

## WASSON CANYON INVESTIGATED

### Party Reports That All the Water Found Was 163 Inches

On Wednesday of this week a deputation of Medford citizens visited the Little Butte creek country for the purpose of acquainting themselves with the conditions surrounding the source of water supply for the city of Medford as is outlined in the propositions presented from that locality.

The party consisted of F. Osenbruge, H. G. Wortman, F. E. Merrick, B. J. Trowbridge, W. W. Effert, T. H. Moore, George Putnam and A. S. Bliton. This made up two automobile loads, and the Hanley ranch, which is the proposed intake of water from Wasson canyon, was reached without incident worthy of mention. Here a splendid luncheon was spread, which luncheon, by the way, was prepared and furnished by Mr. Osenbruge. After eating of this most inviting spread all members of the party made their way up Wasson canyon for the purpose of thoroughly inspecting the source of water supply at this point. Engineer Cummings was there and had taken measurements at the weir and reported there were 163 inches of water then flowing in Wasson canyon. This is exactly the same amount of water which flowed over the weir on the 5th day of August, this year.

The inspecting party remained at the weir for a few minutes, drank of the water, took its temperature, which was 56 degrees, and in the meanwhile Mr. Cummings explained the system by which water measurements are taken. From this point we followed up the stream, known as the Bieberstead spring creek, and after this we crossed to the main channel of the source of supply, and five of the party—Wortman, Merrick, Moore, Putnam and Bliton—went up this canyon a mile or more to a point known as "the falls." For a considerable distance here the water flows over rocks and between rough, ragged rock-lined banks to the point above referred to, at which point the walls narrow to a passage not to exceed from 10 to 15 feet in width. This is overhung with a dense growth of underbrush and huge pine trees. The temperature of the water was taken at this point and was found to be 59 degrees—6 degrees colder than at the weir, accounted for mostly by the shade of the trees. Above this point the growth of timber and underbrush is so dense that we did not venture further.

The opinion expressed by all was that the water in Wasson canyon was good, and was surely spring water. The objection raised to it is the quantity, which was not considered sufficient. This supply, members of the water committee explained, could be supplemented with water from Little Butte creek, which is carried in a ditch three-quarters of a mile in length and crosses the Wasson Canyon creek in a flume near the proposed intake of the pipe line.

The intake of the Fish Lake ditch was pointed out, the lay of the land surrounding was noted and the elevation of several points was learned. It is not the intention of the writer of this item to attempt to advise as to which proposition should be accepted by the water committee. There are advantages which some of them possess not found in others, and then the disadvantages enter into these same propositions, and to weigh the min balance and determine which is the best is something no person has a right to do who does not understand fully all of the conditions, and these conditions can only be understood by a thorough examination into the advantages and the disadvantages of each—they all have some of both.

It is proposed now by the water committee to leave the whole matter up to the city's consulting engineer, whom they have asked to prepare a report covering all the points for an against each proposition presented—these to be from an engineering point of view, and as well from a sanitary point. The legal phase he positively declines to touch upon.

As to whether or not these reports and the recommendations which will accompany them will be accepted by the people of Medford is a matter difficult to determine, but this much is certain—some conclusion must be reached, either in this way or by some other method soon, if the city is to secure the much-needed water supply for another season.

A number of the delegation were favorable to the Fish lake proposition because of the amount of water to be had, and the certainty of securing the required amount at all

times. Other members of the delegation, while entering no objection to acquiring water from this source, were of the opinion that it ought to be taken out at a point above the Hanley ranch.

### POSTAL BUSINESS INCREASING.

The clerical force in the Medford postoffice has been added to, and because of this there is much elation in the homes of Postmaster Woodford and his able assistant, Ralph W. Woodford.

There will be a lineup of two new clerks this morning when the doors of the office are opened to the public. William Warner, who for several years has been mailcarrier on rural route 1, out of Medford, will be found at the registry and money order window, and Clyde Hazelrigg of Greensburg, Ind., and brother of C. D. Hazelrigg, will be mailing clerk from even date with today. Mr. Hazelrigg has been mailing clerk in Greensburg for several years and the government has transferred him to this office.

Both these new clerks are men of proven ability in the employ of the government, and their services will be a lift of a good bit of the burden so long and faithfully carried by Assistant Postmaster Ralph Woodford. Miss Della King, who for two years has been general delivery clerk in the office, will take a two weeks' vacation. During these two years there has not been a day that Miss King has not been at her post of duty. During her absence Mrs. Ralph Woodford, who has been registry and money order clerk for several years, will have charge of the general delivery window. Upon the return of Miss King, Mrs. Woodford will retire from service in the office.

The working force of the Medford office has been working under numerous disadvantages since occupying the new office, because of the fact that the office as it is arranged is intended for a free delivery service. Especially is the disadvantage noticeable in the fact that there was no provision made for a stamp sale window, but as it is, the sale of stamps must be conducted from the general delivery window.

The revenue to the government from the Medford postoffice is increasing with wonderful strides and it is really a pity we have not this free delivery service. The only obstacles to be removed is the numbering of the places of business and residences and the placarding of the streets. If these two things were done we would have free delivery in a very short time.

### BIGGEST DEAL IN OREGON.

What is considered the biggest deal in farming lands ever made in Oregon was consummated in Portland in the transfer of 4999 acres of Douglas county soil for \$200,000. The seller is Frank Waite of Rossburg, and the buyers A. H. Perkins of Medford and J. M. Johnson, an Indiana capitalist. The tracts involved are the 2800-acre farm of Mr. Waite and the Curry place of 1299 acres near by. Both tracts are situated in the Umpqua valley, and are contiguous to the Southern Pacific railroad. The land has been in cultivation for years and is now considered in a high state of productivity.

The buyers intend subdividing the farms into 10 and 20-acre tracts and setting out fruit trees, for which the soil is considered admirably adapted. The improved acres will then be sold to farmers from the east and elsewhere, who will apply intensive methods to farming and fruitgrowing. There will thus be 200 farms of 20 acres each, or 400 of 10 acres in area to plat and set out in trees and berry vines.

Mr. Waite, who was in Portland with the buyers, says that he looks for a boom in Douglas county fruit lands, such as now prevails in the Hood River country. Farmers of the Umpqua valley have been doing well in raising and exploiting apples and pears, as well as cherries, since spraying and improved methods have been introduced, and they are all out of debt and have goodly bank accounts.

Mr. Perkins recently sold a large fruit farm in the Rogue River valley near Medford, for something over \$100,000, and has lost no time in investing again in Oregon fruit lands. He declares there is as much to be made in dealing in the fertile lands of Southern Oregon as there is in Portland real estate, and he looks for a dense fruitgrowing population in Douglas county as soon as the true value of the soil and the pleasant climate have become better known in the east.

### Will Come to Oregon.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 15.—Orders were issued today for the Sixteenth company Coast Artillery, now at Presidio, San Francisco, to proceed to Fort Stevens, Or., about November 1, and the Sixtieth company, now at Fort Casey, to proceed to Fort Worden for station about December 15.

## E. V. DEBS IN MEDFORD

### He Was Greeted By a Large Crowd and Spoke at Length

Sunday afternoon a large crowd gathered in the vicinity of the depot to see and hear Eugene V. Debs, the candidate for president of the United States on the Socialist ticket. Owing to a freight wreck in California the train was quite late and in the meantime the people were entertained by Daniel A. White, the national organizer of the party.

The "Red Special" bearing Mr. Debs and his party, arrived at 5:50 and the band of 15 pieces which accompanies the party, played for a few minutes, when the candidate mounted the platform at the warehouse of J. A. Perry. The reception Mr. Debs received appeared to please him very much, as he looked out over the sea of faces and waited for the cheering to cease. He said in part:

"This is quite a nice reception you are giving to an 'undesirable citizen.' The two old parties have outgrown their usefulness. You belong to the Republican party because four fathers did. It has been a great party in its time and abolished slavery, but now it is the party of plutocracy.

"The coal business of Chicago is controlled by two men, and between them they freeze the price to death in winter by the high price they charge for their coal. One of these men is a Republican and the other is a Democrat. One of them is collecting funds for the Republican party and the other for the Democratic party. But you don't hear of any trust collecting money for Debs.

"There are 8,000,000 women and 4,000,000 children working in this country. You men work ten hours and earn your pay in two hours, so that the daughters of your employers can go to Europe and associate with counts and no-accounts. Your employer tells you how much he is impressed by your intelligence. You build the palaces and live in houses. You are furnished a carriage to go to the polls one day and vote to walk the other 364 days in the year.

"The plans we propose is co-operation, then there will be work for all, money enough for all, no one in the prisons or asylums and men and women will walk together in the brotherhood of mankind.

"I thank you for your kind attention."

The cars of the special were not painted red, as was supposed to be the case, but were exactly the same color as all the other cars of the Southern Pacific, except for the banners and decorations on the sides. The train pulled out at 6:10, having stayed here exactly 30 minutes.

### OPENING OF STATE FAIR.

SALEM, Or., Sept. 12.—Every available stall in the livestock exhibit has been taken and temporary structures will have to be provided to accommodate the display in the different breeds of cattle, horses, swine and goats at the state fair. Racing entries have begun to arrive from north and south and many points in the east. Lone Oak race-track is in prime condition.

Special programs have been arranged for every day, but the principal days will be Salem day (Wednesday) and Portland day (Thursday). Arrangements have also been made to have special trains run between Portland and Salem throughout the week, on both the Southern Pacific and the Oregon Electric, with reduced round-trip rates. The Southern Pacific will run a special excursion out of Portland on Portland day, to consist of 30 cars, and a round-trip fare of \$1.25 will be charged. This train will leave Portland for Salem at 9 o'clock in the morning, and returning, will leave Salem at 6 p. m. An immense crowd is expected from Portland on this day, as the best racing program of the week has been arranged for it, in both harness and running events.

Livestock of all breeds and classes has been arriving upon the grounds daily for the past week, and there is a great bustle for stall accommodations. Among the special breeds of cattle will be the herd of Galloways, as well as specimens of the Polled Jerseys, which have been imported from Ohio, and will be shown on the coast for the first time.

SALEM, Or., Sept. 14.—At 8 o'clock this morning the gates opened for the largest and best state fair ever held in Oregon. From that hour until late Saturday night, if present indications shall be fulfilled, the fair grounds will be visited by the largest crowds ever assembled

here for the annual industrial exposition.

Arrangements have been made by the fair management, by transportation companies and by proprietors of restaurants, hotels and rooming-houses to take care of record-breaking crowds and there seems reason to believe that their efforts will prove to have been wisely put forth.

The formal opening of the fair took place in the Auditorium this evening. In the forenoon the visitors inspected the several departments, the agricultural, horticultural, livestock, dairy, machinery, manufactures and art exhibits. In the afternoon, beginning at 2 o'clock, the races started at Lone Oak track. During the races there will be athletic exhibitions, such as tight-wire performances and hoop-rolling.

At 5 p. m. the crowd assembled in the Auditorium, where appropriate exercises were held. Mayor Rodgers of Salem delivered an address of welcome and Governor Chamberlain responded. An address was delivered by Tom Richardson of the Portland Commercial club. McKelroy's orchestra rendered musical selections for the occasion.

### HINTS FOR FRUIT GROWERS.

There is not a fruit, grain or vegetable producing country in the known world which does not have the elements to contend with to a greater or less extent. This being true, it cannot be expected that the Rogue River valley of Southern Oregon would be an exception to the general rule.

We do have here sometimes the element of frost to contend with, but the necessity of protection against this element is so rare as to cause our fruitgrowers to become careless of their interests and they sometimes forget the possibility of injury. This was the case last spring with a few of our orchard men and they are now regretful.

One instance of this over-confidence and abiding faith which may be cited is that of Colonel R. C. Washburn, who owns the famous Table Rock orchard. For 12 or 15 years this orchard has borne a good crop of fruit, each season, but there is no fruit there this season.

The orchard could reasonably have been expected to have produced this year \$10,000 worth of fruit, and it would undoubtedly have done this had not a little frost happened that way just at bloom time last spring. There were a few other orchards in the valley which happened to be in the path of this cold wave, and they, too, were nipped. All this could have been prevented had our orchardmen exercised a little of the precaution which has made their California brothers wise by experience.

In California, where frosts are never expected to occur, the orchardmen have grown wise in their generation and preparations are made for the unexpected. Oil pots are kept constantly ready for lighting and when the thermometer gets anywhere near the frost mark the match is applied and the smudge protects the fruit bloom from frost. That seems easy, and it is easy, but that spirit of over-confidence prevalent among the orchard men of this valley is too liable to predominate until it is too late.

Instead of the oil cans, previously used in California, the oil brick is now being used. This is a mixture of sawdust and crude oil. It makes a great smudge, is easily ignited and burns a long time.

Another device which is coming into use in many localities in California is the electric thermometer. These instruments are placed in the orchards and are connected by wire with an alarm in the house. When the thermometers reach a frost danger line an electric connection is made with the house alarms, and the help is awakened and the smudges are by the applied and the crop is saved.

That Washburne instance is really a pitiful one; great, healthy trees, no fruit on them, when they, under ordinary circumstances, would have produced thousands of dollars—and all this loss could have been prevented by an outlay of a few hundred dollars.

Experience, while an expensive tutor, is an effective one, and Colonel Washburn and others of the valley will profit by it next spring.

### ATTEMPTING TO KILL.

The name of the colored man who attacked a white man in the White Elephant saloon at an early hour yesterday morning is Walter Mason; the white man's name is Richard Roach. Chief of Police Shearer was busy yesterday gathering the evidence in the case and today this will be presented before the grand jury now in session at Jacksonville.

As was stated in The Morning Mail, Roach was not very badly cut up, but those who saw the assault claim that the colored man evidently intended to kill Roach, and would have done so had it not been for the bystanders interfering and taking his knife away from him. It is expected that the charge will be assault with intent to kill.

## BRING ALONG THE EXHIBITS

### The Fair Officers Are Urging Farmers to Have Them Here

President Perry and Superintendent Andrews of the Rogue River Fair association wish the farmers throughout Jackson and Josephine counties to be informed by The Morning Mail and the Weekly Mail that they are not only invited, but are urged to make preparations to send exhibits to the fair which will be held in Medford, October 1, 2 and 3.

They also wish to call attention to the fact that there is \$1300 to be given in cash premiums for the different exhibits. This money is allowed by the state, and if all of it is not used it will have to be returned. This will make it where most all of the exhibitors will get prizes, the amounts of which will in most cases pay for their expense of getting their exhibits here, and also for what it would cost them and their families to visit the fair.

The officials have been supplied with a large quantity of premium books and any one can get them by either calling or sending to J. A. Perry, manager of the Rogue River Fruitgrowers' union, at Medford. They can get them without any expense whatever. Those who desire to have the honor of winning prizes—to say nothing of getting the money—should lose no time in planning for this event.

It is understood that the officials of the fair are going to send an invitation to Governor Chamberlain to come here during the fair and make a non-political speech. Those in a position to know say that they believe the governor will accept the invitation if it is sent to him.

Everything is now in such shape in connection with the horse races to be held here during the fair on October 1, 2 and 3 that it can positively be stated that it will be the best meet ever held in this city, if not the best in the history of Jackson county.

The sum of \$700 has been raised by the committee that has had the work in charge, to be used for the purses and quite a number of entries have already been made of good horses, and the indications are that there will be any number of entries made before the races begin.

As has already been stated, the admission to the races will be entirely free, but those who attend will be able to secure seats, as Contractor and Architect Charles Lyons is at work now constructing a grandstand. It is located in a good position and will be covered. For seats there will be a small charge for those who wish to take them.

### TEACHERS' RECEPTION.

Last evening Superintendent U. G. Smith and the teachers of the Medford schools were entertained at the Baptist church with a reception that was one of the most successful events of a social nature that has taken place for some time. A committee composed of the pastors and representatives from each church had the matter in charge.

Rev. W. F. Shields of the Presbyterian church presided and after fitting introductory remarks, called upon Rev. W. C. Reuter, of the Methodist Episcopal church, for the address of welcome. He likened life to the school and pointed out the lessons set for one to learn and the taskmaster set over him. "Education improves the thought faculty, thought produces high ideals and high ideals are a powerful magnet to raise the individual to a higher plane of living."

Superintendent U. G. Smith responded on behalf of the teachers, expressing gratitude and appreciation of the cordial interest manifested by friends and citizens, in the teachers and the work of the schools. He regards the growing child not as something to be moulded and shaped according to the will of another, but as a living being capable of unlimited growth and infinite possibilities.

Mr. Smith expressed himself as much pleased with the work and said that it was coming to be an acknowledged fact in the east that the west must be looked to for ideas and progress.

"In the hands of the young rests the future of our commonwealth. Let us work with one heart and one mind to educate them for the great work of life."

After a vocal solo by Mrs. E. E. Goss, Rev. G. L. Hall of the Baptist church gave a reading, Miss Ione Flynn and Mr. Kellogg were heard in a violin and piano duet and Mrs. E.

R. Seeley gave a reading.

The church was simply and tastefully decorated with festoons of green and vivid bunches of asters and late roses. Mrs. Martha Miller, assisted by a bevy of young girls, presided over the punch table and Mrs. J. E. Watt was chairman of the reception committee.

As a means of emphasizing the hearty spirit of co-operation existing between the patrons of the school and the teachers, the affair was most timely and the very large attendance attested the mutual pleasure felt by parents in having this opportunity to become acquainted with the teachers of their children.

### "LEST WE FORGET."

There has been so much "big talk" about Southern Oregon fruit for the past three or four years that even people living here lost sight of a great many other big crops which the Rogue River valley has been producing. For instance, there hasn't scarcely been a peep from any one on alfalfa—even the newspapers have quite forgotten, seemingly, that there is such a crop growing, but all this time there have been several big crops of this excellent forage plant grown here and all this time the beef which Medford's population has fed upon has been fattened by this succulent plant.

Then there is the corn crop. Few have thought much about this, and as a matter of fact it doesn't cut much of a figure as compared with our red and yellow apples, and our pears and our other excellent fruit, but even the corn of our valley has its place as a component factor in making up the grand total wealth and worth of our valley. Corn is not grown in many localities on the Pacific coast—in fact, this part of the coast country is about the only locality where it is grown successfully—that is, anything like it grows "back in Illinois, Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska."

To prove conclusively that we grow a pretty good imitation of the product of these middle western states one has but to look upon the samples brought in yesterday from the Vilas farm, and which may be seen at Hubbard Bros.' implement house in Medford. Mr. Vilas has about 100 acres of corn this year, and if the few stalks on exhibition are anything like an average it is good corn for any old state. The stalks are fully nine feet high and the ears are very large and a foot or more in length.

Then there is Dr. Page's field, out near Eagle Point. This is a cracking good crop, stands higher than the average man can reach and is well eared. There are other good fields of corn in the valley and these, as we before stated, have their place in producing wealth—and look like "low to me." So don't get to everlasting mixed up in this labyrinth of fruit orchards as to overlook the lesser good features of our country.

### COST OF FOREST FIRES.

The person who gets an idea into his head that it does not cost the government much of anything to protect the forests from fire ought to at once be set right. Listen to this:

Acting Supervisor Swenning reported yesterday to a Morning Mail representative that the two fires on Applegate and one at Fort Klamath had cost the government just \$429.50 for extra help in putting out fires during the month of August, and that the sum would be much greater for these two localities for September. There were 58 different men employed in this work. There are now 30 men at work putting out fires at Aspen lake, in Klamath county, and it is expected that this and one other fire in that county will cost the government fully \$1000.

### ATTACKED BY COUGAR.

CLATSkanie, Or., Sept. 15.—While driving alone in a buggy along a densely wooded private road going from this place to her home near Fishhawk, in the Nehalem valley, where her parents live on a homestead, Miss Mignon Dippold, the 18-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Dippold, was attacked by a cougar and frightened so badly that she may not recover.

The young woman was less than a quarter of a mile from home and her father, who was driving cows home, heard her screams and went to her aid. When her father arrived she was lying in the road beside the buggy. She was unable to speak further than to say a cougar had jumped at her. Afterward she became hysterical and is still unable to talk.

The young woman was brought to Clatskanie for medical treatment and her condition is reported as almost bordering on insanity from the terrible fright she received.

The Dippolds formerly conducted a hotel at Mist, but have been living at University Park, Portland, the past year, returning about one month ago.

## THE PAYMENT WAS MADE

### Pacific Coal Company Pays Balance of First Payment

Yesterday the officials of the Pacific Coal company of Los Angeles, Cal., paid to the Medford Coal & Mining company of this city the balance due on the first payment for the purchase of the mining property situated not far from Medford. This was the sum of \$15,000, which makes the amount paid to date \$25,000.

There is still the sum of \$25,000 yet owing, but that will not be due and payable till April of next year. In the meantime it is said by those who are in a position to know that something will be done before long in the way of working the mine and putting the coal on the market.

It is also understood that the Pacific Coal company people have made a deal whereby the property will be taken over by John F. Murphy of Chicago. He is one of the largest coal mine operators in the country and has plenty of capital to build the road there to the mine and all other work necessary in getting it in good shape.

His local representative is B. F. Mundy of this city.

### LIBRARY ADDS BOOKS.

Mrs. H. C. Stoddard, the librarian of the public library, and half a dozen other ladies were busy yesterday afternoon unpacking books to add to those already on the shelves. Altogether there were 57 volumes added. Mrs. Rev. W. T. Golder presented the library with a set Bulwer Lytton in nine volumes. Mrs. Rev. F. C. Williams donated a set of Washington Irving's works, consisting of ten volumes, and Mrs. B. P. Theias gave 21 books of different titles; George Putnam, American Cyclopaedia, 17 volumes.

The library also contains a set of the Americana Encyclopedia, which cost \$104. There is also found there one of the best books of geology in existence. It is by the late Professor Condon and deals with the geology of Oregon and the northwest. The title of it is "The Two Islands."

Out of the 600 books which belonged to the old library association, only 200 of them have been turned over and the ladies of the Greater Medford club would like very much if any one who has one or more of the books would be kind enough to return them.

### INVESTING IN MEDFORD.

H. L. Floyd, who recently purchased the residence of A. T. Drisko, mention of which was made in The Morning Mail, has again this week shown his faith in Medford by investing in a couple more places of valuable—or soon to be valuable—property. He has bought from H. J. Shutte the Purdin place, on B street, paying therefor \$8000.

Mr. Purdin a few years ago sold this same place for \$3000. Mr. Floyd also bought of W. E. Page the store building on Central avenue, north of the Diamond rooming house, for the sum of \$2500. Mr. Floyd has gone east to dispose of some real estate he has there, and will return and invest more money here, either in buildings or in purchasing other real estate.

### OREGON AND WASHINGTON.

PORTLAND, Or., Sept. 12.—Governor Meade of Washington is en route to this city from Seattle to hold a conference with Governor Chamberlain of this state tomorrow regarding the controversy between the Oregon authorities and the salmon fishermen on the Columbia river.

Thursday morning, according to one of the new initiative laws passed last June, was the beginning of the closed season in Oregon. Notwithstanding it is still an open season in Washington for taking fish, the Oregon authorities maintain the right to prevent fishing from shore to shore, and since Thursday they have placed under arrest a score or more of fishermen, many of whom were taking fish north of the state boundary.

The authorities of Washington, it is stated, consider this an infringement of sovereignty of their state, and the conference of governors tomorrow is for the purpose of coming to an understanding in the matter.

It is rumored that the state of Washington will resist all attempts of the Oregon authorities to the enforcing of the laws of this state inside the boundaries of Washington.

### SUBSCRIBE FOR THE MAIL.