

## THE LID IS ON IN JACKSON

### Sheriff Jackson will Enforce the State Gambling and Sunday Closing Laws.

Beginning tonight at 12 o'clock all the saloons of Jackson county must remain closed every 24 hours on the first day of the week, commonly as Sunday, and all slot machines and games of chance must be relegated to the cellar. In other words there is "nothing doing" on Sunday in Jackson county in the future.

Sheriff Jackson notified the saloon keepers of Jacksonville Sunday that the State law would have to be respected in the future, and Monday morning he visited other county towns and served notices upon them.

This is the last county along the line to be placed "under the lid," as Josephine county only last week joined the long procession.

The Medford Daily Tribune in its issue of September 16th volunteers the assertion, that inasmuch as the city charter of Medford delegates to the common council the authority to regulate gambling and the sale of liquor, that the saloons that are inside of the city limits of Medford are exempted from the state law upon those subjects. In support of this contention, the Tribune points to the fact that the city charter was passed after the state law was enacted. However, this is giving the sheriff nor the district attorney's office no uneasiness whatever, and in an opinion rendered to the sheriff defining his duties, the district attorney holds that in his opinion the state law governs Medford as well as all other places within the limits of Jackson county.

Sheriff Jackson claims that he was not correctly reported in the issue of the Tribune under the date referred to. The article in question purports to give a conversation which took place between the sheriff and Mayor Reddy and quotes the sheriff as saying to the mayor that the sheriff's office would expect the mayor to enforce the city statutes. The sheriff however states that he simply asked the mayor of Medford for the assistance of the Medford police force in the enforcement of the state law, and that the mayor replied that the matter would have to be referred to the city attorney for his official opinion, and in any event the co-operation of the police force of Medford would be very unlikely. It was then that the sheriff told the Mayor, that even with the non-co-operation of the police force of Medford, the sheriff and his deputies would enforce the state law regardless of any ordinance which the city of Medford might have on the subject.

The situation in Medford on the saloon question is a peculiar one. Under the city charter of Medford, as amended by an Act filed in the office of the Secretary of State on February 7th, 1905, the right is given the city to license, tax, regulate or prohibit bar-rooms irrespective of any general law upon this subject enacted by the legislature or the people at large; but six days after that by Senate Bill No. 245, the legislature in the same session amended sub section 19 and gave to the city council power to license, tax, regulate and prohibit bar-rooms; provided, however, that said city shall not at any time license drinking shops or other places where intoxicating liquors are sold, to sell intoxicating liquors on Sunday.

The Tribune, in its issue of September 18, carries as its leading editorial an article entitled "A Meddlesome Meddler." Regardless of whether or not slot machines should be allowed to run or whether or not saloons should be allowed to run on Sunday the law should be enforced in Medford to exactly the same extent that it is enforced in Jacksonville, Ashland or Gold Hill, or any other place. Jackson county is bigger than Medford, and the State of Oregon is bigger than Jackson county. The Tribune lays special stress upon the fact that Medford can and will manage its own municipal affairs, but it does not do it. Just a few days ago a woman from the bad lands of Medford plead guilty before the Circuit Court to the crime of conducting a house of prostitution within the corporate limits of the city of Medford. Where is the boasted management of their own affairs? Did Sheriff Jackson have his head swelled, as is alleged in the editorial, when he went over to Medford at the request of the law abiding citizenship of that city and put that house out of business, or was he doing his duty as the statutes of the State command him to do? If the slot machine law is to be invoked in Jacksonville and throughout Jackson county it ought to be invoked in Medford, and the Tribune will probably learn when it gets to be a little older that Medford has no more right to license crime than any other municipality in the county.

The real gist of the whole trouble is that the Tribune does not wish to state exactly how it stands on this question. If it is in favor of Sunday opening and of slot machines, it ought to say so. If it is opposed to that, it ought to have the backbone to assert it. But it should not straddle the fence and say that the law should be enforced in every community throughout the county with the exception of Medford. If the sheriff would attempt to enforce the Sunday closing law, the gambling laws and the slot machine law throughout the county and would exempt Medford or any other place from the operation of the law, the Post would be against him first, last and all the time. It has no use for an official who will grant favors to one and withhold them from others. If it is his duty to enforce these laws in the county over which he has been elected sheriff that duty plainly extends to every part of Jackson county, even including Medford. When Medford wants a new bridge built within the city limits at the expense of the county it does not hesitate to claim to the County Court that it belongs to the county, and when it comes to the enforcement of the law it should be taught that it is a part of Jackson county and amenable to the State law. So if we are to have a closed county, let's be fair about it and if we close a part of it, let's close it all.

A happy wedding took place last Saturday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Houston on upper Rogue river, when their daughter, Florence, one of the charming and popular young ladies of that section, was united in marriage to Sanford Richardson, a prominent rancher of the Rogue river country. Rev. T. M. Jones of Central Point officiated. The bride is a cousin of A. D. Houston of this city.

A number of Jacksonville citizens received invitations last Tuesday to attend a banquet given by the W. B. Sherman Realty company at Grants Pass September 17 in honor of A. B. Carson, father of the grape industry in the Rogue river valley.

All the new fall shapes in hats, both stiff and soft, including the new brown shades, at the Toggery, Medford.

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