

MEDFORD DAILY TRIBUNE

FOURTH YEAR.

MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1909.

No. 36.

FRUIT CROPS WILL SMASH ALL RECORDS

District Freight Agent Malboer States That Frost Has Done No Damage to Orchards in Rogue River Valley.

RECORD OUTPUT OF 1907 TO BE DOUBLED

Fully Nine Hundred Cars of Fruit From This Vicinity, Is Prediction of Expert.

"No damage has been done the fruit crop of the Rogue River valley by frost," states C. A. Malboer, district freight agent of the Southern Pacific railroad, after a three days' examination of the orchards. "Every year of course some fruit is damaged, but only the normal damage occurred this year.

"A record crop, double that of any previous year, is in sight, and this despite the fact that young apples, just coming into bearing, were nipped, so that the producing area of apples will not be increased materially. There is every prospect of a good apple crop, unless unfavorable conditions occur in the future. The apples will be the finest ever produced here.

Pear Crop a Wonder.

"The pear crop will be a wonder. Young pear trees are practically unharmed, so the bearing area is double that of the record crop of 1907.

"I estimate the apple and pear shipments from Medford at 600 cars, from Central Point 150 cars, from Ashland, including peaches, etc., 75 cars, from Gold Hill and Woodville at 25 cars, a total for Jackson county of 850 cars, as against 423 cars two years ago. Grants Pass will probably ship 50 cars, as against 30 cars two years ago.

Medford Leads in Pears.

"The shipments from Medford will be about half pears and half apples, making Medford the banner pear shipping center of the northwest."

In this connection it may be stated that Hood River's total apple and pear shipment for 1908, the record year, were 250 cars.

HOTEL MCLELLAND AT ROSEBURG IS PURCHASED

One of the most important business deals in Roseburg so far this season is the sale of the Hotel McClelland to Mr. Geo. F. Meyer, of Ft. Collins, Colorado. The formal transfer takes place tomorrow and the new proprietor will assume charge on Saturday, May 1st. The negotiations for this sale were conducted by Messrs. Stewart & Beale, of this city.

Mr. Meyer is a first class hotel man of many years experience and for a number of years was actively connected with the Harvey syndicate of eating houses on the Santa Fe railway system. He expects to completely remodel the present hotel building and make it thoroughly modern in all its details. A 50-room four-story annex is to be erected on the Jackson street side of the present building and a steam heating plant installed. Modern plumbing is to be extended throughout the entire structure, placing hot and cold water in every room. At least 20 new bath rooms are to be added and each room will have its individual telephone. In fact, every modern convenience will be supplied that is to be found in a first-class, modern hotel.

MAYOR GIVES REASONS FOR AMENDING CITY CHARTER

LAYING PIPE TO MEDFORD

Contractors Start Mains From Reservoir to City—Can Lay 1500 Feet a Day.

Laying the big wood-stave pipe from the city reservoir to Medford began Thursday, and 1500 feet had been laid at noon Friday. By Saturday evening the line will reach the curve on the top of the hill east of the city, and by Monday the pipe will be laid on the Heard tract at the head of East Main street.

Progress in laying will go forward at the rate of 1500 feet a day, and as soon as completed to Roosevelt avenue, the laying of the main towards Little Butte will be started, about two miles of trench having been completed.

Ralph B. Lloyd, vice-president of the National Wood Pipe company, the contractors who are supplying the pipe, is here superintending the work.

LIGHT CROP EXPECTED IN YAKIMA VALLEY

Fruit buds growing on the leaves of peach trees is the remarkable phenomenon observed in several orchards in the Yakima valley, where the original buds on a number of early-bearing trees were killed this spring by an unusual frost. As a result some of the orchards will have light crops, but as good prices are expected there will be no severe loss. Trees in the compound at Fort Simcoe and in other parts of the valley escaped the chill winds and are now in full bloom, while late peach trees are also doing well. Cherry trees are in blossom and a large crop is expected. Professor W. S. Thornber, horticultural expert at the government experiment station, Pullman, Wash., says he has record of instances where peach trees, robbed of their buds by cold weather, have developed leaf buds into fruit blossom, but this is the first time he has heard of it in Washington.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS CENTRAL POINT CLUB

An important meeting of the commercial club was held last evening, when the report of the committee on permanent headquarters was accepted. The location chosen is in the new Whiteside brick, consisting of two rooms 12x16 and 17x22 respectively.

The following board of governors was elected for the ensuing term: J. O. Isaacson, Dr. E. Davis, W. E. Whiteside, A. L. Atkins, W. E. Kahler, T. M. Jones, C. S. Sanderson, W. D. Lewis and S. A. Pattison. The board will meet tomorrow evening to elect permanent sub-committees.

GRAPE ENTHUSIAST HAS A FINE PEAR ORCHARD

Last Saturday evening W. B. Sherman completed the planting of 22 acres of pear orchard. He has three varieties, namely, Comice, Winter Nellis and Bartlett, planted alternately, which should result in excellent pollenization. The orchard is just east of town on part of the old Tuffs land and the soil is especially adapted to pears. He has also just completed setting out 22 acres to Tokay grapes and the closeness of his orchard and vineyard to town will make it very valuable property. It is just such systematic orchard and vineyard planting that is going to make Josephine county the banner fruit section of the coast.—Observer.

ESSENTIAL IF WATER MAINS ARE TO SUPPLY ALL OF CITY

Provides Way for Extension of System Without Hardship to City or Property Owners—Ten Years Used to Pay in and Assessments Refunded in Water Rentals — Simple Plan Needs Amended Charter to Be Put Into Effect.

To the Public:

Within a few months the city of Medford will have an abundant supply of pure mountain water—enough for everybody—four or five times as much as will be needed by the present users of water.

This water is for the people of Medford—for all the people—not merely for a few who live in the center of the city.

The city needs more customers for its water, lots more of them. It must have them or the greater part of this splendid water supply will be absolutely wasted and lost. It wants its mains on every street, so that everyone can be supplied.

To the city it will mean larger revenue. It will make it possible to pay the interest on the water bonds out of the water receipts. That will mean lower taxes.

To the people it will mean an abundance of pure water for their homes, lawns and gardens. It will mean lower rates for water, better fire protection, lower fire insurance.

But the city has no money available to pay the cost of laying these mains. Our plan is to pay for their cost out of the receipts from the additional sales of water. That is the object of the proposed charter amendment.

If a property owner wants a water main on his street he will be asked to advance a small amount for the purchase of water. The city will take this money and put in the water main and deliver to the property owner the water he has thus paid for at any time he may want it without further charge.

While the cost to the city in the aggregate for all these mains would be very large, to each individual property owner the cost will be almost trivial.

Take for example the case of a man owning a 50-foot lot on which a six-inch water main is to be laid. He will be asked to pay about \$3.00 in cash, and a similar amount every year for nine years, with interest on deferred payments at 6 per cent. This amount, both the principal and interest, pays for just so much water, which the property owner can use whenever he gets ready. If he is using water on the premises, he will, of course, be asked to advance nothing, for his water bills will amount to more than the \$3 each year. If he is not using water at the time the main is laid, he will have just so much water paid for whenever he gets ready to use water on the premises, whether that be in five or ten years.

Those in charge of the city's affairs have given a great deal of thought to this matter, and the above plan seems to be the best, and in fact the only feasible one. I hope the voters of the city will show their interest and loyalty in the city's welfare by getting out on election day, which is May 10, and giving the amendment a hearty endorsement.

The amount given above is as heavy as any property owner will ever be called upon to pay for the reason that it will be unnecessary to lay any mains larger than six-inch, and even if any larger mains should be laid, the city would pay the additional expense over and above what a six-inch main would cost.

W. H. CANON, Mayor.

SAD ENDING OF TRIP HALF ACROSS CONTINENT

Mrs. Harriet Fuller of Berlin, Mich., died last evening at 6:30 o'clock at the home of her daughter, Mrs. W. D. Cary, Almond street, in the 75th year of her age. Mrs. Fuller, accompanied by another daughter, Mrs. G. W. Fillaspay, arrived in Ashland on Monday of this week from Berlin, with the expectation of paying their daughter and sister and the latter's family in Ashland an extended visit. After leaving Chicago Mrs. Fuller was taken ill and the illness grew into pneumonia, and she survived only two days, a cherished wish to visit the relatives in Ashland. Arrangements for the funeral are awaiting word from the relatives in Michigan, but it is expected that the remains of the deceased will be shipped to Berlin to be laid beside those of her husband.—Tidings.

OLWELL'S AUTO CATCHES FIRE WITHOUT DAMAGE

There was excitement this morning when John D. Olwell's automobile caught on fire. Mr. Olwell started to leave the garage, when the oil which had gathered on the mechanical parts under the seat caught on fire, resulting in an explosion in the muffler. For a moment it seemed that the fire would spread to the gasoline tank of the machine and there was some rapid work with buckets. The fire was soon extinguished. Very little damage was done to the machine.

SMUDGING IS SURE SUCCESS

Experiments on Bear Creek Orchards Show Raised Temperature Caused by Fires.

Smudging for frost is a proven success. Last night all doubt of the efficiency of smudges in raising temperature about an orchard was dispelled by experiments conducted at the Bear Creek orchard by Professor Vincent of the Oregon agricultural college, which were participated in by Messrs. Whisler, Waterman, Allen, Olwell, Webb, Martin and other orchardists, and witnessed by Freight Agent Malboer of the Southern Pacific and others interested.

Temperature Raised.

While there was no frost, the temperature was raised from 2 degrees to 9 degrees according to the fuel used. The temperature of the surrounding atmosphere was 44 degrees, while that in the orchard, where the smudging was conducted, was 52 degrees.

The night was quiet and still, with a slight northwest wind. The temperature was raised most in those sections where the smoke raised by the different smudges collected.

Crude oil, oil and sawdust mixed, wood fires covered with wet straw or manure, Rock Springs coal and Medford coal, and brush were the materials used. The results proved the feasibility of raising the temperature at small cost, as only a small proportion of the ordinary number of fires used were lit.

Different Fuels.

Rock Springs coal raised the temperature 2 degrees. Medford coal burnt well, but did not produce as much smoke. Wood with wet straw, produced the most heat and the most smoke. Oil and sawdust were very effective, raising temperature 4 degrees. Wood and brush raised the temperature 9 degrees. Crude oil raised the temperature, but did not work to advantage, as the pots had a tendency to boil over and smother the flame.

It will require a number of tests with positions of fire reversed to arrive at accurate basis of comparison.

BIG SUCTION DREDGE ON KLAMATH RIVER

The big suction dredge built by the Northern California Dredger company at Hamburg has started mining operations and is apparently a complete success in every way.

There has been much speculation as to whether or not this type of machine could successfully cope with the gold gravel beds of the Klamath river, known to be filled with rocks of immense size, and many predicted failure. On the contrary, however, everything is going without a hitch and large quantities of gravel are being handled in a way to make the old-timer and his crude method look like "thirty cents."

This company, of which J. A. Brent is superintendent and local manager, has spent a good-sized fortune in building and equipping the dredge. The transporting of the heavy machinery, of which there were several tons, about 50 miles from the railroad over mountain roads was one of the many problems successfully solved. The company has secured by purchase and otherwise the necessary title to an unbroken stretch of over 40 miles of the bed of Klamath river, a great portion of which is known to be immensely rich in gold.

BANKS SHOW PROSPERITY OF COMMUNITY

Deposits Have Doubled in Three Years—Million and a Half Now Record of Three Local Banks.

QUARTER MILLION GAIN IN PAST THREE MONTHS

Statements Issued Today Reflect the Growth of City and Surrounding Country.

BANK DEPOSITS.	
December, 1905	\$ 609,498
December, 1906	726,971
December, 1907	1,084,634
December, 1908	1,254,489
February, 1909	1,265,000
April, 1909	1,493,000
Three months' gain	228,000

Bank statements called for by the controller of the treasury at the close of business April 28 shows the prosperous condition of Medford banks. All the three institutions show increased growth of business and reflect the prosperity of the city and country.

The gain since February 5, when the previous statement was issued, is \$228,000. The gain between that date and the December statement was \$11,000, but it must be taken into consideration that December is a banner month for deposits, all crop returns having been received, and the Christmas business of the merchants swelling the total.

What shows the heart of the business stronger than anything else is the daily clearing house transactions, which some times reach as high as \$100,000 a day, and average over \$50,000 a day.

A BILL FOR TAX ON ADVERTISING SIGNS

A bill to tax advertising signs and afford a considerable public revenue has been introduced in the house. The newspapers of this country have every reason to support the bill introduced by Senator Heyburn of Idaho, providing for a tax on advertising signs. In foreign lands these signs are taxed and afford a considerable public revenue. Senator Heyburn proposes a tax of two cents per superficial square foot on signs advertising products which enter into interstate commerce. The taxes are to be paid to the United States treasury, and to be collected annually. This new source of revenue might well be considered in connection with the effort to revise the tariff and reimpose war taxes of an objectionable character. Throughout the country an effort is being made to suppress the advertising sign nuisance. It has been tolerated altogether too long. It meets no public want, because the newspapers, magazines and other publications are the legitimate channels for the use of the advertiser. They contribute to the education of the people and to the prosperity of the nation. If the press still stand solidly behind Senator Heyburn's bill, its passage will be assured and it will be effective in suppressing what has come to be an intolerable nuisance. The bill-board must go.