

## OUR COUNTY Correspondents

### YOUNG MAN DISAPPEARS

Day Visitor of Eagle Point Not Seen for Several Days.

**EAGLE POINT, Or., Dec. 22.**—The report has reached here that Roy Vastal had started from Bonanza for his father's place about a month ago and has not been heard of since, and a young lady with whom he had been on intimate terms wrote to his father, of this place, and stated that his horse and saddle and bridle were in a ivery stable in Klamath Falls.

Last Monday his brother Art started for Klamath Falls to look the matter up. There is considerable anxiety felt in this neighborhood on the subject, and fears are entertained that he has been murdered, as it was known that he had considerable money with him when he started.

### EAGLE POINT EAGLETS.

(By A. C. Howlett.)

Dacota Davis of Jacksonville was a guest last Sunday night at the Sunnyside, on his way up Butte creek.

Messrs. Moore and Pharis of Elk creek were pleasant callers Friday night of last week on their way to Medford and Ashland.

Our citizens are preparing for a grand time Christmas eve. They expect to have a Christmas tree, recitations, songs, etc., and a good time generally.

Charley and Albert Morine of Elk creek were also sojourners with us Friday night. They had been to Medford and Jacksonville on land business and were returning home.

J. C. Brown, one of Medford's wide-awake real estate men, and Mr. Root were pleasant callers last Monday. Mr. Root was inquiring the price of the hill land around Eagle Point.

Mrs. J. A. Jones started last Friday for Wallowa, where her son Robbie is publishing the Wallowa Sun, where she expects to remain. Her son Jake is boarding at the Sunnyside at present.

The work on the Cooley house and barn on the old Britt place is retarded on account of the lack of lumber, as it seems to be scarce in Medford owing to the enormous demand there for building purposes.

Baxter Grigsby, living near Klamath Falls, arrived on the P. & E. railroad last Monday eve to visit his mother, Mrs. A. N. Thomas. When he came in he brought in the remains of a man by the name of Whitman, who was buried in the Medford cemetery last Saturday or Sunday.

Tuesday The Morning Mail correspondent was called on to attend the funeral services of Isaac Stinson, who died on the 20th inst. I have not learned the particulars of his death, but I am told that he was about 52 years of age. A more extended notice next week.

Professor Henry, the principal of our school, who has been confined to his room in Jacksonville for the past two weeks, returned last Sunday and resumed his duties in the schoolroom. In Miss Bertha Peachey's department they have a two weeks' vacation, and Miss Peachey went to Ashland on Tuesday to spend the Christmas holidays with her parents.

Married—In Bakersfield, Cal., November 29, Mr. Lewis H. Whitley of Plouffe Rock precinct, and Miss Dora Vogel of Illinois. The happy couple arrived at the Sunnyside hotel, Eagle Point, on the eve of the 20th, on the P. & E. railroad, and on Monday morning proceeded on their way to his home, his brother being here in readiness waiting for them. His many friends in these parts extend congratulations and wish them a long and happy life.

Messrs. Baker, Albert and Beal, Fredenburg of Butte Falls were pleasant callers at the Sunnyside on Monday last for dinner. They report that the work on the new schoolhouse at Butte Falls was progressing finely, that they have three rooms already completed and will soon have the entire building ready for use. They proceeded on their way to Medford, expecting to go to the county seat to attend to some business before returning.

### TO RESTRICT USE.

**BILL To End Excessive Use of Referendum.**

**SALEM, Or., Dec. 18.**—For the purpose of putting an end to the excessive use of the initiative and referendum, State Senator J. N. Smith of Marion county will introduce a bill in the coming session of the legislature making it a felony for one man to hire another to circulate a petition for signatures. Senator Smith believes this simple provision will put a stop to the filing of a large number of initiative and referendum petitions every two years and yet will not in any way interfere with the exercise of this power when there is a real occasion for it.

Senator Smith's bill will put the signing of petitions upon exactly the same basis as casting ballots, so far as criminal laws are concerned. His

bill will be in the same language as the law for the punishment of persons who bribe men to vote. That law is known as "Section 1900" of the code.

The only change will be that the act prohibited will be giving or offering to any person any gift, gratuity or valuable consideration, or promising to do or cause to be done any act beneficial to such persons, "with intent to influence or induce such person to circulate or procure signatures to any petition for the initiative or referendum." The penalty will be the same as that prescribed for the punishment of bribery voters, from one to five years in the penitentiary or three to 12 months in the county jail. No fine will be provided.

Senator Smith said today: "This will in no way hinder the proper use of the initiative and referendum. Whenever there is a real occasion for resort to direct legislation popular sentiment will be so strong that men all over the state will volunteer to circulate petitions. This bill is intended to shut off that class of direct legislation which has no public sentiment back of it and which could not be submitted to a vote of the people but for the use of money in circulating petitions.

"To raise the percentage of signatures required and still permit money to be used would be to place more power in the hands of the man willing to use money to satisfy his whims or promote his personal interests. I believe the percentage now required is large enough provided no improper use of money is permitted in securing signatures."

### ALBANY STREET RAILWAY.

It Was Opened There Yesterday Afternoon; Citizens Elated.

**ALBANY, Or., Dec. 21.**—The electric line was opened here today. The new car began service this afternoon with J. E. Ross as motorman and Charles McDonough as conductor. This marks a new era in Albany's progress and the new service is hailed with delight by the citizens.

The car is first class in every particular and will be in regular operation hereafter between the business district and the depot. Free rides were given for two hours.

### RELEASE OF UMPQUA LAND.

Roseburg Receiver Says the Reserve Tracts Are Not Highly Desirable.

**Roseburg, Or., Dec. 17.**—Receiver J. M. Lawrence has published the following letter regarding the release of land near Roseburg:

"The news recently published about a tract of land to be released from the Umpqua national forest was so misleading that correction seems due to the land-hungry public.

"It is true that some 91,000 acres are to be eliminated from the forest reserve, but more than 90 per cent of that area was in private ownership before the lands were withdrawn from entry, March 2, 1907. The less than 10 per cent remaining vacant are, of course, the less desirable lands. We have no reason to believe that there are any 'choice' dairy, fruit and timber tracts in the area to be opened, though tastes differ and it may be that somebody would regard some of those lands as choice.

"It is not a peculiar feature of this opening that settlers are to have preference. This has been the invariable rule for years. Settlers are permitted to go upon the vacant lands on or after December 21, but not before that date, while entries at the land office are not permitted until January 20 following. Since entries other than homestead must be accompanied by showing that the land is unoccupied, it follows that occupancy, settlement, before January 20 will defeat adverse application for the land on or after January 20. The presence of the settler upon the land will prevent the non-occupancy showing necessary for entry by one who is not a settler.

There is no more reason to expect a "rush" to get these lands than there was for a rush a year ago last August, when 40 times as much land was eliminated from forest reserves in this district under the same conditions. First erroneous reports drove the public crazy, but prior to date for entry people learned the truth and few cared for the land."

### MR. STEELMAN MISSING.

The Morning Mail is in receipt of a letter from Gold Hill in which inquiry is made as to the whereabouts of E. T. Steelman of Gold Hill. The letter states that Mr. Steelman left Gold Hill December 12 and has not since been heard from. Upon leaving his home he left no word with his family as to his intentions; in fact, they did not know he intended leaving. Mrs. Steelman is very much worried because of his absence and has asked us to locate him if we could. He was last seen walking toward Medford. Any one having seen him, or who knows where he is now, will confer a favor upon Mrs. Steelman by notifying her.

### FOR FARMERS ONLY.

Send us your name and postoffice address and we will mail you free, on January 1, a beautiful calendar.

## GRAND JURY MAKES REPORT

In the Circuit court of the State of Oregon for the County of Jackson, December term, 1908. Report of the grand jury.

To H. K. Hanna, Judge of the above entitled court:

We, the grand jury of Jackson county, Oregon, duly empanelled and sworn in the above entitled court at the December term, 1908, thereof, respectfully submit this, our report:

We have diligently inquired into all cases wherein persons have been charged with committing crime, including all cases brought to our attention by the act of committing magistrates in holding persons charged with crime to await the action of the grand jury, and all cases wherein parties have appeared voluntarily before us and accused others of the commission of crime, and all cases within the knowledge of our prosecuting officers. We have returned into the court indorsed as "true bills" and have returned "not true bills" tw oldictments.

We have made a brief examination of the courthouse jail and out-buildings. We respectfully recommend to the County court that a roof of the county jail be thoroughly repaired or that a new roof be made to the same. We recommend that the closets be repaired and remodelled and made modern and sanitary.

We recommend that a telephone booth be provided by the county court for use of officials and the citizens of the county during the sessions of the Circuit court.

We have visited the various offices of the county officials, and find the books, records, files and accounts of said officers, so far as we could ascertain by brief examination, neatly, systematically and accurately kept.

We note with pleasure the improvements lately made in the way of metal filing cases for the office and vault of the county clerk's office.

We have visited the county poor house and farm connected therewith and have made a thorough examination of the same. And as a result of our investigations we are highly pleased with the county court's management of the poorhouse and farm and with the intelligent sympathy with which the poor of the county are being cared for.

Having now fully completed our labors, we ask that this report be accepted and that we, as a grand jury, be discharged.

(Signed by all members of the grand jury.)

This report was accepted and the grand jury was discharged for the term.

### RID BRITAIN OF FOGS.

Scientist Will Dispel Mist by Discharge of Electric Currents.

**LONDON, Dec. 18.**—Sir Oliver Lodge, the great electrical scientist, believes that he soon will be able to rid the British Isles of one of the worst enemies of their prosperity—that variety of fog which, from time to time, ties up the entire activity of whole communities.

The matter is of such great commercial importance, leaving out other considerations, that the highways committee of the Westminster city council has decided to give the scientist every chance to prove the validity of his discovery.

Sir Oliver's idea, upon which he has been working for some time, is to dispel fog by electrical discharges. Thus far he has conducted his experiments on a small scale, either in a laboratory, and yet he has had such success that it is believed a great secret has been discovered. The Westminster council has rented a large open space of ground near the Grosvenor canal, where, within a few weeks, the experiment will be carried out. It will cost \$4,000.

### ACTRESS CAUSES MYSTERY.

Pretty "Peggy Perry" Fatally Shot in Chicago.

**CHICAGO, Dec. 21.**—Two men who were seen with Margaret Weisswell, a pretty actress known on the stage as "Peggy Perry," a few hours before she was found shot and fatally wounded in her room at 2612 Indiana avenue early today, are being sought by a score of detectives in an effort to clear up the mystery in connection with the case.

Walter A. Eckersall, former star quarterback of the University of Chicago football team, who is said to have been a friend of the girl, is assisting the police in their efforts to clear up the mystery. Eckersall, according to the police, was called to the boarding-house by Elizabeth A. Jahn, a roommate of Miss Weisswell, immediately after the shooting. He went to the hospital, it is said.

"I was called up by telephone at 2 o'clock in the morning and reached the house a little after 3," said Eckersall. "Miss Jahn was hysterical and I accompanied her to the hospital when Miss Weisswell was removed there. That was my only connection with the matter."

Miss Weisswell and Miss Jahn came here three weeks ago from

Goldfield, Nev. They attended an after-theater dinner last night and, according to Miss Jahn, examined their revolvers upon their return to their rooms early today. Miss Weisswell, in a spirit of mischief, according to Miss Jahn, fired a shot into the floor, but scarcely had she done so when a second came and Miss Weisswell was shot in the left lung.

### CHILDREN STARVING.

Efforts to Relieve Suffering in City of Soudan.

**LONDON, Dec. 19.**—The problem of underfed children in London's elementary schools is confronting the city authorities this year more grimly than ever. At its annual meeting yesterday the London education committee recommended that power be sought from the county council to draw \$50,000, to be expended during the next few weeks in keeping together the bodies and souls of thousands of half-starved waifs who arrive at the schools in anything but a fit condition to learn their lessons.

So far, voluntary contributions from the public have been depended on for this cause, but members of the committee confess that the outlook for such contributions in the future is worse than bad. The public does not seem to realize the situation. Similar plights confronting the school boards of Paris and Chicago were discussed, but the conditions are so different in those cities that it was thought the discussion offered little help.

### THAW TO STAY IN ASYLUM.

Court Denies Him Right to Testify at Pittsburg Hearing.

**PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 22.**—Harry Kendall Thaw, the slayer of Stanford White, who is confined in the state hospital for the criminal insane at Matteawan, cannot be taken to Pittsburg to testify in the bankruptcy proceedings, according to a decision handed down today by the United States circuit court of appeals in this city. Whether the case will be taken to the United States supreme court is not known here.

The decision affirms the action of Judge Young, of the United States court for the western district of Pennsylvania, sitting at Pittsburg, who quashed a writ of habeas corpus compelling Robert B. Lamb, superintendent of the Matteawan asylum, to turn Thaw over to a United States marshal for the prisoner's appearance at Pittsburg. The writ was allowed by Judge Archbold, of the United States court for the middle district of Pennsylvania, sitting at Scranton, who was looking after the business in Judge Young's court while the latter was in Europe last summer.

**NEW YORK, Dec. 22.**—Asa Bird Gardner, who argued the case in favor of the state of New York, said today, in his opinion, the court's decision ends the chances of Thaw being taken to Pennsylvania. He bases his opinion on the fact, he said, that the supreme court of the United States recently denied the application for a writ of error in a somewhat similar case.

### Monney-Danielson.

That Henry Bonney is "no more" is ever evidenced by every good horse in the Nash livery barn, for they each manifest with looks of sadness the departure of their master in body and affections at least. Last Sunday this genial young proprietor of the popular livery barn was united in marriage to Anna Danielson. The ceremony was performed at the residence of Professor U. G. Smith by Rev. G. Le Roy Hall, pastor of the Baptist church, the beautiful ring service being used. The bride is one of Medford's splendid young ladies and has a host of friends who will wish her much joy.

Mr. and Mrs. Bonney left Sunday morning on a brief honeymoon journey to Eastern Oregon, where they will visit Mr. Bonney's relatives. On their return they will be "at home" on North D'Anjou street.

This is no "horse" on Bonney, either, for The Morning Mail joins in with all the other business firms of the city in extending congratulations.

### TALBOT-WOLGAMOTT.

The Bride Formerly Lived Here, but Will Now Reside in The Dalles.

Miss Lizzie Wolgamott, formerly of Medford, and J. C. Talbot of The Dalles, Or., were married in Portland on Thursday, December 17, by County Judge Lionel R. Webster.

The bride is well known in this county, having lived near Talent nearly all her life. The groom is an employe of the Pacific Telephone company. They will make their home at The Dalles, where the groom is employed. The both have many friends in this locality who will be glad of this opportunity to extend congratulations.

### TO WORK COAL MINE.

Development Will Soon Commence On Properties.

Vice-President B. M. McGee, of the Pacific Coal company of Los Angeles, has been in the city several

# WISHING YOU A MERRY XMAS

Largest Assortments  
Highest Values  
Lowest Prices

Medford's Exclusive Ladies' Shop  
**Baker-Hutchason Co.**  
Central Avenue, just North of Jackson County Bank

Gasoline Engines  
and Spray Outfits Complete  
ALL SIZES

Our engines are all air-cooled.  
You will find prices right

**HUBBARD BROS.**  
Medford's Implement Dealers

in various colors and are perfect and very regular in design. The quilt was made for a Christmas present to Miss Hazel Lorrner, a 9-year-old girl of Los Angeles, with whose parents Mrs. Tripp once visited. The interesting part of this little item is that Mrs. Tripp is 73 years of age.

### Had a Stroke.

J. W. Pratt is being treated by Dr. Conroy for a partial paralysis of the left side of his head and neck. He was first affected a few days ago as he was leaving Spokane for this city. Upon arriving here he seemed to be getting worse and at once secured medical attendance. The doctor is hopeful of checking the trouble in time to prevent any serious complications.

### Junior Hay Ride.

The junior class of the Medford high school, accompanied by their teacher, Miss Walton, enjoyed a hay ride last night out to the home of W. J. Harvey, four miles east of Medford, they having been invited to spend the evening at this pleasant farm home by Miss Audrey Harvey, a member of the junior class. There were about 25 in the party, including a few invited friends outside of the class, and if they enjoyed the entire evening as much as they seemingly did when leaving town, they surely had a pleasant and very mirthful evening.

### HUBBY WAS ABUSED.

Kicked When His Wife Compelled Him to Work Every Sunday.

**CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 22.**—Jesse Edwin Worthen, while not wearing any medals, can claim to be the worst henpecked husband in the city, so far as known. It all came out when Jesse applied to the courts for divorce.

He says that every Sunday for five years he was compelled to wash the windows, scrub the floors and "tidy up" generally. For nine years, he avers, he was compelled to cook his own meals. During the same period he made the beds, washed the dishes and did all the housework.

Jesse bore this patiently, but he rebelled when his wife, Hattie M. Worthen, began to abuse him violently. When she told him she "would as soon poison him as she would a dog," he thought it time to carry his case into court. The circuit judge took the case under advisement.

### THE MAIL FOR NEWS.

## Mid-Winter Sale

ALL

## Millinery

AT

Greatly Reduced Prices

MRS. W. I. BROWN  
101 W. 7th St.

There is Going to be a

## LAND OPENING

AT

Roseburg, Ore.,  
Jan. 20, 1909

For lists, blue print maps with vacant lands marked thereon and full information regarding filings, etc., send \$2.00 to

## Roseburg Abstract Co.

DYING, HE KILLS ROBBER.

Deadly Duel Between Police Chief and Criminals on Street.

**ROANOKE, Va., Dec. 21.**—In a pistol duel on the main street of Wytheville, Va., today, Chief of Police Walter McClintock and E. A. Cregger were killed. McClintock shot Cregger to death after he himself had been mortally wounded. The two bodies fell near each other in the thoroughfare.

McClintock and a deputy had a warrant for the arrest of E. A. Cregger and his brother, Dave, charging robbery.

At least, none of them objects to a solidly prosperous south.