

WEST SIDE.

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Advertising is to business what steam power is to machinery—the grand motive power.—Mccormack.

There is but one way of obtaining business—publicity; but one way of obtaining publicity—advertising.—Blackwood

There are fifty-seven Indian Agencies in the United States and half of them are in charge of army officers. They cost to maintain each year about \$7,000,000. There are 21,138 pupils enrolled in the schools.

A Mexican dollar is worth a dollar in Mexico, but an American dollar is worth \$1.40 there. Why? Because the Mexican dollar is simply silver, while the American silver dollar is gold. Redeem the American dollar in silver and it is no better than the Mexican dollar.

The board of equalization is in session at Dallas. Many of our large property owners have not been on the assessment roll heretofore, and the board knew, yet said it was doing its duty. We hope this kind of criticism may not apply to the present sitting of the board.

Polk county has carried off the prize for the best hops and best wheat at the World's fair. Polk county has other products that could command prizes if they were properly developed. What about our prunes and pears?

The Senators in Washington who are by all honest, and the honest means in their power trying to prevent a vote are the free coinage men. They are causing the return of "easy money" to be deferred and the people suffer. How long must we thus suffer?

The democratic congress has been in session since August 7th, and what has it done? Nothing. How much longer is the United States to be governed by a set of mullet-headed senators who cannot attend to the affairs of the nation without forever trying to see "how it will effect the party?" Away with party and let patriotism prevail for a time.

Many a man who is complaining hard times and cannot pay his bills never did see any better times than he is seeing now. He never worked and he never will. But there are others who earnestly desire to be honest and prompt in their dealings, but cannot meet all their obligations. To such, creditors are being uniformly very lenient—in fact if a crowding system were to begin there is no telling where it would end. We are all hoping that the worst is over and that money will get easier soon.

Our present silver dollar contains only about 60 cents in silver, and it is an extremely easy matter to counterfeit it and thus make a profit large enough to excite the cupidity of most any person. Discoveries of plants have already been made, and it is not improbable that such coins are largely in circulation. They can be the proper weight, color, and in all respects be a silver dollar, only not be coined at the mint. The profit would be about 35 per cent. It does not pay to have unstable currency, as the rogues reap a rich harvest.

If a ware-house man were to issue a receipt for wheat received, and then want to pay oats when the owner of the receipt came for it, it would be no worse than for the United States to issue money, understood to be payable in gold, and pay it in silver. If the ware-house man said he would pay "grain" you would want to know what kind of grain and if this government said "coin" you would want to know what kind of coin. If you were wanting wheat, oats would not suit you, and if you were wanting gold, silver would not suit you. You cannot juggle in one case any more than the other.

There are three piles of money in the United States. We will call them 500,000,000 in gold, 500,000,000 in silver, and 500,000,000 in paper—all based on gold and credit. Increase the paper too much and the gold decreases. Increase the silver too much and the gold decreases. In order to keep the gold in circulation there must be no more paper and no more silver than the

people can use when based on gold.

In other words, if the United States promises to pay "coin" and means silver, the promises of the United States will be current at silver bullion prices, but if it means gold, then gold bullion prices will determine the value of all our money.

If the United States promises gold or silver, and has no gold, then the promise virtually means silver and the one dollar promise is worth just what the silver bullion in a dollar is worth, or say sixty cents.

By all means let us have an election of Senators by the people.

Such weather as we are having now would be a credit to sunny Italy, and it is in Oregon. Is it possible, says the "kicker".

BINGER HERMAN in a long speech before congress ascribes the present financial troubles, not to the Sherman silver law, but to the change of administration. If that be true then we may expect a tight money market until the return to power of the Republican party unless the tariff is let alone.

BROTHER WASH, of the Itemizer stops to tell his readers that it is the greatest presumption on the part of a country editor to express an opinion on such deep subjects as silver and the tariff, when the wisest men of our nation differ.

If the readers of the Itemizer are of the kind to gag an editor because he does not like their sentiments, we are glad our readers are not that kind. We believe we know something about money and something about tariff and we are going to air our opinions. The present is the time when every word uttered from whatever source has some weight. We want our readers to know we favor good money, both of gold, silver and paper, but it must be based on the most valuable metal, gold. We do not want one kind of money for the poor man and another for the rich.

We often hear persons refer to France's finances, and that the coinage of silver is free there, and in other European countries. Their statements are untrue. Wm. Allison, of Iowa, made a powerful speech in Congress Sept. 16, and here is what he said on that subject:

France, Belgium, and Italy, the Latin Union states, had the double standard, and they had millions upon millions of silver under the double standard. Germany said, "This is our time to get rid of our \$500,000,000 of silver and allow the mints of the Latin Union states to absorb it, and we will take their gold." The Latin Union states, alert as they were, saw that it was no part of their policy to pull the chestnuts out of the fire for Germany, and therefore they immediately agreed that they would coin only a limited quantity of silver, instead of having their mints open as they had been open before; and that limit of quantity, extending for a few years, developed itself into the absolute closing of the mints of Europe to the coinage of silver.

So it is at this day and hour, and for fifteen years there has not been a mint open to the coinage of full legal-tender silver in all the European states.

France has \$900,000,000 in gold and \$700,000,000 in silver but France does not coin silver at all.

A Shrewd Sneak Thief.

A man entered a New York house one day while the woman of the house was out taking some dinner to her husband. He appropriated all the valuables in the place, cut open a feather bed, put the booty into the mattress and carried it off. On the way down stairs the thief met the woman on her way back. "Does Mrs. Smith live here?" he asked. "No," she replied. "Well," said the thief, "I've carried this mattress up and down the steps of nearly every house on the block, and I'm getting tired of it. I didn't know there were so few Smiths in New York." The woman laughed and 10 minutes later found that the man had run away with all of the portable articles of any value in the flat.—New York Sun.

Learning a Language.

"For two years," said a student of French, "I heard no English that I could help. I attended a French church. I went wherever French was spoken, in public and in private. I lived in a French atmosphere."—Harper's Bazar.

THE CURING OF PRUNES.

BEST METHODS TO ADOPT.

A Grower and Curer in the Santa Clara Valley Tells of the Methods in Use There.

Notwithstanding the prune has become so well known that it would seem in a manner useless to speak of the methods of curing, yet in some places where trees have been recently planted the process is not so well understood. Captain H. A. Brainerd, of San Jose, Cal., in the Pacific Rural Press, tells of the method of curing in vogue in the Santa Clara valley. He considers the process step by step as follows:

GATHERING.—It is now the general practice to allow the fruit to become so ripe that a very gentle shake will detach it from the tree. It must be so ripe that no stems will adhere to the fruit. It was formerly, and still is, the practice with some to level off the earth under the trees with a rake and make it very smooth and even, and to allow the prunes to drop of their own accord or with a very light shake, picking them up by hand, but the general practice is to shake them down, either upon a simple canvas or upon a canvas one edge of which is fastened to the body of an orchard truck, the canvas being di-

vided for a part of the way so that a part may be spread on each side of a tree. Sometimes there is a screen between the canvas and the truck to separate the leaves, sometimes not. There are still other forms and arrangements by which the canvas is spread or arranged under the tree, and the fruit conducted into boxes, either on a truck or on the ground. Prunes can be gathered very rapidly in this way. The tree is only shaken lightly and the fruit gathered every two or three days.

GRADING.—The practice is now almost universal to grade the fruit as it comes from the orchard. By far the greater number grade into two or three grades only.

TRAYS.—Trays for drying prunes are made either 42x60 feet or 32x60 feet, the larger size being most used, as two men are required to handle either size. Where prunes are graded the leaves and very small prunes are separated in the grading.

DIPPING.—After grading, the prunes are dipped in a boiling solution of lye. Different operators differ as to the strength of the solution, generally using a pound of lye to 10 gallons of water. The strength is adjusted as the dipping proceeds, adding water and lye and keeping it at a strength which makes it work well. The simplest way to dip is, a large kettle or tank for the lye, a wire basket for the fruit, with a pulley and rope to lower it into and raise it from the solution. There are two types of machines for this purpose. One type has an endless belt on which the prunes are poured; this descends into the boiling lye, carrying the fruit with it, rises again, and again descends into a tank of clean water, where the fruit is rinsed then carried out and deposited on the trays or in a bin from which the trays are filled. The speed of this belt can be regulated so that the time of immersion can be varied. The other type consists of a large perforated dipper in the hot tank, blinged at one edge. The fruit is placed in this, and with an easy up and down motion by means of a rope and pulley, the fruit is exposed to the action of the lye for a sufficient length of time and then, by another pull, dropped over into the cold-water tank, where it is rinsed in the same way and dumped either on the trays or into the bin as before. This machine can be arranged to operate by power by a system of friction wheels and levers. The object of dipping is to remove the varnish with which the fruit is covered, and to crack the skin into minute cracks, which causes it to dry very quickly. After dipping, the fruit is spread on trays.

The tray is placed on a sloping frame and the fruit poured on the upper end, when it will almost spread itself. There are other arrangements for this.

DRYING.—The drying ground is arranged usually with a railroad track across one end or side, the track having a gauge of about four feet. On this runs a transfer car, the platform being very low. On the platform of this car is the narrow-gauge car on which the trays are loaded. At right angles to the transfer track are narrow-gauge tracks running across the drying ground, the tracks being from 24 to 110 feet apart. Thus the transfer car with its narrow-gauge car can be run out into the field, the trays removed and placed on the ground. Here the fruit remains until nearly dry. Then the trays are stacked for a day or two till cured. The fruit is then removed to the storehouse and placed in piles or bins to sweat and complete the curing process.

When cured, the fruit is run through the dried-fruit grader and graded into the standard sizes. If the fruit is dipped it is dipped into boiling hot water for a moment, a pound of glycerine being dissolved in the water to give a finish and to restrain a tendency to sugar or become oxidized. Whether dipped or not is decided by the demands of the market. It should be dipped previous to boxing. This insures a perfect freedom from eggs of insects and a fine flexible condition which facilitates packing.

If a grower has prunes from a single orchard, or orchards growing fruit of a uniform quality, carefully grading the green fruit may answer once for all, but as a general practice the green grading is simply to facilitate uniform drying. It must be graded after drying to get accurate grades.

Mr. Larkin

Whole Family Helped

"My husband was confined to the house, almost unable to walk, on account of an ulcer on his left leg. He took Hood's Kidney Pills and at once there were signs of improvement. He was soon able to go to work again. His son was striking down with rheumatic fever. After taking Hood's Kidney Pills, he was promptly and efficiently put only in action. Sold by all druggists. 25c."

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ELA'S POISON-IVY PILLS.—A sure cure for poisoning from the use of the poison. If not improved in 2 days, return the bottle and get your money. Sold by all druggists.

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and

BLACKSMITH.

The Best Plain Shoer in the County

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(Successors to WALKER BROS.)

Dealers in

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Provisions, Groceries, Glassware, Flour, Feed, Fruit, Etc.

A Large Stock of Fruit Jars.

We Buy all Kinds of Poultry and Farmers' Produce.

Give Us a Call.

There are fiftyways

of

PUTTING OUT A FIRE

but

Shutting your eyes is not one of them.

DON'T Shut Your Eyes to the

FOLLOWING FACTS:

WHEELER & CLODFELTER

Have the Largest Stock of

SCHOOL BOOKS

In Polk County.

WHEELER & CLODFELTER

Sell their School Books, Slates, Pencils, Inks and other school necessities at the very lowest prices.

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Are Leading Dealers in

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Washing Done By Steam.

Cheaper than your wife can do it.

Better than the Chinaman can do it.

No horrid smell attached to your clothing.

Less wear on your clothing.

The wagon will call and will return your clothes.

Family washing done for a mere song.

Patronize the steam laundry and keep your money at home.

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All kinds of wood repairing done on Wagons, Carriages, and Machinery with neatness and dispatch.

Harkins & Fennell's blacksmith shop.

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Must be closed out in the next Sixty Days!

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Bring your cash and get your goods for fall and winter, at prices that will make you happy.

Everything Goes. There is no Reserve.

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An Aching Void.

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What Would Independence Be Without

McEACHERAN & SANDERCOCK'S

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Dinner Hour Comes! Delicacies Appear!

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Result: Domestic Peace!

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A WORLD OF MECHANICS IN MINATURE.

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The Special Features Will Eclipse Those of Any Previous Year.

Constructed at a cost of \$10,000 and throwing a thousand jets of water in all the colors of the rainbow will beautify Music Hall.

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Containing fish of all varieties found in Oregon waters, have been constructed at great expense.

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Will contain a collection of paintings selected from the World's Fair. Among them Ellsberg's celebrated painting "Custer's Last Fight." To visit this great Exposition and view its wonders in every department of Art and Science, will be next thing to a visit to the world's Fair at Chicago.

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Hauling of all Kinds Done at Reasonable Rates.

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All bills must be settled by the 10th of each month.

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ELY JOHNSON, Prop.

Horses Fed by the Day, Week or Month.

Best of Attention Given Stock

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Seeders, Drills, Chilled and Steel Plows, Hiding and Walking Cultivators, Planet Jr. Garden Drills, Mulkey and Gang Plows, Aspenwall Potato Planters, Disc, Lever, and Spring-tooth harrows.

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Guaranteed the best and lightest-running wagon made. Mr. O'Donnell is, by a recent arrangement the manufacturer's agent, and will carry the largest and most complete line of implements ever brought to Polk county.

Opposite Independence National Bank, Independence, Oregon.

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The Druggists,

They Have the Goods. They Sell at Low Prices. The Quality is Superior. They are Accommodating

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That Shelley, Alexander & Co. fill prescriptions at all hours of the day or night and have an experienced pharmacist.

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Established in 1884 with the most complete and expensive plant in the state. Steam capacity, twelve horse-power. Ladies' and gents' clothing and fine fabrics of all kinds cleaned and dyed. Carpets, Blankets, Flannels, Silk Underwear, Ladies' Hats, Straw Hats, and feathers cleaned, dyed and renovated. Silk Hats ironed. Silk Hats, Stiff Hats, and Soft Hats cleaned, dyed, blocked and renovated.

Leave Orders with Independence, Monmouth, and Falls City Stage Drivers. Or Send by Mail or Express.

W. H. CRAVEN & CO.

Carry a full line of

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Saddles, Whips

Robes, Oils, Brushes, Etc.

REPAIRING PROMPTLY AND NEATLY DONE.

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Independence ROLLER MILLS,

SKINNER & CO., Proprietors,

Wish to notify the public that they are now Ready to Receive Grain in Exchange for Flour.

We have also put in a New Improved Cleaner and will do a General Warehouse Business on the most favorable terms.

The highest market price paid for wheat at all times. Satisfaction Guaranteed.

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Stylish Turnouts Always in Readiness.

Having lately purchased the entire interest in the stables of J. N. Jones, we are now better prepared than ever to meet the demands of the public as we are now making and are preparing to make many substantial improvements. Teams boarded by the day or month. Traveling men a specialty.

SALEM STAGE.—We operate a daily stage line between Salem and Falls City. Stage leaves Falls City for Independence at 8 a.m.; leaves Independence for Salem at 1 a.m. From Salem for Independence, stage at 1 p.m.; leaves Independence for Falls City at 4 p.m.

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Independence Marble Works

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A new and complete stock of Marble and Granite Monuments to arrive soon, which we will furnish at low prices and at short notice. We buy by the carload and can give customers advantage of low freight.

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