

MEDFORD DAILY TRIBUNE

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TODAY'S WEATHER PREDICTION.

Clear tonight and Sunday. Warmer.
 A rare and salubrious climate—soil of remarkable fertility—
 beautiful scenery—mountains stored with coal, copper and gold—
 extensive forests—streams stocked with speckled beauties—game in
 abundance—a contented, progressive people—such is the Rogue
 River Valley.
 Average mean temperature.....56 degrees
 Average yearly precipitation.....31 inches

SMUDGING AND ORCHARDISTS.

Many orchardists are now firmly convinced from the experiments conducted this year that smudging is a valuable ally in protecting fruit from frost. There are orchardists who oppose it, as every innovation is met with opposition.

The advent of pear blight a year ago and its heroic treatment met the same opposition, but experience is a dear teacher, and costly experience has convinced the skeptical. Pear blight has been successfully fought and is no longer feared in the Rogue River valley.

Many orchardists claim that it is a bad thing to smudge, as it advertises to the world that we have frosts. Of course we do. A perfect apple cannot be raised in a frostless belt. But if we can successfully overcome the evil results, we are that much ahead—and if the effect of frosts can be minimized, fruit raising becomes a still safer investment.

Orchards are sprayed—and the world knows it. It does not interfere with the sale of orchards—but the fact that a successful battle with the bugs is fought here gives our groves an added value.

As the region grows older, fresh pests must be successfully fought each year, and every victory adds to the value of the orchard as a sure and safe returner of money. We should herald victories over the enemies that threaten destruction to the fruit crop, rather than try to hide the battle with them. One can explain the smudging and spraying by pointing to results, trees laden with fruit and money in the bank, but a fruitless orchard cannot be explained satisfactorily to the would be investor.

The great lesson taught by pests and frost is the necessity of cutting up large orchards. It is commercially profitable to smudge, fight blight and other ravages, in the small tract. An orchard requires constant care and attention. This can be done successfully in the small tract, but not as well on the large tract.

The small orchard is the orchard of the future.

CUTTING EXPRESS RATES.

An order has been promulgated by the state railroad commission ordering a reduction of 25 per cent in rates charged by the Pacific Express company along the line of the Oregon Railroad & Navigation company. The same ruling will probably be later applied to the rates of the Wells-Fargo Express company on the lines of the Southern Pacific.

The order has long been needed, as express rates are outrageous. There are no concerns that drain more from the state and make less returns than the express companies. They are a parasite on the railroads and the people. They take the money out of the country and never put any of it back. They are notorious tax dodgers and big dividend payers. If it was not for the hold they have on the federal senate in its government for special interests, a parcels post would long ago have supplanted them.

The commission's order was made in the matter of the complaint filed by B. F. Jones against the Pacific Express company. The hearing was held some weeks ago and the order just made cuts all their "merchandise" rates about a quarter. The general special rates are also affected by the order.

The rates of the Wells-Fargo company were also attacked by Jones, and a final hearing will be held in the matter on or about June 1.

AMUSEMENTS

Bijou Running the Banner Attraction.

It's a good attraction that's on at the Bijou tonight. The picture entitled "Canadian Winter Sports" is one of the most interesting subjects that has been included in a moving picture entertainment for some time. The picture shows the Canadians at one of their favorite winter sports, skiing. They are seen sliding down mountain slopes and making enormous leaps over small ravines, etc. Interesting scenes of ice-making along the famous St. Lawrence river are also shown. Tobogganing, ice-skating and snow shoeing are among the other interesting features shown. The two comic subjects in tonight's bill are positively the biggest laugh producers ever billed at the Bijou. The performance throughout is one of exceptional merit. Admission 10c.

At the Savoy.

"Well, Molly, fix up the kids; let's attend the Savoy tonight and have a few good, hearty laughs. They tell me that place is the original fun factory of the universe." A little extract from a Medford man's conversation at the evening meal.

A modest young man is the triple X mirth producer, rich with joy, full of lingering laughs, one continuous scream. It is a picture that would make a mummy show signs of life, draw a smile from a dyspeptic and change a knocker into a howling booster. The Iron Worker is a thrilling melodrama of the iron mills, filled with intense moments, well acted by clever actors. The scenic backgrounds are very beautiful, especially those in the iron foundry, when the molten metal is being poured. Aside from being entertaining, this

film is of great educational value. Other features make a strong bill that should not be missed by anyone. One dime.

The Medford Theater—"The Mascot" Next Week.

Tonight and tomorrow night will see the last two performances of "Mr. Mikado" by the Walters company, and those who have failed to see this laugh-provoker should by all means avail themselves of this last opportunity.

Beginning with Monday night Mr. Walter will make a slight change in his policy. Instead of a short burlesque running 45 minutes, it is his intention to give condensed up-to-date versions of such operas as "The Mascot," "Pinafore," "Said Bisha," "Pretty Persian," "Olivette," "Himes of Normandy," etc. These operas will be given complete with all attention to costuming, stage business etc., with the exception of some of the chorus numbers. There will also be some now topical songs introduced with local hits, etc., making a big two-hour performance.

The bill for next week, commencing Monday night, will be the ever popular "Mascot," with Mr. Burgess as Prince Lorenzo.

Mr. Walters has also arranged with Mr. Charles D. Hazelrigg to conduct these operas and he will reside at the piano from now on.

A special feature of Monday night's bill will be a reel of motion pictures shown for the first time on the coast, and one which Mr. Pathe says is the best his firm has ever sent out, entitled "Cavalry." The following is the cast of "Mascot":

Prince Lorenzo.....A. Burgess
 Pippo.....F. Walters
 Farmer Rocco.....W. E. Gensburk
 Prince Frederic.....Helen Fremont
 Princess Fiametta.....Stella Burgess
 Bettina, the mascot.....Ira Palmer

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