.

If there is a dissenting voice anywhere, it is drowned out by the clamor of optimism that comes from Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, the far southwest, the Pacific coast and the wonderful spring wheat country of the northwest.

Possibly one wheat crop—that of 1901—will exceed that of 1905. In 1901 the crop aggregated 748,000,000 bushels. It may be that one previous corn crop—that of 1902, when 2,524,000,000 bushels were produced—will not quite be equaled by the yield of this year. It is when one takes the wheat, corn, oats and hay crops together and contemplates what the grand total of this year of grace is to be that the story becomes a glorious one. There never before was such a combination of stunning figures needed to express the tribute of the nation's horn of plenty.

Quite as much to the point, if not even more, in casting up the ledger of prosperity, is the prospect that prices, compared with the success of the production, will be higher than they have been since war times. An estimate of twelve states of farm products, based on present market quotations, would represent an array of figures that would be simply amazing. Superlatives are in order all along the line to make the situation sufficiently impressive.

According to figures emanating from state capitals Saturday afternoon, 370,000,000 bushels more of corn will be raised this year than last in the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Ohio and Wisconsin. The entire crop of corn last year, taking official government figures, was 2,467,000,000 bushels. The record crop of all years was 2,523,000,000 bushels in 1902. Hence, if the other states of the Union do anywhere near as well proportionately as the twelve mentioned, this year's corn yield will tower high above that of other years.

These same twelve states are expected to produce 114,000,000 more wheat than they did a year ago. Of the winter wheat states, Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Ohio, Nebraska and Missouri make a fine showing in increases. Enough of the crop has been gathered and threshed in good order to make these figures semi-final.

With black rust made practically innocuous in the spring wheat country by favorable weather conditions, with the harvest already on in a large part of the area, and with a larger acreage than last year from which to draw, the figures submitted for prospects in the northwest are not apparently overdrawn.

Likes Rogue River Valley.

The editor of the Hastings, (Minn.) Gazette, who was with the National Editorial Association excursion, which stopped in Medford last month, evidently appreciates this part of Oregon. He says:

"We came to Medford, where a halt was made of half an hour to look over some fine specimens of minerals and agricultural products displayed in a pavilion at the station, and in listening to the music of the high school band. Here the coaches were loaded up again with fruits and flowers by the inevitable ladies, now becoming a common occurrence. In addition to gold and copper they have coal, iron and asbestos in paying quantities, and only awaiting development. The climate of this valley is far preferable to that of California in our way of thinking, never too hot or too cold for comfort, and the fertile soil, abundance of mountain water, and good prices for everything raised renders it an ideal spot for the husbandman. The price of land is not high, all things considered, depending upon location."

Friday Night's Fire.

Friday night last just at 12 o'clock fire broke out in the city jail, when a temporary guest of the city had accidentally set the bed clothes on fire, through going to sleep while smoking. The fire department responded promptly to the alarm, dragged the half-suffocated inmate out and soon put the fire out. The damage was principally confined to the burned bed clothes, although the interior of the jail was somewhat damaged.

—Wanted—To buy second hand household goods. A. D. Houston, Jacksonville. 32-2t-pd.