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The Medford Mail

VOL. XVIII.

MEDFORD, JACKSON COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 1906

NO. 22

OREGON is the Best part of the United States. ROGUE RIVER VALLEY is the best part of Oregon MEDFORD is in the center of the valley and THE MAIL the best paper

DECORATION DAY EXERCISES.

Forty years is a long time, and the events of forty or more years ago are apt to be blurred in the memory even of those who participated in them, and to become but a tradition to those of succeeding generations. Yet the sight of the rapidly thinning line of bent, gray-haired men and women, following with halting footsteps the stars and stripes on the way to the place of meeting for services on decoration day, causes a thrill in the breast of a true American and brings to memory the time when those men offered their blood and their lives that a "government of the people, by the people and for the people might not perish from the earth," and the tears of those women cemented the foundation of a newer and grander republic.

Wednesday forenoon the Davis opera house was well filled with old soldiers and their friends who had assembled to do honor to the soldier dead. The Medford band led the procession to the opera house, the stage of which had been beautifully decorated with flowers and flags. Inside the band played a medley of patriotic airs, and as the strains of "Marching through Georgia," or "Hail Columbia," came, bent shoulders straightened, gray heads were uplifted and the "spirit of the '60s pervaded that little band of men in faded blue."

W. H. Moore, commander of Chester A. Arthur Post, G. A. R., called the meeting to order and the general orders were read by G. W. Pugh, post adjutant. The M. E. church choir, under direction of Mrs. C. T. McPherson, rendered a song, after which the post chaplain, Rev. Jas. Kelso, gave the invocation. The high school chorus then favored the audience with the "Stars and Stripes," which was followed by a recitation by Miss Agnes Isaacs. Another song by the choir followed and then the address of the day by W. H. Gore.

The theme of Mr. Gore's discourse was that we should all learn patriotism and love of country from the history of the nation. The heroes of the revolution are held up as models of patriotism and self-sacrifice, and those traits have been prominent in all our history. In every conflict in which the nation has been involved the same spirit which animated our revolutionary forefathers has prevailed.

"Patriotism," said Mr. Gore, "is not a sentiment. It is a virtue, deeply rooted in the breast of every true man, and it is that which makes nations progressive and great."

Of Decoration Day he said that it should not be treated as an ordinary holiday—one of recreation and sport, and indulgence in pastime, but rather it should be one of consecration to the things which are good, a day upon which the young should be taught by precept and example that love of country, that reverence for the flag and for its defenders, and that virtue of patriotism, which must prevail if the country would live and prosper.

Mr. Gore paid tribute to the courage and sincerity of the confederate soldiers, although mistaken they were Americans, and fought like Americans which made the victory to the Union arms all the more honorable and glorious. To the old soldiers he said: "Your lives and your labors have not been in vain. Their influence is felt and the lessons they teach are remembered, even now forty-one years after the close of the great conflict."

Mr. Gore paid eloquent tribute to the wives and mothers of soldiers. Theirs was the hardest part, to wait and weep, while the loved one might be lying in an unmarked grave in some mountain fastness or low-lying swamp.

Lincoln's "Gettysburg Address" was given by Willie Nafziger in good style. The services were closed by the singing of the "Red, White and Blue," by the M. E. church choir and the audience.

In the afternoon the old soldiers and many citizens marched to the cemetery, where the ceremony of decorating the graves was observed.

A Bad Slide.

One of the worst slides that railroad men on the Dunsmuir division have had to cope with for years was the one which occurred Thursday at Shaeta Springs, Calif., when the heavy rains combined with the overflow of an irrigating ditch, caused the mountain side to come down on the tracks, sweeping an orchard with it. Traffic was blocked until Saturday and the first northbound trains passed through the valley Sunday morning.

Accounts Due and Payable.

All accounts contracted at the Medford Pharmacy, prior to May 1, 1906, are due and payable to the undersigned, and to no other person or persons. J. W. WHITE, Owner.

GRADUATING EXERCISES.

The public school closed for the summer vacation with a short session Friday morning, when report cards were given out and the grade promotions made. Appropriate exercises were held in the various rooms on Thursday afternoon and the commencement exercises of the twelfth grade took place at Davis opera house Thursday evening. Two members composed the graduating class, Howard Hill, who delivered a well-prepared oration on the life, character and patriotism of Alexander Hamilton, and Miss Grace Brown, who was heard in a well-rendered vocal solo and a solo with the high school chorus. Both young people sustained their parts well and are to be congratulated on the satisfactory completion of the high school course.

The class address was delivered by P. L. Campbell, of the University of Oregon, who speaks fluently, convincingly and entertainingly on educational subjects. After a few felicitous remarks to the class upon the work of the local schools, he spoke at length upon the growth and development of educational work in the state, where, as ten years ago the question of supporting high schools was discussed negatively. Now Oregon has twenty schools with a four-year course, thirty with a three-year course and 120 high schools, in all doing effective and good work. This is an age of astonishing changes, the harnessing of vast water power, the practical uses of replacing former methods in factories and wherever machinery is used. The science of chemistry has been completely revolutionized and we may yet see nature not as dead matter but as a throbbing, pulsing power. The study of scientific living is applied to the lengthening of human life, so that the average of longevity is increased. The decrease in the length of the working man's day from twelve hours to ten and the strong sentiment prevailing in favor of an eight-hour day, means energy must be conserved that the same and more work must be done in less time. This points to a demand for skilled labor and more extended opportunity. To meet the complex life of the future, young people must be well equipped for the world's work. Statistics show that a good education increases the earning capacity of the American boy and to a degree this represents his value to the state. The best return from education, however, is not to be computed in dollars and cents, but in the increased character and ability of the boys and girls. The speaker closed by urging upon young people the value of time and the importance of a wise and right use of it.

The high school chorus, under the direction of Mrs. Heien Brown, was a popular feature of the program and rendered several animated selections.

Stole Team and Got Away.

Last week J. W. Berrian, of Elk creek, loaned his driving team to G. E. Maybee to make a trip to Gold Hill in search of work, with the understanding that the trip would consume three days. The time passed and then two days more, but as Maybee had been employed off and on about the Berrian farm for over a year, had been frequently intrusted with commissions to Medford and had always been honest and upright, Mr. Berrian, while uneasy, did not think that Maybee would do anything wrong. Sunday before noon, however, Chas. Tuill informed Judge Crowell that Berrian's team had been in the Union Stables for several days and that they had been sold. Inquiry revealed the fact that Maybee had disposed of the team to W. F. Reed, together with the harness and gear for \$320 and had taken the midnight train Saturday evening for Ashland, at which point he bought a ticket for Pokegama, since which time nothing has been heard of him. Saturday afternoon he was drinking a good deal and showing his money and finally went to sleep in the depot while waiting for his southbound train. Chief of Police Howard, Mr. Berrian was notified and arrived Monday afternoon and steps were immediately taken to recover the property. Mr. Reed did not hesitate an instant in restoring the horses, harness, etc., to the rightful owner, and afterward gave Mr. Berrian \$300 for the team alone. The team has cost Mr. Reed \$625, unless Maybee can be captured before he has squandered all the money he received on the bogus sale.

Maybee is described as being about sixty-five years of age, but appears younger, and has lost his left eye.

Cows for Sale.

I have for sale a number of good milch cows. J. W. Bonar, Griffin Creek.

Subscribe for The Mail.

THE PROPOSED NEW LIQUOR LAW.

BY CLARENCE TRUE WILSON.

Do you believe a man ought to vote intelligently when he votes? Of course you do. Do you know what the proposed amendment to the Local Option Law is? If not, read the article of explanation given below. When you have read it call the attention of some other voter to it.

The state of Oregon is at another crisis in its moral life. Two years ago, by an uprising of the people, a local option bill was introduced and by the initiative method of procedure adopted at the general election. Since that time many communities have taken advantage of the new provisions conferred upon them and protected their business interests, their homes and their personal welfare by voting the saloons out of business. In every case of the kind this change has resulted in augmenting every legitimate business, making sober and industrious citizens out of common drunks, and greatly improving the rental values and desirability of residences.

A bill has now been prepared by the Brewers and Wholesale Liquor Dealers' Association, through the Royal Arch, which is to be submitted to the voters in the June election. In connection with the proposed bill this explanatory statement is sent out by the Liquor Dealers' Association. It gives an amended local option law which raises the number of voters necessary to call a prohibition election from ten to thirty per cent. It allows a prohibition election to be called in any precinct in the state. It prevents the grouping of precincts together. It gives both sides exactly the same privileges. That's all.

We now propose to show that that statement intended to deceive the voters is throughout the quintessence of falsehood, that every section of our present law is practically repealed, and that one doctored in the interest of the liquor business beyond any recognition. In the preamble of the new bill it is provided that "this act shall not apply to the manufacturer or sale of liquors at wholesale by brewers, distillers, or others who sell liquor dealers." This takes it out of the hands of the sovereign people to decide whether they will have liquor sold by wholesale in their community.

Then the new bill provides only for elections in single precincts and against voting by counties, cities, towns or any communities where there is more than one voting precinct. No grouping of precincts is allowed. So that if this bill should pass nine-tenths of a town might be closed to the saloon, but one precinct made up of the lowest riff-raff in the town could continue to run a section of Sodom in spite of all the other voters. With the brewers and wholesalers unrestricted and no possibility of a township vote, our present law would be nullified.

The proposed liquor bill would require thirty per cent of all voters on petition in each precinct before local petition could be voted on. The present law requires but ten per cent. To vote on a constitutional amendment under the initiative only requires eight per cent, the number under the liquor men to submit their amendment to a vote in June. Five per cent on order an election under the referendum in all other cases. The local option law would increase the required number in this from ten per cent of the legal voters to thirty per cent—almost four times the required number under the initiative, and six times the number required for a referendum vote. By what means is this increase to be accomplished? Fairness is such, but then put on the temperance people? There are many men who want to clean up their town and will vote "no saloons," who for business reasons, do not like to sign petitions for local option election. When the ratio is increased, these saloonists will use their tactics of buying out the signers, in order to prevent the holding of the election.

The liquor men's bill requires the petition to be presented forty-five days before the election, and that the election shall not be for counties or towns, but only for precincts. This is to give time to colonize voters and opportunity to getrymandeer boundary lines, and to thwart the will of the people. Why should not a whole county vote on saloons or no-saloons? The county is the unit of government, and saloonists will use their tactics of buying out the signers, in order to prevent the holding of the election.

Under this bill when the election has been held, if it goes against the saloon, any voter can contest the election, throw the matter into court for months, thus enabling one to withdraw the will of all. The county judges shall have full and final jurisdiction to hear and determine the merits of such proceeding. No rights of appeal! Then, when the judge decides that the election was lawful and that it is incontestable, the saloon keepers shall be given ninety days, or three months, before it becomes unlawful. Finally, if they continue to sell and are apprehended and convicted, the penalties are cut down by their bill to a minimum. They shall be fined anywhere from nothing to not more than \$250 for the first offense, and shall for any subsequent offense be fined not more than \$500. There is no prison penalty attached to the violation of this law, no matter how many times repeated. A second conviction, if acted upon, would be only about as expensive as a license fee. In short, the bill is framed to add to the difficulties of calling an election, of securing a majority, of having the new ordinance established, of convicting lawbreakers under it, and finally the penalties are ridiculously small; all in the interest of the law-breakers.

The wording of the ordinance is peculiar. A double negative adorns the proposition. Under the present local option bill the prescription of a physician is required to sell liquor at the drug store; but the liquor bill adds, "which prescription shall not be used but once." That, literally, means that it must be used more than once. Perhaps this is only a joke.

The serious part of the new bill is this: "Nothing contained in any of the sections of this act shall in any

of the liquor interests; where their business becomes disreputable the people have a right to repress it. If we are going to have a local option provision at all, we need one that can be enforced. This one can be. It was drafted by the temperance forces. The proposed new bill is drawn up for the saloon interests purely. And the question is: If we are to have any restrictive laws whatever, who is to break down all law, or the people, whose homes and property interests are involved.

The Anti-Saloon League has been organized as a non-partisan and inter-denominational body, to withstand the saloon in its efforts to dominate the common-wealth. It believes the saloon is a gigantic evil, a trap for young manhood, a blight to the prospect of many a child, and the most dangerous source of political corruption in the whole state. The only good saloon is a closed one. The Anti-Saloon League solicits your most hearty support in this great work.

This document is sent out from the headquarters of the Anti-Saloon League of Oregon, for the purpose of preventing the liquor interests from misleading the voters of the state as to the real merits of the present local option law. Any information desired or assistance in public meetings or law enforcement, can be secured by calling on or writing to:

PAUL RADER, State Superintendent Oregon Anti-Saloon League, 420 Commercial Block, Portland, Ore., Tel. Main 1692.

STREET ECHOES

Opinions of Some of Our Citizens—Serious and Otherwise.

J. F. Hale:—"You might tell your readers that the Hale Piano House is still doing business at the old stand. I closed deals for two Ludwig pianos this week, one of these going to Patrick Daily, Sr., of Medford, and the other to L. R. Woods, of Cottage Grove."

Rev. Hoyle:—"I was out in the Griffin creek country Sunday and preached at their school house in the afternoon. I had a good attendance and enjoyed very much the pleasure of meeting those good people. Since I preached there last new seats have been put in the school house—which is a great improvement."

Death of Gustavus Merriam.

Died—A residence of his daughter, Mrs. Geo. Lunday, near Gresham, Oregon, on May 24th, Gustavus Merriam; aged seventy-five years, seven months and twenty days.

Since the death of his wife three years ago he had spent the greater part of the time with his daughter, Mrs. J. P. Dodge, of Ashland, and Mrs. W. P. Dodge, of Medford. He leaves three daughters, Mrs. Geo. Lunday, of Gresham, Oregon; Mrs. J. P. Dodge, of Ashland, and Mrs. W. P. Dodge, of this city, who were all at his bedside during his final illness. Mr. Merriam was a native of Massachusetts and came to Iowa when a young man, where he settled at Hopkinton, Delaware county. He was one of the pioneer settlers of that state and resided there until the death of his wife, when he moved to Oregon and lived with his daughters and their families.

His remains were taken to his former home in Iowa for interment. Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Dodge, of Ashland, accompanied them.

Horace D. Jones, Jr., Missing.

Portland Telegram, May 28th: Horace D. Jones, Jr., of Portland, is still missing, and for a week no trace of the young man has been found by his parents, the police or any of his numerous friends. The missing man is a cement contractor, and was last seen by his friends on the night of May 12th. After spending a day at work, he called at the home of Miss Bernice Curtis, living south of Arleta. Mr. Jones left the house late in the evening and started for home with a considerable sum of money on his person. Since then no clew has been found as to his whereabouts or what happened to him between the hour he left Arleta and next morning, when he was reported to be in Portland, a report which has not been verified.

Young Jones is a son of Horace D. Jones, formerly of Medford, and a well-known newspaper man.

Must Display Signals.

On and after July 1, 1906, carriers when serving rural mail routes are not required to open and examine any mail boxes except those to which they have mail to deliver unless a signal is displayed showing that mail has been deposited, therefore patrons who place mail in their boxes for collection must display a signal to indicate that they have done so. Patrons whose boxes are not provided with signals must furnish some device which will indicate to carriers that mail has been deposited for collection.

The foregoing is a condensation of an order issued from the Rural Delivery Division U. S. postoffice department under date of May 30, 1906.

—Bring your hair and hair work to Mrs. Reame, near the German church, Medford, Oregon. 17-2m

J. W. PERKINS' POSITION.

How He Stands on Matters of Public Interest

The M. E. church was crowded Sunday to hear the memorial sermon by Rev. C. T. McPherson. On invitation of the pastor and congregation the members of the G. A. R. attended the services and were rewarded by listening to an excellent sermon.

The text was John 15:13, "Greater love hath no man than this; that a man lay down his life for his friend."

The Rev. McPherson commenced by saying: "We have not met to build a monument to our brave soldiers. They built their own monuments." He then referred to 1874 when by a congressional act May 30th was established as a day on which our heroes should be especially remembered.

A glowing tribute was paid the Pilgrims of the 17th century, when America was consecrated to freedom and to God.

He said: "A divine idea was in the mind and heart of the Pilgrims. That idea has had a hold upon all our subsequent history."

The introduction of slaves was then referred to, giving the results that followed. The call for troops by Lincoln, the response by the nation and the struggles on the battlefield were eloquently depicted by the speaker.

"But a million brave fathers and sons came upon the scene and said: 'Though we perish, the nation shall live.'"

"The enormous cost of wars in lives and money was dwelled upon at length. 'Arbitration and treaty should be substituted in place of wholesale murder.'"

"The bravery and patriotism of our soldiers received the highest praise. 'The great soldiers that fought under Alexander and Napoleon did not possess so much true bravery.'"

The speaker said: "But we shall honor our heroes most by learning from their example to love and advance our country's true greatness and glory."

"Friends, this is America for which our soldiers died; the America towards which nations are turning, as if some how we had found the fountain of immortal youth." The problems which are yet to be solved were touched upon. "In the past our country had need of soldiers on the battlefield and she had them. Now we need soldiers who in the civil wars of life will fight for the triumph of the principles of truth and right living. We must have clean legislation against all forms of corruption. Let us be loyal to the holiest and highest interests involved in our national life."

"To whom shall we go for victory?" "I know no living man great enough, but there is one on whose head is a thousand crowns. His venture is dipped in blood and he bath on his vesture and on his thighs a name written, 'King of Kings and Lords of Lords.' He shall triumph. He shall stir the hearts of men and nations for victory along the battle lines of truth. Heroes of many battles follow your triumphant leader to his victory."

A Word to Timber Entrymen. A recent ruling of the land department requires that timber land entrymen shall show the condition of land as ascertained from a personal examination NEAR THE DATE OF PROOF. The department has not made known by decision just how near the proof date this examination must be made.

The evidence, at date of making proof, must show the condition and character of the land at that time, and should be based on an examination made sufficiently near the date to render it reasonably certain that no change has been made in the condition. The local land office will hold that sixty or ninety days is not "sufficiently near the date." Inasmuch as there is an uncertain time limit in this matter The Mail is going to suggest that entrymen be prepared to present positive evidence as to the condition of the land at a time not more than two weeks prior to date of taking testimony. This may be a precaution as to date which may be considered by some as unnecessary and a greater length of time might intervene between date of examination and the date of proof, and the proof be accepted by the department, still there is the chance that it might not be accepted—in which event the matter of additional affidavits, trouble and expense is sure to pile up.

Never Stops Growing. The stockholders of the First National Bank of Medford this week voted to increase the capital stock of that vigorous institution, during the present summer, from \$28,000 to Fifty Thousand Dollars.

There is a lively effort by moneyed men to get some of this new stock, for the First National Bank has been a favorite with the public ever since it opened its doors a year ago, and its growth has been remarkable.

Of course the dimensions of Cashier Alfords genial and everlasting smile have increased also.

(Continued on 3rd page)